

Billing for Fluoride Varnish

Beginning on July 1, 2009, the Maryland Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid) will allow **enrolled licensed EPSDT medical providers** to bill Dental Services for the Topical Application of Fluoride Varnish (CDT Code D1206) for children ages 9 months to 3 years, as part of the scheduled well-child visit. *(An oral health assessment needs to take place prior to the fluoride varnish application.)*

Medicaid recognized training is required to be eligible for reimbursement of \$24.92. This adds up to 23% to your well-child visit reimbursement.

Fluoride Varnish Registry

A fluoride varnish registry has been created to track varnish application data from all participating EPSDT medical provider offices.

The Baltimore City Health Department is responsible for uploading patient data into the registry. Data will be received directly from the state Medical Assistance Program.

The registry is located at:
cityservices.baltimorecity.gov/fvp.
Account information will be issued to EPSDT medical providers.

For more information on Fluoride Varnish and Medicaid reimbursement, contact the:

OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH

Maryland Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene

Family Health Administration

201 West Preston Street, 3rd Floor

Baltimore, MD 21201

(410) 767-5300

oralhealth@dhmh.state.md.us

www.fha.state.md.us/oralhealth



Martin O'Malley, Governor

Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor

John M. Colmers, Secretary

The services and facilities of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) are operated on a non-discriminatory basis. This policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin and applies to the provisions of employment and granting of advantages, privileges, and accommodations.

The Department, in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, ensures that qualified individuals with disabilities are given an opportunity to participate in and benefit from DHMH services, programs, benefits, and employment opportunities.

06-09

Fluoride Varnish and Oral Health Screening Training

for **EPSDT
Medical Providers
in Maryland**



**Fluoride Varnish and
Oral Health Screening Program for Kids**

**ADDRESSING THE ORAL
HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF
MARYLAND'S CHILDREN . . .**

Why Fluoride Varnish?

Fluoride varnish has been proven to be very effective in preventing tooth decay in both primary and permanent teeth. Tooth decay is the most common chronic disease of childhood.



In Maryland, 31 percent of kindergarten and third grade children have tooth decay.

Fluoride varnish is suited for application on infants and toddlers because of ease of application and minimal ingestion.

Why do an Oral Health Screening?

An oral health screening or assessment in infants and toddlers plays a crucial role in identifying risk factors for Early Childhood Caries and early recognition of oral disease and must always be conducted prior to the fluoride varnish application.

The early intervention includes an oral health screening, anticipatory guidance, fluoride varnish and dental referral.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can apply fluoride varnish?

- Licensed Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) medical providers who are currently enrolled with the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.
- Designated physician extenders who are legally allowed to provide immunizations can apply fluoride varnish in eligible EPSDT medical provider offices.
- In public health clinics, a registered or licensed nurse can apply fluoride varnish with standing physician orders.

2. How often should the fluoride varnish be applied?

THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH recommends fluoride varnish applications coincide with well-child visits at:

9 months	24 months
12 months	30 months– fluoride varnish only
15 months	
18 months	36 months

3. What is a dental home?

The American Academy of Pediatrics defines a dental home as an ongoing relationship between a dentist and patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivery in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated and family centered way. The dental home should be established no later than 12 months of age.

4. When should a child be referred to a dentist?

A child should be referred to a dentist if:

- White spot lesions or tooth decay is observed during the screening.
- Overall assessment of the child's risk for tooth decay is moderate or high.
- Child has a dental emergency.

5. Is there a referral form I can use?

Yes. A sample referral form can be downloaded from the Office of Oral Health's website:
www.fha.state.md.us/oralhealth.