



Fluoride varnish training for health-care professionals

If you have questions or to schedule in-office training, please contact: Flor Piedrasanta, RDH at 617-886-1797 or flor.piedrasanta@dentaquest.com

MassHealth-approved self- administered web-based training

Smiles for Life: <http://www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org> (CME credits or Certificate available)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FLUORIDE VARNISH IN A MEDICAL SETTING

Effective Date: January 2019





Healthy mouth = Healthy child

- Very young children usually see a primary care provider more than eight times for well-child care before their first visit to a dentist.
- Because early intervention is so important to the prevention of dental disease, primary care providers are in a unique position to identify existing problems and provide guidance to parents.

Why consider fluoride varnish in the medical setting?

1. You and fluoride varnish are the first weapons of defense against dental caries.
2. No dental cleaning is needed before application.
3. It is safe and well tolerated by infants, children, and children with special healthcare needs.
4. It takes two minutes to apply, and dries immediately upon contact with saliva.
5. No special dental equipment is needed.
6. Reimbursable at \$26 per application. CPT Service Code 99188.
7. This is a covered benefit for eligible MassHealth members from the age of 6 months of age to under 21.

Risk assessment:

- The Bright Futures/AAP “Recommendation for Preventative Health Care” (Periodicity Schedule) recommends all children receive a risk assessment at the 6 and 9 month visit.*
- For the 12, 18, 24, 30 month, and the 3 and 6 year visits, risk assessments should continue if a dental home has not been established.*

Who can apply fluoride varnish?

1. Medical Assistants
2. Physician assistants
3. Nurse practitioners
4. Registered nurses
5. Licensed practical nurses
6. Physicians

Tips to share with parents to prevent tooth decay in children:

- It's recommend that children are seen by a dentist by the age of 1.
- Wipe baby's gums with a wet cloth after feeding, even before baby's teeth appear.
- Do not put baby to bed with a bottle.
- Brush twice a day for at least two minutes with a soft bristled toothbrush.
- Visit the dentist for a routine exam every 6 months, or as determined by your dentist.
- Give your children healthy snacks such as fruits and vegetables.

**VISIT WWW.MASSHEALTH-DENTAL.NET TO VIEW
A COMPLETE LIST OF MASSHEALTH DENTISTS IN
YOUR AREA, OR CALL 800-207-5019.**

*American Academy of Pediatrics. (2019, January).
Recommendations for Preventative Pediatric Health Care.
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