

Topical Fluoride for Children (TFL-CH)

Quality Measure

Percentage of children ages 1 to 20 who got at least two fluoride treatments during the year, either through dental services, oral health services, or both.

Fluoride Varnish Coding

Dental Office

- D1206 - Topical application of fluoride varnish
- D1208 - Topical application of fluoride – excluding varnish

Outside of a Dental Office (Medical offices, Local public health units, Head Start, and public schools)

99188 - Application of topical fluoride varnish by a physician or other qualified health care professional when performed in a non-dental clinic or facility setting

A child can get up to five fluoride varnish treatments each year. They can get three at a dental office and two at places that are not dental offices.

Setting up Topical Fluoride Varnish application in the Primary Care Setting

- 1) Decide who from your team will apply Fluoride Varnish. Dentists, doctors, and physician assistants can bill ND Medicaid for putting on fluoride varnish, as long as it is allowed in their job duties and follows the rules of their licensing boards. Supervision rules are set by state law, administrative rules, and the licensing boards that oversee each profession. The following providers can bill ND Medicaid for applying fluoride varnish after they complete training approved by the North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners:
 - a) Nurse Practitioners
 - b) Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses who are supervised by a doctor, family nurse practitioner, or physician assistant
 - c) Registered Dental Hygienists and Registered Dental Assistants who are supervised by a licensed dentist.
- 2) Provide training link to applicable staff: [Navigate to the Smiles for Life Training](#)
- 3) Consider implementing Best Practices such as:



- a) Combining with Well Child Visits
- b) During visits, talk to parents about the importance of having children receive fluoride varnish applications
- c) Use your electronic medical record (EMR) system to set reminder flags
- d) Send reminder postcards
- e) Utilize the Gaps in Care Report
- f) Partner with local Dental Practices

Resources Available

- [Well-Child Check Provider Toolkit](#)
- [ND Medicaid Policies](#)
- [HHS Oral Health Resources](#)
- [Coding Tip Sheets](#)