



ISSUE DATE February 26, 2016	EFFECTIVE DATE February 26, 2016	NUMBER 09-16-10, 31-16-10
SUBJECT Required Training for the Application of Topical Fluoride Varnish		BY  Leesa M. Allen, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers (including all associated service locations - 13 digits) who enrolled on or before **March 25, 2011** must revalidate their enrollment information no later than **March 24, 2016**. New enrollment application including all revalidation requirements may be found at http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/promise/enrollmentinformation/S_001994. Please send in your application(s) as soon as possible.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify providers of the Department of Human Services (Department) approved trainings that are currently available to certify for the application of topical fluoride varnish (TFV).

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all Medical Assistance (MA) Program enrolled physicians and independently practicing Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP) who render services to MA beneficiaries in the fee-for-service delivery system. Physicians and CRNPs who render services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should direct questions regarding training/certification and payment for the application of TFV to the appropriate MA managed care organization.

BACKGROUND:

The Department pays dentists for TFV treatments. In MA Bulletin 09-10-38, 31-10-08, titled "Application of Fluoride Varnish by Physicians and CRNPs" issued March 15, 2010, and effective April 1, 2010, the Department announced it would also pay physicians and CRNPs for the application of TFV for MA eligible children under the age of five. TFV treatments are paid in addition to an office visit on the same date of service.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

Physicians and CRNPs must complete a TFV application training course approved by the Department to receive MA payment for the application of TFV. Upon completion of the training course, physicians and CRNPs are required to submit the certification to the Department for inclusion in their MA Program enrollment file.

DISCUSSION:

The Department currently accepts two one-time certifications for the application of TFV for children under the age of five obtained by physicians and CRNPs.

- “Healthy Teeth Healthy Children” (HTHC) is a TFV training course conducted on-site at the provider’s office by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Physicians and CRNPs wishing to schedule an on-site training course for the application of TFV certification may contact HTHC by accessing the following website link: <http://www.healthyteethhealthychildren.org/>.
- “Smiles for Life” is an on-line TFV training module provided by the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. This program was previously accepted as a Department approved program in MA Bulletin 09-12-27, 31-12-27, titled “Revision of On-Line Training Module for the Application of Topical Fluoride Varnish”, issued May 1, 2012, effective June 1, 2012. Physicians and CRNPs may obtain TFV certification by accessing the following website link: <http://www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org>.

PROCEDURE:

In order to receive MA payment for the application of TFV, physicians and CRNPs, must:

- 1) Complete a TFV application training course approved by the Department;
- 2) Receive a TFV training certificate verifying the physician or CRNP completed the Department approved training; and
- 3) Submit a copy of the TFV training certificate to the Department’s Provider Enrollment Unit as directed below:

NOTE: Please include the 13-digit MA provider identification number for the provider for which the certificate applies at the top of the certificate. Please be sure to include all applicable service locations.

Providers may mail a copy of their training certificate to:

Department of Human Services
Office of Medical Assistance Programs
Provider Enrollment
Attention: TFV Indicator
P.O. Box 8045
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-8045

or,

Providers may fax their training certification to:

Provider Enrollment Unit
Attn: TFV Indicator
Fax Number: (717) 265-8284

The Department's Provider Enrollment Unit will add the TFV indicator to the physician's or CRNP's enrollment file within 30 days of receiving the provider's TFV training certificate. The TFV indicator will be added to the provider's enrollment file effective with the date of completion on the provider's TFV training certificate. The Department will notify the provider when the TFV indicator is added to his or her enrollment file. Providers may submit claims for TFV services rendered on or after the effective date of the TFV indicator once they receive notification the TFV indicator has been added to their provider file.

Claims submitted for procedure code 99188, defined as "The application of topical fluoride varnish by a physician or other qualified health care professional" will be denied if the physician or CRNP does not have the TFV indicator on their enrollment file.

Physicians and CRNPs who were previously trained and certified and whose MA Program provider enrollment file(s) have been updated by the Department to include the TFV indicator are not required to recertify.