



DESIGNED TO SMILE IN PRACTICE

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT SUMMARY FORM

Quality Improvement Project Title	Fluoride Varnish Application to children aged 3-6 years old.		
Name of Learner	Example Project	GDC Number	
Role in Practice (e.g. hygienist, therapist, dental nurse, principal, associate, Dental Foundation Trainee)	Practice Manager and Dental Nurse		
Other QI Project Team Members	N/A		
Practice Name	N/A		
Practice Address		Practice Postcode	N/A

AIM OF THE PROJECT (1-2 SENTENCES)

I have decided to address Fluoride varnish application to children aged 3-6 years old. As a dental nurse I would like to see an increase with applying Fluoride varnish to children and improving their knowledge on oral health instruction, also including their carer's to be involved with this. This helping decrease active tooth decay in children.

DESCRIBE THE CHANGE TESTED (2-3 SENTENCES)

Over the last six months we have implemented changes to improve Fluoride Varnish application to children at the practice. We are currently a test site practice for the ACORN reform contract where applying Fluoride Varnish to children is now part of our clinical assessment. We aim to treat all patients in a preventative way where necessary. Our dentist Dr May Bassett has also trained under MPWiP to allow dental nurses at the practice to train in applying Fluoride Varnish to patients and improving their knowledge on oral health instruction. We now have an Oral health instruction surgery set up, thus giving us more surgery time to patients as dental nurses are now able to treat their patients away from the dentist surgery freeing up her time and giving more access to high/risk need patients.

RESULTS

Briefly summarise the results of your first PDSA cycle (3-4 sentences)

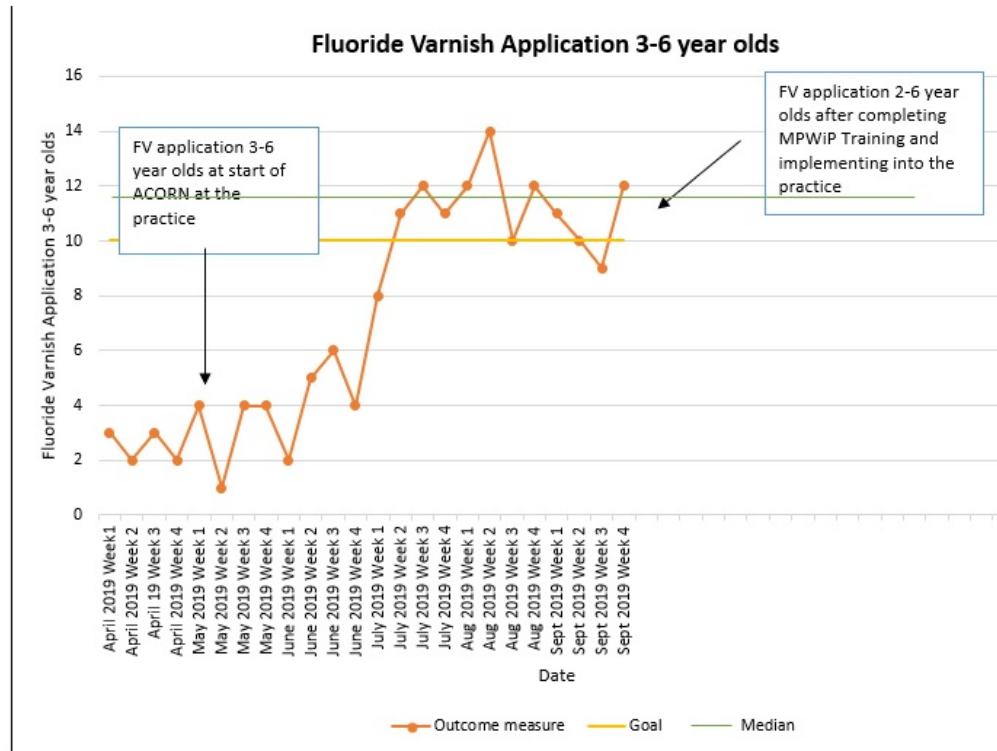
Plan- To increase the number of Fluoride varnish applications in children aged 3-6 years old. Implementing new changes to increase patients knowledge and understanding of the importance of oral health instruction.

Do- I have now started to collect data and have begun to analyse this to enable sustainable improvement to our patients seeing a way of increasing our Fluoride Varnish applications.

Study – Set focused goals and realistic targets to implement change. By completing all data collected I can see how change has transformed our way of treating patients and implementing prevention as part of our way of educating our patients. The number of fluoride varnish applications has increased dramatically from month 3 to month 4,5 and 6. This is when the test of change started to show improvements within our practice.

Act- Thus being if we can keep the changes we have made as part of our every working day within the practice. We need to make sure all changes we have made are easily implemented into our treatment planning and using our dental nurses as a way of helping our patients with oral health instruction and applying fluoride varnish to their teeth., allowing the dentist to have more time to treat high/risk need patients. To keep track and making sure our test of change doesn't decline in patients receiving fluoride varnish application we will always run PDSA cycles to check this.

Insert run chart/graph below (to do this you will first need to save your graph as an image file (.jpg/.png/.tiff etc.))



Describe whether you plan to adopt/adapt/abandon this change and why (1-2 sentences)

We as a practice will adopt this change into the practice as we can see effective results to our way of treating patients by increasing fluoride varnish applications on children aged 3-6 years old. We know this, as by collecting data we have seen an increase in our patient numbers showing on our run chart.

CONCLUSIONS (4-5 SENTENCES)

Summarise the outcome of the project.

- Are the changes you’ve tested within this project sustainable?

Yes, the changes we have implemented into this project are sustainable to use as part of our every working day at the practice. We are currently now in month 8 of our ACORN reform contract and all children aged 3-6 years old are receiving fluoride varnish application and having oral health instruction either with the dentist or our trained dental nurse. MPWiP has extremely helped us with increasing our patient numbers when applying fluoride varnish and oral health instruction as our dentist can refer her patients to the dental nurse to see all patients who need this treatment, allowing more time for the dentist to treat other patients at the practice.

- What are your next steps?

Our next steps as a team are to keep implementing these changes and making sure we still carry out all steps required to treat all children in a preventative way and educating them and making them aware of good oral health instruction. As a practice manager and dental nurse I will always be checking our data as we move forward with this and I have useful aids to use such as force field analysis, fish bone diagram and process mapping to make sure we stay on track and continue moving forward and always improving our test of change.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

REFLECTION (4-5 SENTENCES)

- What factors promoted the success of the project or were a barrier to success?

I believe the success of this project is formulating the whole dental team to be part of this project and implementing these changes together. By working as a team, we are all aware of our test of change and what we all need to do to achieve this goal and using what we have changed as a way of moving forward to keep implementing these changes. ACORN reform has helped us achieve success within the project through extended examinations with patients and making prevention work in the practice, applying fluoride varnish to all children aged 3-6 years old and discussing oral health and improving their knowledge also involving their carer's so all that is discussed in the practice is also implemented at home with routine cleaning of their teeth. MPWiP has also helped us implementing change as we now have a trained dental nurse seeing patients and helping our dentist with all children who need that extra help when attending the dental practice.

- What did you learn from doing this project?

I have gained knowledge and understanding of how using aids such as force field analysis, fish bone diagram and process mapping can help with test of change. I have previously used some of these aids' whilst doing a business course at university and never quite understood why we was doing them. From putting these aids into action and using them within the practice as part of my test of change I can see how much

they can benefit as problem solving and setting realistic goals to achieve this and overcome problems we have faced whilst trying to make changes at our practice.

The data collected over the last six months has been very interesting showing how the test of change has increased our fluoride varnish applications to children aged 3-6 years old. Our data also shows by attending MPWiP we have used this to our advantage and implemented this into our practice using our dental nurse to apply fluoride varnish and discuss oral health instruction to our children. Active tooth decay in our area is very high and by educating our patients we will always hopefully see a decrease in this and encourage our patients with improving their oral health and attending the dental practice for preventive treatment such as fluoride varnish application.

- What are your reflections on the role of the team?

My reflection for the role of my dental team is that we have all worked very well as a team implementing these changes to improve better oral health to our children at the practice. I believe working well with a good team is an advantage to the test of change as we can all adapt well, communicate and organize ourselves to implement these changes. We can also move forward as a practice by using what we have learnt and can now use this for future tests of change. As a team we know we can implement change and make them work.