Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Chief Executive Officer Approval
Possession and Use of Fluoride Varnish (Duraphat®) by non-dental health professionals

Regulatory framework:

Fluoride Varnish 5% (sodium fluoride in alcoholic solution with natural resins, Duraphat®) is classified as a Schedule 4 (S4) medicine through inclusion in the Schedules of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP). S4 of the SUSMP is adopted by reference into the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014.*

The SUSMP allows preparations containing fluoride that would otherwise be S4 to be exempt from scheduling provided the approval of an appropriate authority has been given. The definition of an appropriate authority (SUSMP Part 1, Interpretation) includes the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Western Australian (WA) Department of Health.

Approval details:

Approved Health Professionals:

Aboriginal health practitioners, Aboriginal health workers, registered nurses, clinical nurses and clinical nurse specialists - remote area health care who have been assessed as having successfully completed the mandatory training described in this CEO Approval and who are employed by a Health Service Provider (HSP) or an Aboriginal medical service located in WA.

Mandatory Training:

Training must be conducted and assessed by a registered dental practitioner within a registered training organisation and comprise the nationally recognised units of competency within the HLTSS00073 Oral Health Care Skill Set.

Other Requirements:

- Fluoride Varnish 5% must be purchased by an Aboriginal medical service holding a Health Service Permit under the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014* or by the Pharmacy department of the relevant HSP.
- Fluoride Varnish 5% must be stored in a locked cupboard or drawer, at room temperature below 25°C, with access limited to persons authorised to access S4 medicines or health professionals authorised by this Approval.

- Fluoride Varnish 5% must only be administered to children aged 18 months to 5 years.
- Tubes of Fluoride Varnish 5% must not be supplied to children or their parents or carers.
- The health professional applying Fluoride Varnish 5% to a child must make a record, which includes the child's name and address, the name, strength, dosage and quantity administered and the date of administration. The record must be kept for at least 2 years and must be produced for inspection at the request of the CEO or an investigator appointed under the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014*.

I, Dr D J Russell-Weisz, Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health of Western Australia approve the possession and use of Fluoride Varnish 5% by a health professional described in this Approval whilst employed by a Health Service Provider or an Aboriginal medical service located in Western Australia, where the health professional has completed the training detailed in this Approval, and where the health professional complies with the Other Requirements section of this Approval.

Dated this 14th day of February 2022.

Dr D J Russell-Weisz
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DIRECTOR GENERAL