

PROVIDER UPDATE

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Provider Services:

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Administration of Fluoride Varnish

The information in this update applies to participating providers in Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties.

Effective immediately, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) approved the administration of fluoride varnish, up to three times in a twelve-month period, for Medi-Cal members under age six.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that primary care physicians (PCPs) start treatment after the first tooth erupts, or at six months of age. Medical assistants, nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), and registered nurses (RNs) are approved to administer treatment under the oversight of a PCP.

BILLING AND REIMBURSEMENT

When submitting claims for reimbursement, providers should use HCPCS code D1203 (topical application of fluoride – child).

Providers who have capitated arrangements with participating physician groups (PPGs) are reimbursed through existing capitation payment, or by additional reimbursement directly from the PPG.

PURCHASING FLUORIDE VARNISH

Providers may purchase fluoride varnish through the following Web sites:

- Duraphat[®]: www.colgateprofessional.com/app/cop/jsp/products/productHome.jsp?pr odcode=011400100
- Duraflor®: www.medicom.com/faq.ch2
- CavityShield®: www.omniipharma.com/cavityshield.asp
- VarnishAmerica™: www.medicalproductslaboratories.com/products/varnishamerica/varnish america.html

PROVIDER TRAINING

To facilitate increased acceptance of this treatment, county-specific Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) offices provide training for PPGs and PCPs.

Additionally, providers can access the First Smiles Web site at www.first5oralhealth.org to obtain more detailed information regarding treatment, and to schedule training.

Providers may also visit the DHCS Web site at www.dhcs.ca.gov to review a copy of the most recent Medi-Cal Managed Care Division (MMCD) All Plan Letter 07008, dated April 2007.