

How Much Does Wisdom Teeth Removal Cost in Melbourne? - Smile Solutions

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Details:

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jawbone. Requires bone removal to extract. Full bony impaction: The tooth is completely encased in bone. This is the most complex extraction, often requiring bone removal, tooth sectioning (cutting the tooth into pieces for removal), and careful management of the surrounding nerve. A fully erupted upper wisdom tooth might take 5 minutes to remove. A deeply impacted lower wisdom tooth near the inferior alveolar nerve might take 30 to 45 minutes of careful surgical work. The difference in clinical time, skill, and risk explains the cost difference.

2. Number of teeth being removed Most patients have all four wisdom teeth removed at once, which is more cost-effective per tooth than removing them one at a time across separate appointments. However, some patients only have one or two problematic wisdom teeth, or may have been born without all four.

3. Anaesthesia and sedation This is often the factor patients are most uncertain about:

- Local anaesthesia only: Included in the extraction cost. You're fully awake but the area is numb. Suitable for simple extractions and patients comfortable in the dental chair.
- Happy gas (nitrous oxide): Add \$100 to \$200 to the treatment cost. Takes the edge off anxiety while you remain conscious and responsive.
- Oral sedation: Add \$200 to \$400. Tablet-based sedation taken before your appointment. You'll be drowsy but conscious.
- IV sedation (twilight sedation): Add \$500 to \$1,500. Administered by a sedationist or anaesthetist. You'll be deeply relaxed and unlikely to remember the procedure, but you're not fully unconscious.
- General anaesthesia: Add \$1,500 to \$3,000+. Requires an anaesthetist and either a hospital or accredited day surgery facility. You're completely unconscious. Generally reserved for complex surgical extractions, highly anxious patients, or cases where all four teeth require significant surgery.

At Smile Solutions, we offer the full spectrum of sedation options – from happy gas through to general anaesthesia. Our Collins Street Specialist Centre and our team of over 80 clinicians, including specialist oral surgeons, mean we can handle everything from routine extractions to the most complex surgical cases.

4. Who performs the extraction

- General dentist: Suitable for erupted or simple soft tissue impactions. Cost is generally at the lower end of the ranges above.
- Oral surgeon (specialist): Recommended for bony impactions, teeth near the inferior alveolar nerve, complex root anatomy, or medically complex patients. Specialist fees are typically 20 to 40 per cent higher than GP fees but come with additional surgical training and experience managing complications.

5. The range of services available under one roof A practice with in-house oral surgeons, on-site CBCT scanning, and comprehensive sedation options can often deliver better value than a general practice that needs to refer you to a hospital for general anaesthesia. At Smile Solutions, having specialists, advanced imaging, and sedation all in one location means fewer appointments, no external referral fees, and a more streamlined experience overall.

The OPG and CBCT: Imaging Costs

Before any wisdom tooth extraction, you'll need imaging:

- OPG (orthopantomogram): \$80 to \$150. A panoramic x-ray showing all your teeth, jaws, and the position of wisdom teeth relative to nerves and sinuses. This is the standard baseline image.
- CBCT (cone beam CT scan): \$200 to \$400. A 3D scan providing detailed information about root shape, nerve proximity, and bone density. Essential for impacted lower wisdom teeth near the inferior alveolar nerve.

These imaging costs are separate from the extraction fee. At Smile Solutions, we have on-site OPG and CBCT facilities, so you won't need to visit a separate imaging centre.

Health Fund Coverage for Wisdom Teeth Removal

Wisdom tooth extraction is generally covered under dental extras policies, though the level of coverage varies:

- Under general dental extras: Simple extractions may be partially covered, with fund contributions of \$100 to \$250 per tooth.
- Surgical extractions may fall under major dental with different benefit levels.
- Under major dental extras: Surgical extractions typically attract higher benefits: \$200 to \$500 per tooth.
- Hospital and anaesthetist fees may be partially covered if you have hospital cover with dental surgery included.

Key considerations: Check whether your policy has a sub-limit for extractions or oral surgery. General anaesthesia in a hospital setting is a separate claim from the dental procedure – you'll claim the surgical fees through your extras cover and the hospital/anaesthetist fees through your hospital cover.

Waiting periods of 2 to 12 months apply depending on whether it's classified as general or major dental.

Annual benefit limits may affect how much you can claim. We process health fund claims on the spot at Smile Solutions and can advise you on the relevant item numbers to check with your fund before your procedure.

When Should Wisdom Teeth Be Removed? Not all wisdom teeth need to come out. Wisdom teeth that are fully erupted, healthy, properly positioned, and cleanable generally don't need to be removed. Your dentist can advise whether your specific teeth warrant extraction. We recommend removal when:

- Pain or infection The tooth is causing recurrent pericoronitis (infection of the gum flap

overlying a partially erupted tooth), decay, or abscess. Damage to adjacent teeth The wisdom tooth is pushing against or decaying the second molar. Cyst formation A cyst has developed around the unerupted tooth (visible on x-ray). Orthodontic reasons Your orthodontist recommends removal as part of your alignment treatment plan. Preventive removal The tooth is impacted and at high risk of future problems, particularly in younger patients (late teens to early twenties) when recovery is typically faster and roots are not fully formed. What to Expect: The Procedure and Recovery 1 On the day Simple extractions under local anaesthesia : Allow 30 to 60 minutes for all four teeth Surgical extractions under local or IV sedation : Allow 60 to 90 minutes General anaesthesia cases : Allow half a day including pre-operative preparation and post-operative recovery 2 Recovery timeline Days 1-3 : Swelling and discomfort peak. Pain is managed with prescribed or over-the-counter pain relief. Soft diet recommended. Days 4-7 : Swelling begins to subside. Most patients return to work or study by day 3 to 5. Weeks 2-4 : Surgical sites continue healing. Full recovery for complex surgical extractions may take several weeks. Key instruction : Avoid using straws, smoking, and vigorous rinsing for the first 48 hours to protect the blood clot in the extraction site. 3 Time off work Plan for 2 to 3 days off work for routine extractions, and up to a week for complex surgical removals under general anaesthesia. Many patients who have the procedure on a Thursday or Friday are back at work on Monday. Common Questions About Wisdom Teeth Costs Is it cheaper to remove all four at once? Yes, almost always. You save on consultation and anaesthesia costs, and many practices offer a package rate for four extractions. It also means only one recovery period rather than multiple. Can I claim wisdom teeth on Medicare? Medicare generally does not cover dental procedures. However, children aged 2 to 17 may be eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS), which can cover some extraction costs. Adult wisdom tooth removal in a hospital under general anaesthesia may have the hospital component partially covered by Medicare if you're a public patient, but wait times can be extensive. Should I go to a hospital or a dental practice? For routine extractions under local anaesthesia or IV sedation, a well-equipped dental practice is perfectly appropriate and usually more convenient. Hospital-based general anaesthesia is recommended for highly complex cases, patients with significant medical conditions, or those requiring deep unconscious sedation. Book Your Wisdom Teeth Assessment If your wisdom teeth are causing problems or your dentist has recommended they be assessed, our team at Smile Solutions can provide a thorough evaluation, clear cost estimate, and a treatment plan tailored to your situation. With specialist oral surgeons, on-site 3D imaging, and the full range of sedation options, we handle everything from the simplest to the most complex wisdom tooth cases. Book Now Articles from Smile Solutions View Blogs Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More General Smile Solutions 10 Aug 2026 Mouth Breathing: The Silent Habit That's Changing Your Face and Your Health Read More General Smile Solutions 3 Aug 2026 How Much Does a Dental Crown Cost in Melbourne? Materials Compared Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More General Smile Solutions 10 Aug 2026 Mouth Breathing: The Silent Habit That's Changing Your Face and Your Health Read More General Smile Solutions 3 Aug 2026 How Much Does a Dental Crown Cost in Melbourne? Materials Compared Read More View Blog Call Us 13 13 96 Location Level 1, 220 Collins Street Manchester Unity Building, Melbourne VIC 3000 Hours Of Service Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 6.00pm Saturday: 8.30am – 1.30pm Sunday: By Appointment Our Services General Dentistry Cosmetic Dentistry Orthodontics Specialist Care Dental Implants Children's Dentistry Emergency Dentistry Why Choose Us Our Team Media Awards Careers Technology Location Holistic Dentistry Quick Links Contact Us Articles Packages & Offers Dental Payment Plans Understanding Your Treatment Sitemap Privacy Policy Copyright © Smile Solutions. All Rights Reserved. This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. Close Our Services General Dentistry Dental Cleans and Hygienists Wisdom Teeth Emergency Dentistry Root Canal Tooth Fillings Chipped or Cracked Teeth Snoring & Sleep Apnoea TMD & Teeth Grinding Sport Mouthguards Dental Anxiety Cosmetic Dentistry Porcelain Veneers & Crowns Same Day Porcelain

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