

Coverage of Dental Fluoride Varnish and Oral Evaluations Provided by Non-Dental Providers

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Alaska Medical Assistance covers dental fluoride varnish applications and oral evaluations performed by physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who have successfully completed oral health or caries risk assessment training that includes oral evaluation and topical varnish application components.

Alaska Medicaid also covers dental fluoride varnish applications performed by nurses and medical assistants who have successfully completed oral health or caries risk assessment training that includes a topical varnish application component, and who are performing the service as delegated by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

Credentials

Each medical provider is responsible for successfully completing the required oral health or caries risk assessment training. Accepted trainings include online and in-person training courses and workshops that provide a certificate of completion. Numerous acceptable training courses are available online, including the Smiles for Life Oral Health Curriculum, available at <http://smilesforlifeoralhealth.org>. For additional information on acceptable training courses, please contact Brad Whistler at 907.465.8628.

A certificate of completion from the training program is required and must be presented to Alaska Medical Assistance upon request.

Limitations of Coverage

- Coverage of topical fluoride varnish applications is limited to four per calendar year.
- Coverage of oral evaluations is limited to two per calendar year and is available only to patients under three years of age.

Billing

Oral evaluations performed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant must be billed on a CMS-1500 or 837P using the dental procedure code D0145, *oral evaluation for a patient under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver*.

Topical fluoride varnish performed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, or as delegated by one of these providers to a nurse or medical assistant, must be billed on a CMS-1500 or 837P using the dental procedure code D1206, *topical fluoride varnish; therapeutic application for moderate to high caries risk patients*.

The rendering provider entered on the claim must be the enrolled Alaska Medicaid provider (dentist, physician or nurse practitioner or physician assistant).

If you have questions or require additional assistance, please contact the Xerox Provider Inquiry Unit at 907.644.6800 or 800.770.5650 (toll-free in Alaska).

