

# **Medicaid Reimbursement**



## *Smiles for Ohio Fluoride Varnish Program*

### Medicaid Reimbursement Guidelines for Physician and Physician Extenders Providing Oral Assessment and Fluoride Varnish Application

- In order to be reimbursed for the professional services associated with the application of fluoride varnish, physicians must submit current dental terminology (**CDT code D1203**) as contained in the HCPCS level II code set.
- Fluoride varnish (FV) application is **limited to one application every 180 days** per provider type (e.g. physician, dentist) from first tooth eruption to the third birthday.
- This service is billable in addition to a well or sick child visit but should not be the sole reason for the visit.
- **FV application has three components**, each of which must be performed:
  - Oral assessment: Oral assessment is for the identification of obvious oral health problems and risk factors. When combined with an EPSDT visit, the oral assessment does not need to be repeated prior to fluoride varnish application.
  - Varnish application: At the time of the fluoride varnish application, parents/caregivers must be provided with information about the fluoride varnish procedure and proper oral health care for their child.
  - Referral: If the child has obvious oral health problems and does not have a dental provider, the physician must provide referral to a dentist or the county Department of Job and Family Services.

- o Remember, a fluoride varnish application provided on or after a child's third birthday is not covered. Office staff may want to flag patient charts to note the proper sequence of FV application. Schedule appointments to accommodate the 180-day requirement and the age limitations.

Well Child Visit (months)	Procedure Performed?
Six (6)	Yes (if teeth are erupted)
Nine (9)	Yes (if teeth are erupted)
Twelve (12)	Yes
Fifteen (15)	Yes
Eighteen (18)	Yes
Twenty-four (24)	Yes
Before thirty six (< 36)	Yes (may need to apply FV at a sick child visit before age 3)

**If you have questions about billing contact Ohio Medicaid at:**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
 Bureau of Plan Operations  
 Provider Network Management Section  
 P. O. Box 1461, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1461

Toll free telephone number 1-800-686-1516

Website: <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov>

At the ODJFS home page click on the Medicaid link.

The Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Oral Health Services can provide information and training on fluoride varnish application. Contact Colleen Wulf, Preventive Services Coordinator at 614-466-4180. [BOHS@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:BOHS@odh.ohio.gov)