

## **Policy statement: Dental preparations should be prescribed by dentists**

*Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (NCCG) policy statements have been developed to ensure appropriate use of NHS resources and to promote high quality evidence-based cost-effective prescribing. It supports the implementation of the CCG's clinical and financial responsibilities*

### **Routine prescribing of medicines or preparations (toothpastes and mouthwashes) for dental conditions should be by dentists except in the following circumstances:**

- Where the GP is the responsible clinician for assessing and monitoring the effectiveness of treatment
- As part of Head and Neck cancer treatment on the recommendation of a Head and Neck or Restorative Dental Consultant

**It is not clinically appropriate for medicines for dental conditions to be prescribed by the GP where patients have been assessed and treated by a dentist because the GP does not have access to the patients' dental records to inform appropriate prescribing.**

### **Obtaining medicines for dental conditions**

There are various routes for dentists to provide patients with medicines:

- Dentists can issue prescriptions for medicines as stated in the Dental Practitioners' Formulary.
- Dentists can issue private prescriptions.
- In some circumstances, dentists are also able to sell medicines directly to patients that can be readily purchased over the counter (OTC)
- Dentists are able to signpost patients to appropriate forms of self-care e.g. community pharmacy
- GPs should not accept requests from patients to issue NHS FP10 prescriptions for items prescribed on private prescriptions by their dentist.
- The dentist is the most appropriate clinician to monitor and assess both the benefits and adverse effects of dental treatment.

Further information can be accessed [Click here](#)