



Translation Research  
in a Dental Setting



Scottish Dental  
Clinical Effectiveness Programme

## Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

### Guidance Implementation Summary

For SDCEP guidance, information about potential barriers and facilitators for implementation is sought at various stages during the development process, such as during scoping, consultation and peer review, targeted external expert review and at other times pre-publication. This may include financial and organisational barriers that operate at the policy-level in addition to practice- practitioner- and patient-level barriers. The impact of these potential barriers is considered during the development of the guidance and the guidance recommendations, content and format may be influenced or changed as a result.

Much of this work is carried out in collaboration with SDCEP's partner programme TRiADS (Translation Research in a Dental Setting), a multidisciplinary research collaboration which aims to develop and evaluate guidance implementation strategies to improve the knowledge-to-practice gap in primary care dentistry in Scotland. Reports of the results of TRiADS research are provided on its website ([www.triads.org.uk](http://www.triads.org.uk)).

This document provides an ongoing summary of the potential barriers and facilitators to implementation of the *Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children* guidance recommendations, information on how these influenced the guidance and updates on any changes that have taken place since publication of the guidance that may affect implementation.

<b>Potential Barriers/Facilitators</b>	<b>Pre-publication Action/Developments</b> (e.g. changes made to the guidance, provision of implementation tools)	<b>Post-publication Activities</b>
<b>Format of the guidance</b>		
<b>1</b>	<p>Concerns were raised at consultation about the wide scope of the guidance and, with a lot of detail included, the resulting lengthy document.</p> <p>Given the popularity of the first edition of this guidance, the Guidance Development Group was keen to maintain the level of details provided.</p> <p>A summary of the key recommendations is included at the front of the main guidance to make them easily accessed.</p> <p>A separate short version of the guidance (Guidance in Brief) is also supplied that includes the key recommendations, related clinical practice advice and some of the decision support illustrations from the main guidance.</p>	<p>In 2019, the Guidance in Brief was included as a toolkit within SDCEP's <i>Dental Companion</i> smartphone and desktop app. This presents information in a layered format, allowing the user to decide how much depth to explore a particular topic of interest. The content is also searchable, facilitating rapid access to information of interest.</p>
<b>Service Provision</b>		
<b>2</b>	<p>Concerns were raised at consultation about insufficient remuneration within NHSScotland to deliver the care recommended in the draft guidance, e.g. no fees for toothbrushing instruction, radiographs, fissure sealant top up; Childsmile fees only for children who are &lt;6 years or age; there is a need for prior approval for several of the recommended strategies.</p> <p>Remuneration is beyond the scope of the guidance. However, the Scottish Government's Oral Health Improvement plan (2018) aims to support a preventive approach to oral health care and to modernise dental healthcare services, including revision of the payment system. Consequently, the PMDCC2 guidance may inform the process of updating how dental care for children is remunerated in Scotland.</p>	
<b>Training</b>		
<b>3</b>	<p>Several consultees identified a need to develop knowledge and skills on several</p>	<p>Since 2018, NHS Education for Scotland has offered numerous courses that address</p>

	aspects of the guidance (e.g. in certain caries management techniques, motivational interviewing, behaviour management, providing additional support.)		several of the knowledge and skills gaps identified. Courses include: Child Protection and Welfare; Dental Caries in Young Children - Diagnosis and Management; Paediatric Dentistry into practice; Motivational Interviewing; Health & Nutritional Guidance; Food and Health; Health inequalities, Child Poverty and Children Rights. Several of these are provided to support Childsmile, the national caries prevention initiative.
<b>Awareness of the guidance</b>			
4	The importance of raising awareness of the updated guidance and making it easily accessed was identified as a potential facilitator to implementation.	SDCEP undertook various dissemination approaches at the launch of the guidance to raise awareness. A variety of networks and communication routes were used to notify dental professionals about the new edition of the guidance. Press releases, newsletter and magazine articles and social media were also used. SDCEP sought and received endorsement by the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry, which both demonstrated their support and enabled dissemination via its network.	Just prior to its launch in 2018, NHS Education for Scotland held a CPD event which was focussed on the guidance and changes in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition. Speakers included members of the Guidance Development Group and the event was attended by over 100 delegates.
		In 2018, a Quality Improvement (Research) activity that focussed on certain aspects of the updated guidance was made available to dentists in Scotland. This comprised completion of pre- and post-publication questionnaires that aimed to assess changes in practitioners' beliefs, attitudes and working practices before and after the publication of the updated guidance. Dentists were also required to complete an action plan and a reflective report to gain Quality Improvement (Research) credit.	Further information on the outcomes of this activity are in a summary report available on the TRiADS website ( <a href="http://www.triads.org.uk/in-development/caries-in-children-2018/">www.triads.org.uk/in-development/caries-in-children-2018/</a> ).