



Pediatric Oral Health Services

Medicaid is promoting the application of oral health assessments and fluoride varnish by medical providers and it is a reimbursable service.

The role of the physician's office in oral health has demonstrated promising results for decreasing the occurrence of early childhood tooth decay. This is particularly important for children on Medicaid who tend to be of high risk for developing cavities. The prevalence of tooth decay is a totally preventable event which physicians and their staff can be heroes in providing.

Providing oral health education, fluoride varnish and referral to a dental home takes little time and we can give you all the tools you need.

How can I learn more about oral health and applying fluoride varnish in my office?

We provide a **FREE** lunch and learn CME/CNE program **at your office** which:

- Trains physicians, PAs, APRNs, nursing staff and medical assistants through hands-on practice
- Assists administrative/billing staff with reimbursement procedures
- Adopts office flow to make adding the service easy and profitable
- Provides fluoride varnish start up kits to use in your office immediately

What makes this training unique?

A trained dental hygienist will "adopt" your practice to help you get started and provide personalized technical assistance until you are providing the fluoride varnish to your patients. All we require is a commitment from you to get started.

How long does applying fluoride varnish take?

Offering fluoride varnish adds very little time to a visit. Providers are already discussing diet and brushing, and looking in children's mouths. Fluoride varnish can be done as part of the mouth examination and adds less than a minute to the process. Some practices have chosen to have the nursing or medical assistant staff provide the varnish just before the vaccines as part of the care provided after the physician sees the patient.

What if the patient is seeing a dentist already?

If the child is at risk of cavities you can still apply the varnish. It is safe and beneficial for children at moderate and high risk to have multiple fluoride varnishes a year. Medicaid pays for the application regardless of whether the child has received the treatment from a dentist.

How do I get started?

For more information on how to schedule a training session at your office, contact: Jan Ruh at JanRRuh@gmail.com or call her at 860.977.9233.