IOHP
Infant Oral Health Programme

1. What is the NDCS *IOHP* about?

This programme is targeted at infants/babies and their families to help them develop good oral health and oral health behaviours. The attending paediatric dentist will assess the child's risk of tooth decay and dental development, advise appropriate preventive strategies and offer guidance for parents at each stage of the child's dental development. Parents will be kept informed on updates and events related to infant/baby oral health through a mailing list.

2. Who will attend to my child?

Clinicians in the paediatric dentistry unit will attend to your child. Private patients are entitled to choose a preferred doctor.

3. What happens during the appointment?

The dentist will ask you questions related to your child's health, diet, habits and oral hygiene routine. Advice and preventive tips will be given according to your child's needs. Infants and babies are not mature enough to cooperate with an oral examination. It is normal for your baby to cry and struggle a little during examination. The examination is quick and should not last for more than one to two minutes. You can help by holding your baby's hands while the dentist examines your baby in a knee-to-knee position.

4. Do I need a referral to see you?

No. Your child can see us as a private patient without a referral. However, Singaporeans and Permanent Residents are entitled to subsidies with a referral from a public healthcare institution.

5. Can I use Baby Bonus?

Yes, you can use Baby Bonus.

6. How long will the programme take?

This programme is applicable till your child enters primary school, when care for their oral health is handed over to the School Dental Service. The **NDCS** *IOHP* package covers four review visits. Subsequent review visits will be chargeable according to paying status.

7. Can I join the NDCS *IOHP* without signing up for the package?

No. The **NDCS** *IOHP* package facilitates sustained interaction between our dental team and the family over a period of time. This is essential in growing a good relationship, to allow us to assess risks, offer necessary advice in a timely manner, and encourage good oral health behaviours.

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8. How much can I save if I sign up for the NDCS *IOHP***?**

You can save about 25% of what you would have paid at review visits, excluding treatment fees (if indicated).

9. Do I have to pay upfront?

Yes, you will have to pay the full amount once you have decided to join the **NDCS** *IOHP*.

10. Can I decide to join the NDCS *IOHP* **at a later time?**

Yes, you can still sign up for the package at the second visit.

11. Are there any hidden costs?

There are no hidden costs. However, standard charges for sterile supplies and disposables still apply. There will also be additional charges if you child requires other dental treatments.

12. Is it safe to bring my child to see a dentist during the COVID-19 pandemic?

We recommend the first dental visit by age one so that we can screen and detect dental conditions (such as tooth decay or soft tissue growths) early.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) has issued guidelines for dental services during the COVID-19 pandemic, in terms of patient scheduling and management, infection prevention and other control measures. At NDCS, we have implemented various measures in accordance to MOH guidelines to ensure the safety of our patients and staff. Some of these include triage and temperature monitoring upon entry, safe distancing measures throughout the Centre and reducing the number of people in our clinic by allowing only one accompanying caregiver per patient.

13. Is there a cut-off age? What happens if my child is not suitable for the NDCS *IOHP***?**

This programme is designed for infants and babies who have had their first teeth erupted. We recognise that some children may have late eruption of teeth. Your child is eligible to enter the **NDCS** *IOHP* if consultation is scheduled before his/her second birthday. If your child is unsuitable, he/she can still be seen as our patient and receive the dental care he/she needs (without a package).