



Resource Guide

Subject:	Pediatric Dental Requirements: Fluoride Varnish, Fluoride Supplementation, & Dental Home
Facility Site Review Source:	Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All Plan Letter 20-006, Site Reviews: Facility Site Review and Medical Record Review
Relevant Law/Standard:	
Agency//Organization Source:	Department of Health Care Services, California Water Boards, American Academy Of Pediatric Dentistry
Agency/Organization URL	https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/ , https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ , https://www.aapd.org

Background:

Dental caries is the most common chronic condition among children in the US.

In addition to healthy dental habits such as brushing, flossing regularly, and eating a healthy diet, fluoride varnish treatments can help prevent tooth decay. Primary Care Providers may apply fluoride varnish to all children every 3-6 months from teeth emergence through age 5.

Fluoride supplements may be prescribed for those at a high risk for tooth decay and have low access to fluoridated drinking water at home. Providers are also encouraged to have discussions with parents and guardians about the benefits of optimally fluoridated water and encourage them to check with their local water district about their access to fluoridated tap water at home.

Lastly, The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) encourages both parents and health care providers to help every child to establish a dental home by 12 months of age.

Purpose:

The 2020 DHCS Facility Site Review Standards will require Primary Care Providers to document additional services or information regarding dental health or document patient or guardian declination of services.

Resources:

1. [CHDP Dental Training: Fluoride Varnish](#). This tool includes a training, a practicum for applying fluoride varnish, how to purchase varnish, and key information on how to bill for the service.
2. [Fluoridation by Public Water Systems](#): List of Fully Fluoridated Water Systems.
3. [InsureKidsNow.gov](#). This tool allows you and your office staff to generate a list of dental providers in your area, including those open to new patients and accepting Denti-Cal Medi-Cal Dental Program.

The material in this document is a knowledge-sharing tool provided by the FSR team to enhance compliance with Facility Site Review requirements. All content is for informational purposes and may be used and/or modified according to site-specific practices. Ensure appropriate review and approval by site management prior to adoption.