

# MOUTHCARE POLICY FOR CARE HOMES

## Mission Statement: Improving Mouthcare for our Residents

Good mouthcare is very important for both our residents and staff. We know that improving the skills of our staff will help improve the mouthcare for our residents. Our home will ensure good mouthcare is achieved by providing the following:

### All residents will:

- receive a full mouthcare assessment within seven days of arrival at the home. This will be updated monthly and will be carried out by an appropriately trained person.
- receive a mouthcare plan that is carried out daily and updated in accordance with the mouthcare assessment.
- be assisted appropriately with their daily mouthcare as required.
- have appropriate mouthcare products readily available (toothbrush, toothpaste, denture care products). This will include labelling dentures when appropriate.

### All staff will:

- receive training in evidence based mouthcare.
- be aware of the importance of good mouthcare.
- use the individual mouthcare assessment tool and mouthcare plan.
- record the needs of all residents in relation to mouthcare.
- report any incidents or lost dentures to the care home manager.
- ensure new dentures are marked with the resident's name.

### The care home manager will:

- ensure the workforce is suitably skilled, trained and competent to deliver good mouthcare.
- ensure all residents receive a mouth assessment within 7 days of arrival at the home.
- ensure all residents have an individual mouthcare plan that is delivered.
- ensure all residents have appropriate toothbrush / toothpaste / denture care resources.
- report patient safety incidents.
- have appropriate contacts for the local dental service to provide access to dental care.
- provide support staff for residents to attend dental services when required.

### Families and relatives will:

- be made aware of the mouthcare policy.
- be informed of their relatives' mouthcare needs and care.
- be informed when dental services are required and utilised.

! Only practitioners registered with the General Dental Council may diagnose and treat dental disease and make referral for specialist treatment.

Care Home Name:					
Care Home Managers Name	Signature	Date	Annual Review Date	Annual Review Date	Annual Review Date