

# Topical Fluoride Recommendations For High-Risk Children Under Age 6 Years

## Decision Support Matrix

### Population-Based Risk Factors

- Low-income children (e.g., enrolled in Head Start, WIC, free/reduced lunch program, Medicaid or SCHIP eligible, or other programs serving low-income children)
- Children with special health care needs

Fluoride Modality

Age

Children Under 2 Years

Children 2-6 Years

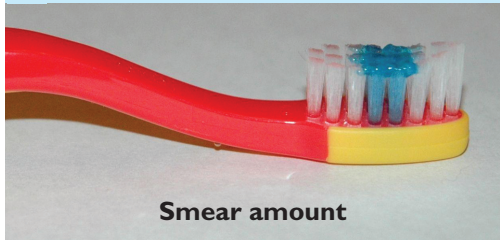
**Toothpaste**



- Encourage parents and caregivers to take an active role in brushing their children's teeth once the first tooth erupts
- Educate parents and caregivers on proper fluoride toothpaste use
- Brush children's teeth with fluoride toothpaste twice daily
- Use a smear of fluoride toothpaste

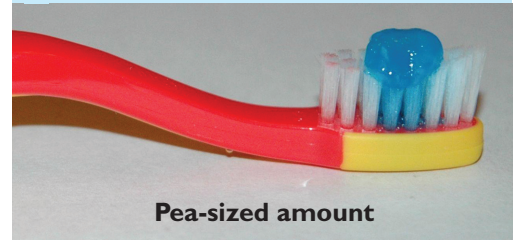


- Encourage parents and caregivers to take an active role in brushing their children's teeth
- Educate parents and caregivers on proper fluoride toothpaste use
- Brush children's teeth with fluoride toothpaste, or assist children with toothbrushing, twice a day
- Use no more than a pea-sized amount of fluoride toothpaste



Smear amount

- Do not rinse after brushing



Pea-sized amount

- Children should spit out excess toothpaste
- Do not rinse after brushing

**Varnish**

- Apply every 3-6 months

- Apply every 3-6 months

**Mouth rinses, gel, or foam**

- Not recommended

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