



Berkshire West Area Prescribing Committee Policy Statement

Drug Name	All strengths fluoride tablets, mouthwashes, drops and toothpaste (Colgate Duraphat®, En-De-Kay®, Colgate Fluorigard®, Fluor-d-day® or generic sodium fluoride products)
Indication under review	Prevention of dental caries
Policy No:	APC 137
Date of Issue:	January 2017
Review Date:	January 2020
Policy Statement: The prescribing of fluoride toothpastes and other fluoride treatments (mouthwashes, oral drops etc) for the prevention of dental caries is not recommended except when prescribed by a dentist on an FP10 (D).	
Traffic Light Status	Brown
Key Points considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colgate Duraphat® is a high strength fluoride toothpaste containing either 2800ppm (parts per million) fluoride or 5000ppm fluoride. These are also known or prescribed as sodium fluoride dental paste 0.619% (2800ppm) or 1.1% (5000ppm).• Detailed consultation and discussion by the APC led to the recommendation that high strength fluoride toothpastes, fluoride mouthwashes and fluoride tablets are not recommended for GP prescribing as acute or repeat FP10 prescriptions, and should only be prescribed by dentists• Prescribing by dentists ensures that fluoride products are prescribed following an oral assessment of patients.• Further recommendation is that the prescribing and continuation of these fluoride dental products should remain under the close supervision of a dentist who can manage the patient's oral health. GPs are responsible for all prescribing decisions they make and for any consequent monitoring that is required as a result of the prescription given. The dentist is best placed and the most appropriate clinician to monitor and assess both the benefits and adverse effects of treatment including the risk of patients developing fluorosis.	
Date taken to APC:	11 th January 2017
Date Ratified by GPMOC on Behalf of the Board:	18 th January 2017



Berkshire West Area Prescribing Policies serve as a guide to clinicians. This does not overrule the clinical or budgetary responsibility of clinicians when considering treatment for individual patients.