

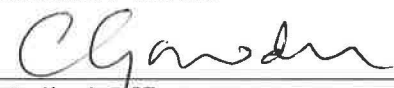


# KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS

KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS					
POLICY AND PROCEDURES					
SUBJECT: Topical Fluoride Varnish			POLICY #: 3.63-P		
DEPARTMENT: Health Services					
Effective Date: 04/2008	Review/Revised Date: 07/27/2015	DMHC		PAC COMMITTEE	
		DHCS		QI/UM COMMITTEE	
		BOD		FINANCE COMMITTEE	

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Douglas A. Hayward  
 Chief Executive Officer

Date 7/27/15

  
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 Chief Medical Officer

Date 7/27/15

  
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 Chief Operations Officer


Date 8/3/15

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Director of Provider Relations

Date 7/30/15

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Director of Claims

Date 7/28/15

  
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 Administrative Director of Health Services

Date 7/21/15

### POLICY:

Effective for dates of service on or after June 1, 2006, fluoride varnish applications to the teeth are a Medi-Cal benefit for children younger than six years of age, up to three times in a twelve month period. Physicians, nurses and medical personnel are legally permitted to apply fluoride varnish when the attending physician delegates the procedure and establishes protocol.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Early Childhood Caries (ECC)	Early childhood caries is defined as tooth decay found in the primary dentition of a child younger than six years of age. ECC is an infectious process caused by acid producing bacteria, primarily Streptococcus mutans and Lactobacilli species.
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**PROCEDURES:**

**1.0 REIMBURSEMENT**

Kern Health Systems (KHS) will reimburse providers for the topical fluoride varnish application as a Medi-Cal benefit. Providers are to bill for this service with HCPC code D1203 on a CMS 1500 claim form or electronically.

Fluoride varnish applications are not a benefit of the CHDP program. If a fluoride varnish is applied during a CHDP visit, providers should submit the CHDP visit using the PM 160 as informational only and bill KHS for the CHDP visit and fluoride varnish on the CMS 1500 form or electronically.

If a non-CHDP visit submit CMS 150 for claim encounter including the office visit and the fluoride varnish as services.

**2.0 INFORMING MEMBERS**

Members are informed that the fluoride varnish treatment is an available service for Medi-Cal members under six years of age and are instructed that the service may be offered at an office visit with their Primary Care Provider (PCP). Methods used to inform members may include but are not limited to the KHS website, Member Handbook, KHS Member Newsletter, the KHS Health Care Guide or a postcard.

**3.0 PROVIDER TRAINING**

Fluoride varnish training information is available to network providers and their staff through the KHS website. Instructions may include:

- A. How to obtain Fluoride Varnish supplies
- B. Fluoride varnish application and periodic dental assessments
- C. Parental anticipatory guidance
- D. Referring children to a dentist for a dental examination and care at one year of age Per Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) guidelines
- E. Coordination of member care with dental professionals

**4.0 DOCUMENTATION**

In accordance with contractual requirements, providers will document dental assessments and fluoride varnish applications in the member's medical record in a timely manner. Documentation can occur on the CHDP Confidential Screening Billing Report (PM160).

Providers are encouraged to schedule visits that include fluoride varnish application.

## **5.0 MONITORING**

KHS Provider Relations Department will survey pediatricians at least annually to determine which providers are providing the topical fluoride varnish to members. In addition, the Disease Management and Health Education (DM/HE) Department review claims data on fluoride varnish utilization quarterly. The DM/HE may also promote the fluoride varnish application use through information provided via bulletins, newsletters, and the KHS website if warranted.

### **REFERENCE:**

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**Revision 2015-07:** Detail on internal processes updated. **Revision 2014-01:** Review requested by Compliance Department. **Revision 2008-03:** Developed to comply with DHCS MMCD Letter 07008. Effective date of service June 1, 2006.