

MID AND SOUTH ESSEX MEDICINES OPTIMISATION COMMITTEE (MSEMOC)

PRESCRIBING OF DENTAL PREPARATIONS

BLACK: NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PRESCRIBING IN PRIMARY, COMMUNITY OR SECONDARY CARE BY NON- DENTAL PRACTITIONERS

Mid and South Essex CCGs do not support the prescribing of medicines or preparations (general toothpaste and mouthwashes) for dental conditions on FP10 prescriptions by non-dental practitioners

It is not clinically appropriate for medicines for dental conditions to be supplied via the prescription route by non-dental practitioners e.g. GPs, when patients have been assessed by a dentist and treatment initiated by them.

Some dental medicines require ongoing monitoring and clinical assessment by the dentist, which is in keeping with the dentist retaining the responsibility for prescribing. For example, high fluoride toothpastes – it is important to ensure that patients who are prescribed high concentration fluoride toothpaste are under the care of a dental team in order to receive regular monitoring and management of their dental decay risk.

Dental self-care and purchasing of general or over-the-counter dental products should be promoted, e.g. chlorhexidine for gingivitis. Oral health is an integral part of general health. Poor oral health can have a detrimental effect on general health resulting in a significant impact on quality of life. Dental caries (dental decay) is one of the main contributors to poor oral health.

This position is supported by NHS England as part of conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed in primary care.

Obtaining medicines for dental conditions

There are various routes by which a dentist can provide patients with, or direct them to, appropriate medicines:

- Dentists can issue NHS prescriptions for medicines from the Dental Practitioners' Formulary for treatment provided within an NHS contract. See the following link to the dental prescribing formulary: <https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/formulary/bnf/current/dental-practitioners-formulary/list-of-dental-preparations>
- Dentists can issue private prescriptions.
- In some circumstances, dentists are able to sell medicines directly to patients.
- Dentists, like other healthcare professionals, are able to signpost patients to appropriate forms of self-care, e.g. direct them to a community pharmacy to purchase an over-the-counter analgesic.

Summary

Dentists are usually best placed to assess dental problems, and prescribe and monitor medicines for them. Involving non-dental practitioners in prescribing medicines for dental conditions is usually unnecessary, and uses valuable appointment/practitioner time which could be better utilised. Getting non-dental practitioners to prescribe medicines for dental conditions means that they are responsible for both the prescribing and any consequent monitoring required, for which they may not be the most appropriate clinical practitioner.

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Mid and South Essex CCGs are reminded that they are required to follow the local joint formulary and prescribing guidance, as detailed in the medicines management service specification of their contract.



Example dental products that non-dental practitioners should not prescribe:

Generic dental product	Brands
Fluoride products	
Sodium fluoride 0.05% mouthwash sugar free	Colgate FluoriGard 0.05% daily dental rinse
	Colgate FluoriGard 0.05% dental rinse alcohol free
	Colgate TOTAL Pro Gum Health daily mouthwash
	Endekay 0.05% daily fluoride mouthrinse
	Oral-B Anti-Plaque Alcohol-Free 0.05% mouth rinse
Sodium fluoride 0.32%/ Triclosan 0.3% dental paste sugar free	Colgate TOTAL Advanced toothpaste
	Colgate TOTAL Pro Gum Health Tartar Control toothpaste
	Colgate TOTAL Pro Gum Health toothpaste
Sodium fluoride 0.37% oral drops sugar free	Endekay Fluodrops 0.37% drops paediatric
Sodium fluoride 0.619% dental paste sugar free	Colgate Duraphat 2800ppm fluoride toothpaste
Sodium fluoride 1.1% dental paste sugar free	Colgate Duraphat 5000ppm fluoride toothpaste
Sodium fluoride 1.1% mouthwash sugar free	Colgate-Duraphat Daily mouthwash
Sodium fluoride 1.1mg chewable tablets sugar free	Fluor-a-day 1.1mg chewable tablets
Sodium fluoride 1.1mg tablets	Endekay Fluotabs 3-6 Years 1.1mg tablets
Sodium fluoride 10mg/5ml oral solution	SPECIAL ORDER
Sodium fluoride 2% mouthwash sugar free	Endekay Fluorinse 2% mouthwash
Sodium fluoride 2.2mg chewable tablets sugar free	Fluor-a-day 2.2mg chewable tablets
Sodium fluoride 2.2mg tablets	Endekay Fluotabs 6+years 2.2mg tablets
Sodium fluoride 20mg capsules	SPECIAL ORDER
Chlorhexidine or hexitidine products	
Chlorhexidine digluconate 0.2%, Chlorhexidine gluconate 0.2%, Chlorhexidine digluconate 0.1%, Chlorobutanol 0.5%	Example brands: Corsodyl®, Listerine®, Colgate® Peroxyl, Eludril®

References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PrescQIPP bulletin 95. January 2015 https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/bulletins/bulletin-95-dental-products-on-fp10-drop-list/ NHS North Kirklees CCG Medicines for dental conditions on FP10 prescription. July 2015 https://www.northkirkleesccg.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Dental-Products-Commissioning-Statement.pdf NHS England Conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs. March 2018 https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/otc-guidance-for-ccgs.pdf
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