

**FOI 23/555**

Dear

Thank you for your information request, dated 13/07/2023, where you asked for **information about incidents regarding dental and podiatry handpieces.**

I am pleased to provide you with the information requested, please see below.

For the period 01/01/2020 to 01/08/2023:

A search under the term 'Podiatry/Chiropody' yielded no results for incidents involving handpieces.

A search under the terms 'Dental power tool systems and associated devices' and 'Dental power tool system handpieces' yielded 8 results.

<b>Incident type</b>	<b>Number of incidents</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Patient burn	6	Investigation ongoing - 2
		Device not returned for investigation - 1
		Use error (lack of appropriate maintenance) - 3
Bur detachment, swallowed by patient	2	Use error (lack of appropriate maintenance) - 1
		Device not returned for investigation - 1

The data was extracted on 02/08/2023. The data must be read together with the following explanations:

- These numbers are accurate at the time they are extracted from our database, however as this is a dynamic database minor changes in the numbers can occur if the reporter gives us more details later.
- A report does not necessarily represent an individual incident – people may report an incident at any time after the event and people can make multiple reports. Where possible, multiple reports for the same event are linked, however as reporters are not required to complete all fields, every duplicate report cannot always be linked.
- These figures include a range of reported adverse events and do not necessarily indicate a fault with any particular device.

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If you have a query about the information provided, please reply to this email

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date you receive this response and addressed to: [info@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:info@mhra.gov.uk)

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you were to remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you would have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please bear in mind that the Information Commissioner will not normally review our handling of your request unless you have first contacted us to conduct an internal review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

FOI team