Did You Know?

- Early childhood caries is the most common chronic childhood disease.
- Tooth decay is the most prevalent unmet health care need in U.S. children.
- Poor oral health in young children is associated with failure to thrive.
- Early childhood caries is:
  - an infectious disease
  - a diet-mediated disease

Preventing Early Childhood Caries

You Can Help!!
Why Provide Oral Health Preventive Services

» Early childhood caries (tooth decay) is a preventable disease.

» Most children do not see a dentist before age 3.
  You have regular access to these children.

» The services are easily incorporated into well-child visits
  for children under age 3.

» Medicaid reimburses medical providers for fluoride varnish
  application for eligible children.

» You will develop skills in:
  - Oral screening
  - Fluoride varnish application
  - Education of parents
  - Dental referral

Frequently Asked Questions

Who provides the training?
The Virginia Department of Health provides the training free of charge. It takes 2 hours and can be done on-site in your office.

Who can provide the services in my office?
Physician, PA, NP, RN, LPN

Who is eligible for this program?
- Children from 6 months to 3 years of age
- Children from low income families
- Children with special health care needs
- Children who are Medicaid-enrolled, including Fee-for-Service and Managed Care

How long does it take to apply fluoride varnish?
» It usually takes less than one minute, depending on the child’s age.

Training and contact information:
The Virginia Department of Health provides training to medical offices so that you can provide the oral health services that your patients need.

The training includes:
2 hour power point presentation
Hands-on training
Ongoing technical assistance
Medicaid billing instructions
Start-up supplies

Please contact:
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