

Provider Update

Children's fluoride varnish application for nondental providers

Summary: Effective January 1, 2015, Amerigroup Community Care reimburses providers for the application of fluoride varnish on children's teeth ages 6 months through 6 years. Fluoride varnish is typically applied as part of an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) well-child visit.

✦ **What this means to you:** Fluoride varnish may be provided by physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants who have received training for this service. The children's fluoride varnish program requires providers to perform **all** of the following services in order to be reimbursed:

1. Dental risk assessment
2. Fluoride varnish application
3. Dental referral

Please note: PCP fluoride varnish application does not constitute a dental visit. The PCP fluoride varnish program requires referral to a dentist for a complete oral evaluation, including appropriate diagnostic and preventive services. In order to count toward EPSDT dental requirements, an actual dental visit must occur. Also, children should have their first dental visit around the time of their first tooth eruption and no later than age 1.

How can I receive training for this program?

A one-time training activity is all that is required! The fluoride varnish training module is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatricians, which refers providers to Smiles for Life, a national oral health curriculum website:
<http://smilesforlifeoralhealth.org/buildcontent.aspx?pagekey=62947&lastpagekey=62989&userkey=11930544&sessionkey=2576073&tut=555&customerkey=84&custsitegroupkey=0>

After completing courses 2, 6 and 7, you will be able to print your certificate. Please email your certificate, full provider name and NPI to Amerigroup at providerdataspeci@amerigroup.com, or mail your certificate to:

Amerigroup
Attn: Provider Data Services
101 Wood Ave. S., 8th Floor
Iselin, NJ 08830

How often is this service covered?

The fluoride varnish service can be provided up to four times a year, and does not affect the frequency of fluoride services conducted by a dentist.



NJPEC-0762-15
Issued November 2015
by Amerigroup Provider Relations

How will fluoride varnish be reimbursed?

Fluoride varnish, including a dental risk assessment, the application and a dental referral, will be reimbursed as an all-inclusive service billed using the new **CPT code 99188** and **ICD-10 diagnosis code Z41.8**. Capitated providers will be reimbursed for this service as a bill-above.

Are there additional resources on fluoride varnish?

Visit our provider website at providers.amerigroup.com/NJ and click under *Provider Resources & Documents* to find the following risk assessment tools and information:

- The American Academy of Pediatrics risk assessment tool
- The American Dental Association risk assessment tool
- American Academy of Pediatric Dentists risk assessment tool
- New Jersey (NJ) Smiles directory (a list of dentists who treat children under age 6)

What if I need office-based fluoride varnish training?

You can contact the New Jersey chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics by calling 609-842-0014 to make arrangements.

What if I would like additional training on preventive oral health?

Sign up for free office-based training today by contacting Michael Cestare, Program Manager at the New Jersey chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, at 609-842-0014 or email at mcestare@aapnj.org.

What if I need further assistance?

If you have questions about this communication, received it in error or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.