FAQ on G·U·M PerioShield™

1. How long should PerioShield be used as a daily rinse?
   We have clinical studies of up to a year of continuous product usage, demonstrating long term safety and efficacy.

2. How is PerioShield different from the competition?
The key points of difference compared to the competition include the following:
   - PerioShield forms a barrier over the teeth and gums to prevent bacteria from adhering while other rinses are typically antiseptic or antimicrobial.
   - Contains very low amount of alcohol (1.5%) vs. other conventional mouth rinses (22-27%) and all CHX products (11.6%) besides GUM Alcohol Free CHX.
   - Lower probability of staining even after prolonged usage. Any staining is easily removed by brushing.

3. How long is the invisible barrier effective?
   PerioShield barrier will be active for approximately 4 hours, but the cumulative effects of constant use will help maintain a good bacterial flora. PerioShield should be used twice per day.

4. Is this product made by Sunstar?
   No, this product was licensed by Sunstar Americas due to its new and interesting mode of action. We are always searching for the best products to treat oral conditions and PerioShield offers tremendous efficacy without significantly changing the oral ecology like antibacterial products do.

5. Are there any side effects?
The 3 most common side effects are:
   - Tingling sensation of the tongue (55% vs. CHX 29%) which disappears in 3-10 days with regular use.
   - Tooth staining (24% vs. 55% in CHX); however PerioShield staining is easily removed with thorough brushing.
   - Taste disturbances (30 min with PerioShield vs. up to 8 hours with CHX).

6. Who is the ideal patient for PerioShield?
   While PerioShield can be used by any patient group, the ideal candidates are:
   - Patients with gingivitis, to help stop the periodontal disease progression at its earliest stages.
   - As a relapse prevention tool for post CHX treatment
   - As an at-home maintenance therapy after scaling and root planing.
   - Patients who would benefit by maintaining a healthy, balanced oral flora

7. What is the difference between PerioShield and CHX?
The primary difference between PerioShield and CHX is the mode of action. PerioShield forms a barrier over the teeth and gums to prevent bacteria from adhering while CHX is an antibacterial product. CHX requires a prescription, while PerioShield does not. In addition, PerioShield is indicated for long term use because it stains less than CHX.

8. Can someone use this rinse if they are also using whitening treatments?
   Yes, since PerioShield forms a barrier between bacteria and tooth/gum surfaces, it can be used jointly with other treatments. However, PerioShield can cause mild staining over time so patients are advised to improve their routine regimen of oral care.

9. Can someone use this rinse if they have dental sealants?
   Yes, since PerioShield forms a barrier between bacteria and tooth/gum surfaces, it can be used jointly with other treatments. However, PerioShield can cause mild staining over time so patients must be diligent with their routine oral care regimen.

10. How well does this rinse work with patients who have orthodontic appliances or braces?
    PerioShield is a good choice for orthodontic patients because it will coat the surfaces of teeth and braces preventing the adhesion of bacterial plaque which can lead to white spot lesions and decay around the brackets.

11. Can someone use PerioShield with restorations or implants?
    Although scientific studies didn’t specifically target these patients, the barrier that PerioShield forms between bacteria and tooth/gum surfaces will form the same barrier on other objects in the mouth such as implants or restorations.

12. What is the youngest age that this rinse can be used on?
    Clinical studies have not been performed on anyone under the age of 12. Therefore, we recommend asking your dentist or physician before using PerioShield for children under the age of 12.

13. Can PerioShield be used on healthy teeth/gums as a preventative measure?
    Yes, since PerioShield is not bactericidal, it is a good preventative treatment.

14. Are there any contraindications to disease states or pharmaceuticals that a patient may be taking?
There are no such contraindications.

15. Does the rinse come in a larger bottle?
We are evaluating the possibility of adding a 1L bottle next year.

16. What dealers and distributors will have this rinse?
All dealers and distributors can carry this rinse.

17. What can patients expect to "feel" when they use this rinse?
Some patients will feel tingling or a numbing sensation on the tongue while others might experience a possible change in taste or a feeling of dry mouth that may last for a short period of time after each rinsing for the first several days of treatment. The side effects of PerioShield are mild and temporary and generally subside after 3-10 days.

18. Are there any clinical studies beyond gingivitis?
Studies focused on plaque reduction and indices related to gingivitis like bleeding on probing. No studies evaluated the direct effects of PerioShield on periodontitis.

19. Can patients floss AFTER using this rinse?
Patients can floss after using PerioShield.

20. How does PerioShield fit with PerioBalance?
PerioShield and PerioBalance are very complementary products. PerioShield interferes with the process of plaque buildup and provides a barrier against harmful bacteria adhering to teeth and gums. PerioBalance populates the mouth with more friendly bacteria to serve as a natural defense mechanism against harmful bacteria, helping provide balance to the oral environment.

21. Is PerioShield a probiotic?
PerioShield is not a probiotic, though it works well with a probiotic such as PerioBalance due to the fact PerioShield is not an antimicrobial product unlike other conventional mouth rinses.

22. Can PerioShield be used with Xylitol?
PerioShield can be used with Xylitol.

23. Does PerioShield need a prescription?
PerioShield does not require a prescription for use and is available on-line or at CVS pharmacy.

24. What is the percent of Alcohol in PerioShield?
PerioShield contains only a very small amount of alcohol (1.5%) unlike some other conventional mouth rinses (over 20%).

25. Will samples be available?
40 ml size samples of PerioShield will be made available to professionals so that they may become familiar with the product. Individual samples for patients will not be available.

26. What is the shelf life of PerioShield?
The shelf life is 3 years.

27. Does PerioShield need to be refrigerated?
No special storage conditions are required either before or after opening the product.

28. Can mouthwash be used before or after PerioShield?
Because PerioShield forms a barrier over the teeth to prevent bacteria from adhering while other rinses are antiseptic or antimicrobial, we do not recommend that other rinses be used, since they will interfere with the mechanism of action and alter the normal flora necessary for a healthy mouth.

29. Are there any other products distributed in the US with the active ingredient in PerioShield, Delmopinol?
No, Sunstar is the only company in the US licensed to distribute an oral rinse containing Delmopinol, the proprietary beneficial ingredient in PerioShield.

30. What is the proper procedure for using PerioShield?
Adults and children over 12 years of age: After brushing your teeth, full the measuring cap provided to the 10 ml indicator mark and rinse around the mouth for 30 seconds, then spit out. Do not swallow the rinse. For best results, use twice a day and avoid eating and drinking for about 30 minutes after the used of PerioShield.