Professionalism
Consent & Note Recording Protocols

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Indemnity cover

To be able to renew your registration with the GDC, you will be required to **declare** that you have the necessary indemnity or insurance in place to cover you in your work

(GDC 2019)

This is not a new requirement - dental professionals have always been required to have appropriate indemnity arrangements in place so that patients can claim any compensation to which they may be entitled. This requirement is part of the Standards

It is your responsibility to ensure you have appropriate cover for your scope of practice. If you are an employing dentist with DCPs covered under your policy, you will need to make the appropriate information available to them should they require it

(GDC, 2019)

Indemnity cover

Further information

1. BADN | The British Association of Dental Nurses
2. Contact Us – SBDN
3. Dental Nurses and Indemnity (dentalnursenetwork.com)
4. Indemnity (gdc-uk.org)

Professionalism

- GDC standards –”Think CPD”
- IPC health and safety
- Legal expectations with regards to consent process both written and verbal
- Clinical notes/recording following application
- Reporting any safe guarding issues if you are concerned appropriately

Prescription for use

'Dental varnishes may be regulated as medical devices or as medicinal products, depending on their mode of action and the claims being made'.(The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

Duraphat is a prescription only medication (POM) and therefore before applying there must be a valid prescription signed by the referring dentist instructing you to do the application

Yeung, C.A., 2017

If this is new – setup a referral system with the referring dentist or via software or via paper which then gets scanned to patient notes

Should include – the dose – e.g. full mouth or just specific area

One application or repeat application within the calendar year

Yeung, C.A., 2017. Off-label use of medicines. *British Dental Journal*, *222*(7), pp.495-496

Consent

Consent must be gained prior to starting treatment

This can only be gained from the legal guardian (see child protection protocols in Northern Ireland)

Duraphat is a POM so therefore valid signature must be gained

In order for consent to be valid, the procedure must be explained in full including potential benefits, advantages, side effects, time-frames, contraindications and any associated costs

See example- once signed the completed form including the signature should be scanned into patient notes

Patient Note Records

Following fluoride application the patient notes MUST be recorded at the time

Operator name

Consent form – YES

Who was present with the child – parent / legal guardian? Who had authority to sign the consent on the child's behalf

MH – any thing to note? Was there any contraindications that prevented the treatment or required a different medical device ?

The isolation for drying – was it achieved? What with?

For example – teeth dried with gauze achieved fully

Duraphat-Batch no & Exp date- (dose used) applied to ALL areas / Quadrant 1/ Quadrant 2 only (dependent on prescription and adherence to treatment)

Any challenges experienced? Was treatment possible?

POIG- what was given to parent – was it verbal and written **document the aftercare you have given**

Patient tolerance of treatment should be noted also

Sign your name at the end to ensure it is clear you were the person applying the fluoride

Examples of ChildSmile consent

[Childsmile Flouride Varnish Consent Form (child-smile.org.uk)]

Fluoride varnish consent

Please complete this form and return it.

Childsmile is a national programme designed to improve the oral health of children in Scotland

NHS SCOTLAND

Public Health Scotland

Fluoride varnish provides extra protection against decay for children's teeth. Childsmile will offer to apply the varnish in your child's nursery or school twice a year (this is in addition to the two applications you will be offered at your dental practice).

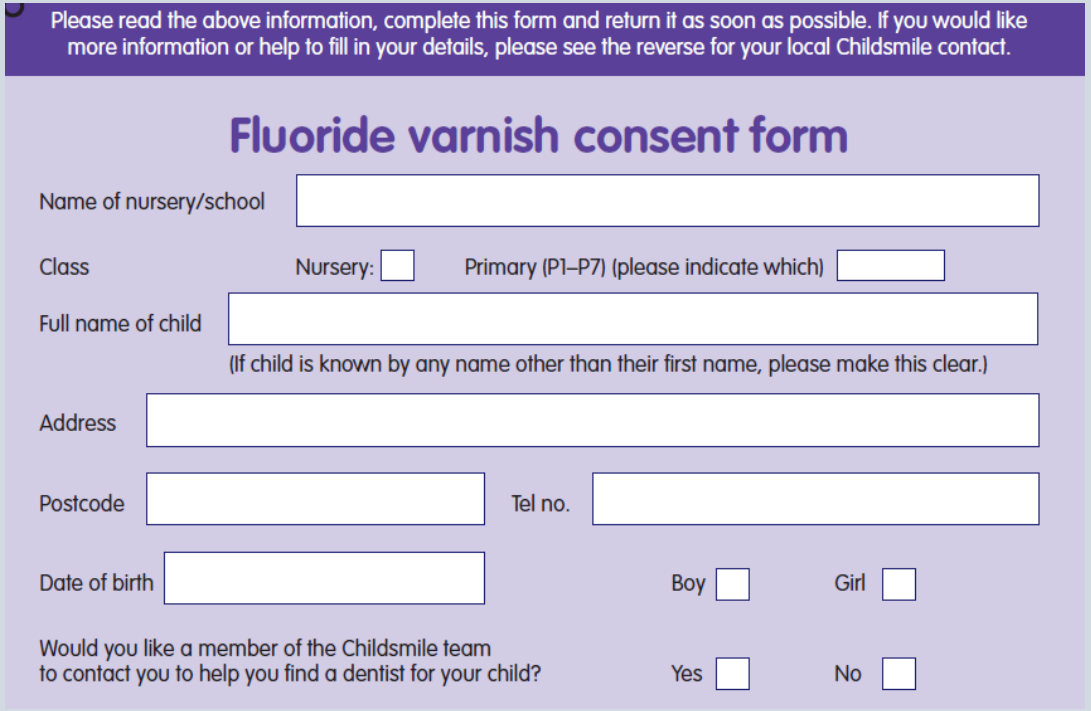
You only need to sign this consent form once to enrol in the programme. After that we will contact you twice a year, when you will be given the opportunity to update your child's medical history and other personal details.

What does fluoride varnish involve?

- Fluoride varnish is a pale yellow gel that has a pleasant and fruity taste. Specially trained dental nurses apply the varnish to children's teeth using a soft brush.
- Fluoride varnish will not be applied if your child has sore areas in their mouth.
- If your child has been hospitalised due to asthma or allergies, the fluoride varnish may not be applied.
- Children who swallow too much fluoride over long periods of time may develop white spots on their teeth. However, the risk of developing white spots as a result of fluoride varnish application, or toothbrushing with fluoride toothpaste, is very small.
- Your child should not be given fluoride drops or tablets for two days after the fluoride application. After that, continue as directed.
- Aftercare instructions will be given to your child on the day they have varnish applied.

Examples of ChildSmile consent

[Childsmile Flouride Varnish Consent Form (child-smile.org.uk)]



Please read the above information, complete this form and return it as soon as possible. If you would like more information or help to fill in your details, please see the reverse for your local Childsmile contact.

Fluoride varnish consent form

Name of nursery/school

Class Nursery: Primary (P1–P7) (please indicate which)

Full name of child

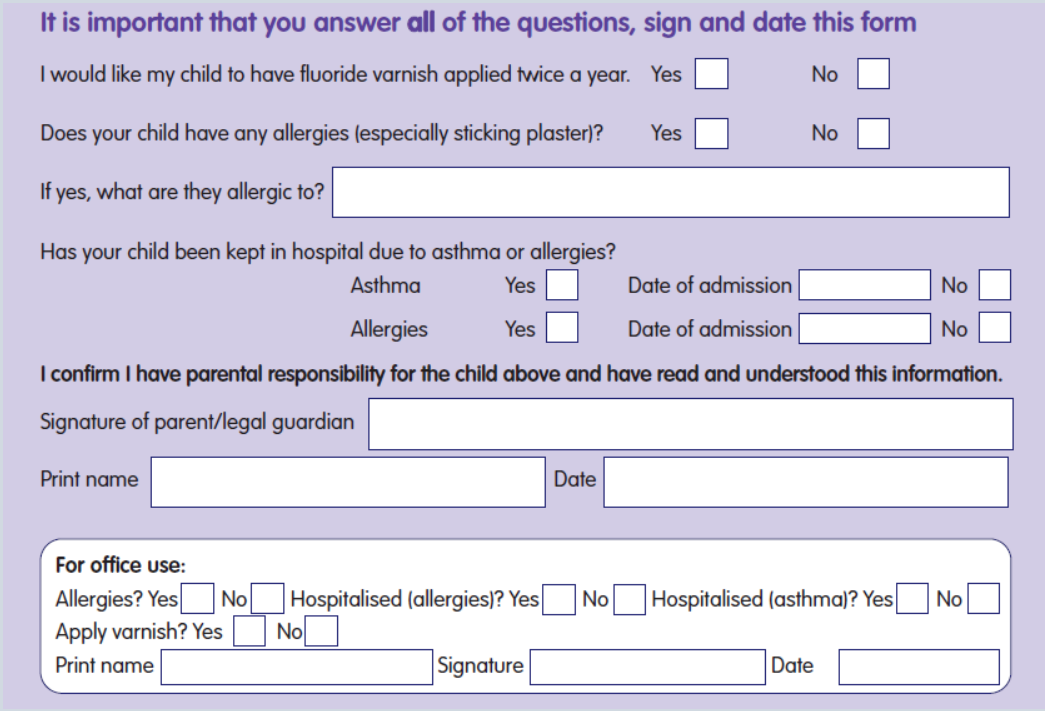
(If child is known by any name other than their first name, please make this clear.)

Address

Postcode Tel no.

Date of birth Boy Girl

Would you like a member of the Childsmile team to contact you to help you find a dentist for your child? Yes No



It is important that you answer all of the questions, sign and date this form

I would like my child to have fluoride varnish applied twice a year. Yes No

Does your child have any allergies (especially sticking plaster)? Yes No

If yes, what are they allergic to?

Has your child been kept in hospital due to asthma or allergies?

Asthma Yes Date of admission No

Allergies Yes Date of admission No

I confirm I have parental responsibility for the child above and have read and understood this information.

Signature of parent/legal guardian

Print name Date

For office use:

Allergies? Yes No Hospitalised (allergies)? Yes No Hospitalised (asthma)? Yes No

Apply varnish? Yes No

Print name Signature Date

Examples of ChildSmile consent

Childsmile Flouride Varnish Consent Form (child-smile.org.uk)

Keeping your child's teeth healthy at home

Every child is provided with a dental pack at least five times between the ages of 3 and 5. It contains a toothbrush, fluoride toothpaste and oral health information.

- Brush teeth and gums at least twice daily, in the morning and last thing at night. Use toothpaste containing at least 1,000 parts per million (ppm) fluoride.
- Children should be supervised and encouraged not to swallow toothpaste while brushing.
- 'Spit, don't rinse' after brushing – this gives the toothpaste time to work to protect teeth.
- Keep food and drinks containing sugar to mealtimes only.
- Plain milk and tap water are the safest drinks for teeth.
- Register with a dentist and visit as advised.

If you would like more information, or help to fill in this form, please visit **www.child-smile.org.uk/contacts/coordinators.aspx** for your local Childsmile coordinator's details

www.child-smile.org.uk

Management of the Child Patient

Children can be challenging in the dental setting due to several reasons

Mainly anxiety of a new environment or past experience

Applying fluoride varnish should be a pleasant & positive visit to build confidence and aid prevention of disease

Acclimation

Introducing the various elements of the dental surgery:

- ❑Instruments
- ❑The chair
- ❑The 3-in-1
- ❑The gauze or cotton wool roll
- ❑Dental mirror is good to begin with

- Further resource:
- [Acclimatising child patients | British Dental Journal (nature.com)]

Further resources

Fluoride – a guide for dental nurses - DentalNursing (dental-nursing.co.uk)

Using fluoride varnish doses and aftercare - NHS Health Scotland (child-smile.org.uk)

Childsmile Flouride Varnish Consent Form (child-smile.org.uk)

References

https://www.portofinopediatrics.com/storage/app/media/fluoride-varnish-and-oral-health-screening-form.pdf