

Dental Practice Based Fluoride Varnish Application Training – Registered Dental Nurses

1. The University of Bristol Dental Hospital provides training for Registered Dental Nurses to apply fluoride varnish in the dental practice setting. It is a one day course that consists of both theoretical and practical training. Competence in carrying out this procedure is undertaken in the dental practice setting, for which individual dental nurses carry out 10 applications under the direct supervision of dentist. A log book of such applications is kept and returned to the University of Bristol Dental Hospital for verification before final certificates are issued.

2. Course Aim:

- 2.1 To provide theoretical and practical training to Registered Dental Nurses in order to carry out dental practice based fluoride varnish as a caries control measure.

3. Objectives

- 3.1 Demonstrate knowledge of the General Dental Council Scope of Practice document and the responsibility of being a registrant. This includes professionalism, ethics, child protection, confidentiality and consent.
- 3.2 Demonstrate a knowledge of basic dental anatomy
- 3.3 Outline the caries process
- 3.4 State the context in which fluoride varnish may be used as a caries control measure as outlined in the Department of Health document “Delivering Better Oral Health” directly linked to it being carried out in the dental practice setting
- 3.5 State the limitations to its use, and contraindications that may prevent its use, including identification of common soft tissue conditions such as gingivitis, oral sepsis and external factors such as herpetic lesions and angular cheilitis
- 3.6 Demonstrate an understanding of the environmental conditions in which fluoride varnish is best applied and the equipment necessary to support its application
- 3.7 Carry out application so dental manikins

4. Prerequisite requirements

- 4.1 Current General Dental Council Registration
- 4.2 Evidence of indemnity (which may be through their employer)
- 4.3 An understanding of the DH Document “Understanding Better Oral Health”
- 4.4 An understanding of the dental caries process and basic diet advice
- 4.5 An understanding of child protection issues related to the dental team
- 4.6 Support of a dental practitioner to achieve the practice based training

5. Course Programme (attached as annex A to this Document)

6. Course Validation and Completion

6.1 Certificates of competence will be issued after completing the one day course and passing each element, followed by the validation of “log books” for 10 applications carried out under the direct supervision of a registered dentist in the dental practice setting.