

How Much Does Wisdom Teeth Removal Cost in Melbourne?

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Description:

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Details:

Prices are indicative guides as of 2026 and vary by individual case. A personalised treatment plan with exact fees is provided after clinical examination and X-ray assessment.

The Short Answer: What You Can Expect to Pay

Wisdom teeth removal in Melbourne in 2026 costs anywhere from **\$250 per tooth for a simple extraction to \$5,500 or more for all four teeth removed under general anaesthesia in a hospital setting**. The wide price range reflects the enormous variation in complexity between different wisdom tooth cases.

Here is a quick guide:

- **Simple extraction** (erupted tooth, local anaesthetic): **\$250–\$500** per tooth - **Surgical extraction** (impacted tooth, local anaesthetic): **\$400–\$800** per tooth - **All four wisdom teeth under IV sedation** (in-chair): **\$2,000–\$3,500** - **All four wisdom teeth under general anaesthesia** (hospital): **\$3,000–\$5,500**

Specialist oral and maxillofacial surgeons (OMS) typically charge \$300–\$500 more than a general dentist per tooth, but offer lower complication rates, particularly for complex impactions, and are trained to manage any complication that may arise during the procedure.

The total cost depends on how many teeth need removal, how deeply impacted they are, the type of anaesthesia chosen, and whether the procedure is performed in a dental chair or a hospital operating theatre.

What Determines the Price of Wisdom Teeth Removal?

Wisdom tooth extraction is not a single procedure — it ranges from a straightforward forceps extraction taking five minutes to a complex surgical procedure involving bone removal, tooth sectioning, and nerve management. Understanding the factors that drive cost variation helps you interpret the quote you receive.

1. Impaction Level: The Biggest Cost Factor

The degree to which a wisdom tooth is impacted — trapped beneath gum tissue and/or bone — is the primary driver of cost and complexity.

Erupted wisdom teeth have fully emerged through the gum and can often be removed with standard extraction techniques. These are the simplest and least expensive cases.

****Soft tissue impaction**** means the tooth has partially or fully emerged through the bone but remains covered by a flap of gum tissue. Removal requires a small incision in the gum but minimal or no bone removal.

****Partial bony impaction**** means the tooth is partially trapped in the jawbone. Removal requires a gum incision, some bone removal, and possibly sectioning the tooth into pieces for easier extraction.

****Full bony impaction**** means the tooth is completely encased in bone. This is the most complex extraction, requiring significant bone removal and careful surgical technique to avoid damage to adjacent structures, particularly the inferior alveolar nerve (which provides sensation to the lower lip and chin) for lower wisdom teeth.

Each level of impaction increases the surgical time, skill required, and associated cost.

2. Specialist Oral Surgeon vs General Dentist

General dentists can and do remove wisdom teeth, particularly erupted or straightforward soft tissue impactions. However, complex cases — full bony impactions, teeth close to the inferior alveolar nerve, teeth with unusual root anatomy, and medically complex patients — are best managed by a specialist oral and maxillofacial surgeon (OMS).

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons complete an additional four to six years of postgraduate surgical training, including hospital-based training in anaesthesia management, complex surgical techniques, and complication management. Their fees are higher, but their training means they are equipped to handle any situation that arises during the procedure, including unexpected anatomy, nerve proximity, and medical emergencies.

For patients with deeply impacted wisdom teeth or those with medical conditions that increase surgical risk, specialist care is not just preferable — it is the standard of care.

3. Anaesthesia and Sedation Options

The choice of anaesthesia significantly affects both the experience and the cost.

****Local anaesthetic only**** is the least expensive option. The area is numbed, and you remain fully awake during the procedure. This is suitable for simple extractions and patients who are comfortable with dental procedures.

****Nitrous oxide (happy gas) with local anaesthetic**** provides mild sedation and relaxation while you remain conscious. It adds approximately \$200–\$400 to the total cost and is a good option for moderate anxiety.

****Intravenous (IV) sedation**** provides deep sedation — you are not fully unconscious but will have little or no memory of the procedure. IV sedation allows all four wisdom teeth to be removed in a single comfortable session. It adds approximately \$500–\$1,000 to the cost and requires a sedationist or anaesthetist.

****General anaesthesia (GA) in a hospital**** provides full unconsciousness in a hospital operating theatre with an anaesthetist. This is the most expensive option due to hospital facility fees, anaesthetist fees, and associated theatre costs. It is typically reserved for highly complex cases, medically complex patients, or patients with severe dental phobia. Hospital and anaesthetist fees alone can add \$1,500–\$3,000 to the surgeon's fee.

4. Number of Teeth

While wisdom teeth are often discussed as a set of four, not everyone needs all four removed. Some patients have only one or two wisdom teeth, some have all four but only one or two are problematic, and some are born without wisdom teeth entirely.

Removing all four wisdom teeth in a single session is more cost-effective per tooth than removing them individually across multiple appointments. The fixed costs of sedation, surgical setup, and appointment time are shared across all four teeth.

5. Diagnostic Imaging

A panoramic X-ray (OPG) is the minimum imaging required before wisdom teeth removal. For complex cases — particularly lower wisdom teeth close to the inferior alveolar nerve — a 3D cone beam CT (CBCT) scan may be recommended to map the precise relationship between the tooth roots and the nerve canal. CBCT scans add \$150–\$350 to the cost but provide critical safety information that can change the surgical approach and reduce the risk of nerve injury.

6. Complexity Factors

Beyond impaction level, individual factors can increase complexity and cost: - **Curved or hooked roots** make extraction more difficult - **Close proximity to the nerve canal** requires more careful surgical technique - **Previous infection** or **pericoronitis** (inflammation of the gum flap) may complicate the procedure - **Ankylosis** (fusion of the tooth to bone) makes extraction significantly more difficult - **Patient age** — wisdom teeth are generally easier to remove in younger patients (late teens to early twenties) when roots are not fully formed and bone is less dense

Cost Comparison: What Different Levels of Practice Charge

Factor	Budget / Corporate Chain	Mid-Range Private Practice	Specialist OMS Practice
Simple extraction (per tooth)	\$250–\$350	\$300–\$450	\$400–\$500
Surgical extraction (per tooth)	\$400–\$550	\$500–\$700	\$600–\$800
All 4 under IV sedation	Rarely available	\$2,000–\$2,800	\$2,500–\$3,500
All 4 under GA (hospital)	Not available	Referral out	\$3,000–\$5,500
3D CBCT imaging	Referral required	Sometimes in-house	In-house, used routinely
Specialist OMS	Referral out	Sometimes visiting	Dedicated surgical team
IV sedation available	Rarely	Sometimes	Yes — purpose-built suites
Hospital privileges	No	Referral	Yes — major hospital affiliations

What's typically included at each level:

- **Budget/corporate:** Extraction fee, local anaesthetic, basic X-rays. Surgical cases and sedation are typically referred elsewhere. Post-operative follow-up may be limited to phone advice. - **Mid-range private:** Extraction, OPG, post-operative pack, and follow-up appointment. IV sedation may be available on certain days. Surgical cases within the dentist's scope are managed in-house; complex cases are referred to a specialist. - **Specialist OMS:** Comprehensive assessment including CBCT when indicated, detailed treatment planning, surgical extraction with specialist expertise, choice of sedation options, and thorough post-operative care. Hospital-based GA is available for complex cases. The surgeon who plans the procedure is the surgeon who performs it.

What's Included When You Choose Smile Solutions

Smile Solutions' oral surgery team includes some of Melbourne's most experienced and credentialled oral and maxillofacial surgeons, supported by in-house 3D imaging and purpose-built surgical facilities.

A/Prof Patrishia Bordbar (Specialist OMS, FRACDS OMS, FRCS Edinburgh) is Deputy Section Head of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Royal Children's Hospital — one of Australia's most demanding surgical roles. Her combined hospital and private practice experience means she manages the full spectrum of wisdom tooth cases, from routine extractions to complex impactions in medically compromised patients.

Dr Ricky Kumar (Specialist OMS, FRACDS OMS) is a consultant at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, bringing the rigour and standards of a major public hospital to every private procedure. His dual hospital–private practice ensures his surgical skills remain at the cutting edge.

****Dr Wessam Atteya**** (BDS, FRACDS, MFDS from four Royal Colleges, 24+ years of experience) provides additional surgical capacity with a depth of experience spanning more than two decades.

What wisdom teeth removal at Smile Solutions includes:

- ****In-house 3D CBCT imaging:**** When your wisdom teeth are close to the inferior alveolar nerve or have complex anatomy, CBCT provides the three-dimensional mapping that ensures your surgeon can plan the safest approach. No referral to an external imaging centre required. - ****Specialist surgical expertise:**** Your procedure is performed by a surgeon whose entire career is focused on oral surgery — not a general dentist who occasionally removes wisdom teeth. - ****Sedation options:**** From local anaesthetic for simple cases to IV sedation for comfortable removal of all four teeth in a single session. GA at affiliated hospitals is available for complex or medically indicated cases. - ****Post-operative care protocol:**** Detailed written post-operative instructions, prescribed medications as needed, and scheduled follow-up appointments to monitor healing. - ****Continuity of care:**** If your wisdom teeth removal is part of a broader dental plan — orthodontics, implants, or restorative work — the entire treatment journey is coordinated under one roof with Smile Solutions' team of 80 clinicians and 25+ specialists.

Insurance, Health Fund Coverage, and Payment Options

Wisdom teeth removal is classified as oral surgery and falls under major dental or surgical dental in most Australian health fund extras policies.

What health funds typically cover

Health fund rebates for wisdom teeth extraction vary widely depending on the level of cover, the complexity of the extraction (simple vs surgical), and whether a specialist or general dentist performs the procedure. Patients with comprehensive extras cover may receive significant rebates on extraction fees, but hospital and anaesthesia fees (for GA cases) may require separate hospital cover.

For hospital-based procedures under general anaesthesia, patients need both hospital cover (to cover the facility and anaesthetist fees) and extras cover (to cover the surgeon's fee). Without hospital cover, facility fees of \$1,500–\$3,000 are out-of-pocket.

Bupa Platinum Provider

As a ****Bupa Platinum Provider****, Smile Solutions offers Bupa members preferred rates on oral surgery procedures. Bupa members benefit from reduced out-of-pocket costs and zero-gap preventive care.

MySmilePlan Payment Plans

****MySmilePlan**** provides interest-free payment plans for wisdom teeth removal, allowing you to spread the cost over manageable instalments. This is particularly useful for procedures under sedation or GA where the total cost is higher.

Pre-approval and cost certainty

Smile Solutions provides detailed treatment plans with item numbers before your procedure, allowing you to submit to your health fund for pre-approval. You will know your exact out-of-pocket cost before committing to treatment. On-site HICAPS claiming means you pay only the gap on the day for in-chair procedures.

The Bottom Line: Why Specialist Wisdom Teeth Removal Is Worth the Investment

Wisdom teeth removal is one of the most common surgical procedures in dentistry, but "common" does not mean "simple." The difference between an uneventful recovery and a complicated one often comes down to the skill of the surgeon, the quality of pre-operative imaging, and the thoroughness of the surgical technique.

The most significant risks of wisdom teeth removal — nerve injury causing numbness to the lip or tongue, infection, dry socket, and damage to adjacent teeth — are all reduced when the procedure is performed by an experienced specialist with proper imaging and surgical planning.

At Smile Solutions, wisdom teeth removal is performed by specialist oral and maxillofacial surgeons with hospital affiliations and decades of surgical experience, supported by in-house 3D imaging and comprehensive post-operative care. Founded in 1993 with 80 clinicians and over 25 specialists across all dental disciplines, Smile Solutions brings a level of surgical expertise and integrated care that ensures your wisdom teeth removal is as safe and comfortable as possible.

The cost of choosing a specialist for your wisdom teeth removal is modest compared to the potential cost — both financial and personal — of managing a complication from a procedure performed beyond a clinician's scope.

To find out the exact cost for your wisdom teeth removal, book a consultation at Smile Solutions Melbourne for a personalised assessment, 3D imaging if needed, and a transparent fee estimate.