**FLUORIDE VARNISH Billing OVERVIEW**

## Medi-Cal/Gold Coast Patients (0 through age 5 yrs 11mo)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MA applies</th>
<th>MD applies</th>
<th>MD or MA applies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>varnish on the same day as a CHDP exam</td>
<td>varnish on the same day as a CHDP exam</td>
<td>varnish during an acute visit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHDP:
1. MD documents exam on Well Child Encounter note.
2. MD completes PM160 per usual **AND** includes dental exam in comment section (“Class I, II, III, IV” writes “fluoride varnish ordered, and notes if patient was referred to dentist – see attached instructions).
3. CHDP charge ticket completed per usual (Do not include fluoride varnish code on CHDP charge ticket).

On **Separate** Clinic Encounter note (as this will be registered and billed to Medi-Cal/Gold Coast): 1500 form
- MD documents oral exam (Class I, II, III, IV) and any other pertinent dental history and findings.
- MD documents dental diagnosis based on exam.
- MD writes order for fluoride varnish, “dental education given” and “dental referral made” in plan/order section of clinic note.
- MD signs clinic note as usual.
- MA applies varnish and signs off on order as they would for any other doctor’s order.

6. **Acute visit charge ticket.**
   - a. **Z7500** (treatment room)
   - b. **NC004** (Nurse Only)
   - c. **D1206** (CPT code)
   - d. ICD-9 Code based on oral exam is checked off (either V07.361, 521.01, 523.6, 523.10 or 521.00)

7. MD and MA sign the charge ticket.

**Complete the log that gets faxed to 805 658 4505 for all varnish applications (helps to continue funding the fluoride kits)**
**Track each patient’s varnish application on flow sheet in the patient’s chart. (easier to track – up to 3 per yr paid)**
**Medi-Cal pays $18.00**

### Use Clinic Encounter Note (as you would for any acute visit):
1. MD documents as per usual and includes oral history and exam in their documentation.
2. MD includes a dental diagnosis in their list of diagnoses based on the exam findings.
3. If MD applies: please write “fluoride varnish applied”, “dental education given”, and “dental referral made” in plan section of note.
4. If MA applies: MD writes order for fluoride varnish, “dental education given”, and “dental referral made” in plan/order section of clinic note (MA then signs off the order as they would for any doctor’s order).
5. MD signs clinic note as per usual.
6. **Acute visit charge ticket completed with the following:**
   - a. **Z7500** (treatment room)
   - b. E/M code (that related to the acute visit).
   - c. **D1206** (CPT Code)
   - d. ICD-9 Code based on oral exam is checked off (either V07.31, 521.01, 523.6, 523.10, or 521.00), and any other diagnosis code related to the acute visit.
   - e. **NOTE:** Data entry clerk links the D1206 COT code to the dental ICD-9 code.

7. MD signs the charge ticket.

**Complete the log that gets faxed to 805 658 4505 for all varnish applications (helps to continue funding the fluoride kits)**
**Track each patient’s varnish application on a flow sheet in the patient’s chart. (easier to track – up to 3 per yr paid)**
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### Common Dental Diagnosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Dental Diagnosis</th>
<th>ICD-9 Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prophylactic Fluoride Administration (e.g. for normal exam)</td>
<td>V07.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demineralization = white spots = caries limited to enamel</td>
<td>521.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plaque/Tartar</td>
<td>523.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gingivitis</td>
<td>523.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caries</td>
<td>521.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Summary Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Medi-Cal / Gold Coast patients 6 years old and older                 | 1. Fluoride varnish (if requested or medically necessary) can be applied as outlined on page 1.  
2. Code as per guidelines on page 1.  
3. Patient will not be billed.  
4. No reimbursement will be received.  
** The advantage of coding, if fluoride is given, is to track fluoride varnish use and provide information for possible future coverage discussions. |
| ACE patient (during an acute visit)                                  | 1. Patient pays usual office visit co-pay.  
2. Patient does not receive additional charge for fluoride varnish administration.  
3. No reimbursement will be received.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Private Pay VCHCP and other private insurances                       | 1. Patient **will** receive a bill (co-pay and/or treatment room, varnish application charge, etc. depending on the type of private insurance the patient has)  
2. Certified Medical Coder advises that, if we offer fluoride varnish to these patients, then patients should be notified that they may be charged for this service (document patient's knowledge of and consent to the fluoride application in the note). |
| Fluoride Varnish Kits                                               | 1. CHDP Oral Health Program will be able to furnish each clinic with needed Fluoride varnish for next fiscal year.  
2. Further funding opportunities are currently being pursued for the purchase of more kits.  
3. If more kits are unavailable free of charge, then we do have an option of ordering directly from the vendor (approximate cost is $140 for 200 applications) – something for us to consider as a health care system. |
| Dental Care Education                                               | Fist five website has brochures that you can download for free in multiple languages:  
[http://www.first5oralhealth.org/page.asp?page_id=439](http://www.first5oralhealth.org/page.asp?page_id=439) and  
| Fluoride Varnish Log Sheet                                          | Has been created is valuable to track Fluoride varnish given to each child. Please fax them to **(805) 658-4505**, on a monthly basis on the 3rd of each month.                                                                                                                                  |
| Dental Care (including Fluoride Varnish Application) Video          | Video is available on the First Five website:  
[http://www.first5oralhealth.org/page.asp?page_id=286](http://www.first5oralhealth.org/page.asp?page_id=286), and  
Please call 805 981 6602 or 805 981 5291 to coordinate trainings or in service update to staff and providers.                                                                                                                     |
| A general word about payment                                         | Currently, claiming for fluoride varnish applications is limited to fee-for-service medical providers.                                                                                                                                                                                   |