

2026 Measurement Year

MCAS MEASURE: TOPICAL FLUORIDE FOR CHILDREN (TFL)

Measure Steward: Dental Quality Alliance

Gold Coast Health Plan's (GCHP) goal is to help its providers gain compliance with their annual Managed Care Accountability Set (MCAS) scores by providing guidance and resources. This tip sheet provides the key components to the MCAS measure, "Topical Fluoride for Children (TFL)."

Measure Description: This measures the percentage of children ages 1-20 who received at least two topical fluoride applications at a dental or oral health service during the measurement year.

Data Collection Method: Administrative¹

TFL Clinical Code Sets

- ▶ For billing, reimbursement, and reporting of services completed, submit claims timely with the appropriate medical codes for all clinical conditions evaluated, and services provided.

Codes used to identify fluoride varnish application.

Description	CPT	CDT
Fluoride Varnish Application	99188	D1206, D1208

Exclusion Criteria – None.

Best Practices:

- ▶ Use the Inovalon® INDICES® Provider Insights Dashboards to identify members with gaps in care.
- ▶ [CDPH Oral health for infants and Toddler's provider's guide for oral assessment:](#)
 - Begin oral assessment at birth.
 - Assess for signs of decay.
 - Assess fluoride intake; Rx as needed.
- ▶ [United States Preventive Services Task Force \(USPSTF\) recommends:](#)
 - PCPs apply fluoride varnish to the primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption
- ▶ [The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends:](#)
 - Apply fluoride varnish according to the [recommended periodicity schedule](#). Fluoride varnish is a proven tool in early childhood caries prevention.
 - Smear or grain of rice-sized amount is recommended for children younger than 3 years, and a pea-sized amount of toothpaste is appropriate for most children starting at 3 years of age.
- ▶ GCHP offers free health education services, materials, classes, and online resources to help members achieve a healthy lifestyle. Providers can contact the Health Education Department or refer patients / guardians / caregivers to the following information:
 - Providers, call: 1-805-437-5961
 - Members, call: 1-888-301-1228 / TTY 711
 - GCHP Health Education Webpage (resources in English and Spanish): [Click Here](#)

¹ Measures reported using the *administrative* data collection method report on the entire eligible population and use only administrative data sources (e.g., claims, encounter, lab, immunization registries) to evaluate if services were performed.