

## Oral health training for PCPs

Amerigroup Community Care recognizes that adequate oral health is important to the overall health and well-being of all members, especially young children. Poor oral health can significantly affect a child's health status, growth and development, and learning capabilities. We encourage pediatric PCPs to discuss the importance of oral health with families and give age-appropriate guidance on oral habits and safety.

### **Preventive oral health training is available to PCPs through the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (NJAAP).**

NJAAP is collaborating with New Jersey Dental Association, New Jersey Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and others to increase access to preventive oral health services for children from birth-3 years of age through collaborative impact of medical and dental partnerships, and to improve utilization of payers and community resources.

You and your team can learn how to integrate oral health into routine well care with convenient office-based training. To schedule your training or to obtain oral health resources, contact NJAAP by calling 609-842-0014 or by visiting their website at <http://njaap.org>.

#### **Benefits to your practice:**

- Two continuing medical education credits approved
- Increased knowledge on the important role of the pediatric provider in preventing early childhood caries
- Reimbursement fee on fluoride varnish application
- Hands-on training on performing an oral health risk assessment and fluoride varnish application
- Access to a list of participating dental home providers in your county

In addition to the training mentioned above, be sure to remind your patients to be prepared for a dental emergency.

Inform your patients that their primary care dentist, available through LIBERTY Dental Plan, can care for all dental needs, including emergencies. Examples of emergencies/urgent services that are best treated at a dentist's office include:

- Bleeding/sore gums.
- Toothache/pain.
- Lost filling/crown.
- Broken tooth.
- Abscess/infection.
- Swelling.

You or your patient can learn more about their dental needs by contacting LIBERTY Dental Plan at 1-833-276-0848 (TTY 711), Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Additional oral health information and resources are available on the provider website at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/NJ> under *Provider Resources & Documents*.