

What are the risks of having dental treatment overseas? - Smile Solutions

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What are the risks of having dental treatment overseas? You will often hear talk, or read stories, about dental procedures carried out in developing countries such as Thailand at prices that seem too good to be true – at least by Australian standards. There is one simple reason for this: the quality of care available in these countries does not compare with what is offered in Australia – a country that leads the world in medical and dental excellence. So when dental tourism seems too good to be true, it probably is! Let's look at the main factors that determine quality of care no matter where you seek treatment. First, there are the qualifications of the dental practitioner. In an industry that is becoming more and more specialised, the world's top clinicians are studying for longer to remain at the forefront of their field. Dental specialists in the developed world have at least two tertiary degrees – the first in general dentistry (of four to five years' duration) and the second in their particular field, such as orthodontics (of three to four years' duration). Leading specialists also maintain membership of professional organisations so they can stay abreast of the latest developments in their field. Secondly, a successful treatment outcome relies on the quality of materials used (for example, high-quality porcelain for fillings), the high-tech equipment utilised (including powerful microscopes) and the laboratories engaged in the manufacture of appliances and other dental fixtures and fittings. Thirdly, and importantly, the welfare of patients depends on the regulation of dental practitioners and dental clinics, including infection control standards. All of the above vary from country to country – and ultimately determine the fees you will be charged. When you choose budget dentistry anywhere – whether overseas or in Australia – you take obvious risks. The main risks of dental tourism, especially when it is marketed as budget dentistry, are as follows: Most comprehensive dental producers require follow-up – to confirm that a treatment has been successful, or to take corrective action if it has failed. This follow-up is more effective when (1) carried out by the same clinician or a clinician within the same dental practice, or at least a clinician with access to your complete records, and (2) the materials used are consistent and mutually compatible. Dental materials used overseas are not necessarily compatible with those used in Australia, and vice versa. You are unlikely to be covered by your private health insurance for elective dentistry carried out overseas, and you may not be covered for a medical emergency that occurs in Australia as a result of a dental procedure carried out in another country. Many overseas countries have no governing body to turn to for legal remedy if you have cause for complaint about unsatisfactory or negligent dental treatment within their jurisdiction. In Australia, the

following checks help to protect you from negligent dental treatment: All genuine dental specialists in Australia are registered with the Dental Board of Australia; and you can check their accreditation on the register of practitioners of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). Our infection control standards, which are among the highest in the world, are governed by Dental Board guidelines and health practitioner regulation law. An Act of Parliament governs the required standard of care for medical and dental professionals practicing in Australia. At Smile Solutions we strongly recommend that you exercise caution when considering dental treatment overseas. At the very least, you should only rely on word-of-mouth, not on internet advertising or online testimonials. Uncover more from Smile Solutions View Blogs All Dr Silvia Ciach 14 Sep 2015 Is it safe to visit the dentist during pregnancy? Read More All Dr Silvia Ciach 16 Jul 2014 I am in my late 60s. How can I keep my teeth in top condition now that I am older? Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More All Dr Silvia Ciach 14 Sep 2015 Is it safe to visit the dentist during pregnancy? Read More All Dr Silvia Ciach 16 Jul 2014 I am in my late 60s. How can I keep my teeth in top condition now that I am older? Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More All Dr Silvia Ciach 14 Sep 2015 Is it safe to visit the dentist during pregnancy? Read More All Dr Silvia Ciach 16 Jul 2014 I am in my late 60s. How can I keep my teeth in top condition now that I am older? Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference 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 Veneers™ Composite Bonding Professional Teeth Whitening CEREC Restorations Invisalign® No Braces All-on-4® Dental Implants Gummy Smile Complimentary Cosmetic Consultation Orthodontics Invisalign No Braces Orthodontic Braces Children's Braces and Invisalign Jaw Surgery Dental Implants All-on-4® Dental Implants Conventional & Immediate Implants Dental Bridges Bone Grafting For Implants Dentures Specialist Care Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons Prosthodontists Orthodontists Periodontists Endodontists Paediatric Dentists Complex Dentistry Children's Dentistry First Visit To The Dentist Children's Dental Emergencies Children's Braces and Invisalign Child Dental Benefit Schedule Kids Teeth Cleaning Tips Why Choose Us Our Team Our Location Technology Awards Holistic Dentistry Before After Gallery Payment Plans Packages & Offers Contact Us Call Us 13 13 96 Close Smile Solutions AI Assistant ■ Hello! I'm here to help you with questions about Smile Solutions. How can I assist you today? Popular questions: What services does Smile Solutions offer? How can I contact Smile Solutions What are your business hours? ■■ × 0 /1000 Contact Us 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 Close Book Now