

Fluoride Varnish Training Tool

WellCare provides fluoride varnish training for PCPs who service the pediatric population 0-5 years of age. Below is a link to a Smiles for Life training course: “Caries Risk Assessment, Fluoride Varnish and Counseling.” This course focuses on early childhood caries and prevention. It includes information on the benefits, safety precautions, and dosing for fluoride as a comprehensive approach to a child's oral health.

- Smiles For Life is a National Oral Health Curriculum Educational Training Tool for our participating PCPs.
- Credit: Dr. Joanna Douglass and Smiles for Life National Oral Health Curriculum - Fluoride Varnish Module
- [Smiles for Life - Fluoride Varnish Training Tool](#)
 - or NJDentalService@WellCare.com

As a reminder, application of fluoride varnish by a PCP is reimbursed in addition to the office visit when:

- Fluoride varnish is applied by any trained medical staff. The physician must be trained and submit attestation that all staff providing the service have been trained and will be supervised.
- Fluoride varnish application will be combined with a risk assessment, anticipatory guidance, and referral to a dentist that treats children under the age of six (6) and will be linked to the well child visits for children through the age of five (5).
 - [NJ Smiles Directory](#) (Under section labeled Helpful NJ FamilyCare Information tab: “Dental Providers for Children”)
- These three services will be reimbursed as an *all-inclusive* service billed using CPT code 99188 and ICD-10 code Z41.8 and can be provided up to four (4) times a year for children at moderate or high-risk based on medical necessity. This frequency does not affect the frequency of this service at by the dentist.
- A bi-directional referral to the dentist is a requirement of the program, with document referral in their medical record. The referral process requires communication between Primary Care Providers and Primary Care Dentists. Bi-directional forms for dental referrals are available on the WellCare website: [Bi-directional forms \(PDF\)](#).

****Important**** A referral to a dentist by one year of age or soon after the eruption of the primary tooth is mandatory. Also required: Follow-up at well child visits to determine (at minimum) that dental visits twice a year with oral evaluation and preventive services occurred, and that needed treatment services are being or were provided.



Hands-on training can be scheduled by contacting the Program Director for Oral Health from the NJ Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics at **609-631-5738**.

If you need assistance referring a member to the dentist, please contact the Dental Vendor Management Analyst at **973-274-2158**.