

# Dental Sealant Program Consent Form

Put the name of the school and dates your program will be there in this spot

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_ Cht# \_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

A dental sealant program from the UF College of Dentistry will be providing dental sealants at your child's school at no cost to parents. Dental sealants help prevent cavities on permanent back teeth. Dental providers and students from the University of Florida or Santa Fe College Dental Hygiene program will examine your child's teeth and decide which teeth can be sealed. No x-rays will be taken. Those teeth will be coated with a plastic sealant, and a fluoride treatment given. Sealants are safe, painless, and easy to apply. We will be back in one year to check that the sealants are still there and apply fluoride varnish. If time allows us, we will repair or replace any sealants that have broken or come off. Sealants are approved and recommended by the American Dental Association. For a full explanation of a dental sealant please read reverse side.

**YES** -My child has permission to participate in the sealant program.

**NO** -My child does NOT have permission to participate in the sealant program.

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Male [ ] Female

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please answer the following questions:**

1. Is your child currently under a physician's care?  **YES**  **NO**

2. Is your child currently taking any medications?  **YES**  **NO**

If **YES**, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Has your child ever had an allergic reaction?  **YES**  **NO**

Please explain a **YES** answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does your child have a dentist?  **YES**  **NO** -If **YES**, Name: \_\_\_\_\_

5. My child's most recent dental visit was within the last:

6 months  12 months  3 years  5 years  Never seen a dentist

**ALL children can participate in this program- whether or not they have dental insurance. We will bill Medicaid insurance, but NO PAYMENT will be required from you. In order to help us better serve those in need of services, please provide the following information:**

6. How do you pay for your child's dental care? Check all that apply.

Self  Medicaid (DentaQuest, MCNA)  Florida KidCare  Private dental insurance  
Medicaid or Florida KidCare # \_\_\_\_\_

7. Select all that apply to your child:

White  Black/African-American  Hispanic  Asian/Pacific Islander  Native American  Other

**By my signature, I give permission for my child to have the treatments described above and have received the Notice of Patient Privacy.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Photo/Video Release**

I hereby grant to **United Way of North Central Florida and University of Florida College of Dentistry** the absolute right and permission to use pictures and/or video footage of myself/my child taken for editorial, trade, advertising and any other purpose. With my signature below, I am signing that I understand that there is no payment for any use of the photographs taken.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# DENTAL SEALANTS

**What are dental sealants?** Dental sealants are thin plastic coatings that are applied to the grooves on the chewing surfaces of the back teeth to protect them from tooth decay. Most tooth decay in children and teens occurs on these surfaces. Sealants protect the chewing surfaces from tooth decay by keeping germs and food particles out of these grooves.

**Which teeth are suitable for sealants?** Permanent molars are the most likely to benefit from sealants. The first molars usually come into the mouth when a child is about 6 years old. Second molars appear at about age 12. It is best if the sealant is applied soon after the teeth have erupted, before they have a chance to decay.

**How are sealants applied?** Applying sealants does not require drilling or removing tooth structure. The process is short and easy. After the tooth is cleaned, a special gel is placed on the chewing surface for a few seconds. The tooth is then washed off and dried. Then, the sealant is painted on the tooth. The dentist or dental hygienist also may shine a light on the tooth to help harden the sealant. It takes about a minute for the sealant to form a protective shield.

**Are sealants visible?** Sealants can only be seen up close. Sealants can be clear, white, or slightly tinted, and usually are not seen when a child talks or smiles.

**Will sealants make teeth feel different?** As with anything new that is placed in the mouth, a child may feel the sealant with the tongue. Sealants, however, are very thin and only fill the pits and grooves of molar teeth.

**How long will sealants last?** A sealant can last for as long as 5 to 10 years. Sealants should be checked at your regular dental appointment and can be reapplied if they are no longer in place.

**Will sealants replace fluoride for cavity protection?** No. Fluorides, such as those used in toothpaste, mouth rinse, and community water supplies also help to prevent decay, but in a different way. Sealants keep germs and food particles out of the grooves by covering them with a safe plastic coating. Sealants and fluorides work together to prevent tooth decay.

**How do sealants fit into a preventive dentistry program?** Sealants are one part of a child's total preventive dental care. A complete preventive dental program also includes fluoride, twice-daily brushing, wise food choices, and regular dental care.

**Why is sealing a tooth better than waiting for decay and filling the cavity?** Decay damages teeth permanently. Sealants protect them. Sealants can save time, money, and the discomfort sometimes associated with dental fillings. Fillings are not permanent. Each time a tooth is filled, more drilling is done and the tooth becomes a little weaker.

