Oral Health in Your Office
Training Summary and Tip Sheet

Who: Begin with first tooth, then
• Medicaid 0 to <5 years old
• Commercial 0 to <6 years old

Materials Required:
• Light Source (otoscope, penlight, head or floor lamp)
• Supply bag (varnish, gloves, gauze, etc.)
• Parent instructions (from varnish or EHR)

Office Workflow Responsibilities:
• Supply ordering (requires DEA number)
• Assembling materials at point of service
• Risk assessment
• Examination of teeth
• Family education
• Recording the process

Positions:
• Knee to knee
• Sitting alone or w/parent (in parent’s lap)
• Laying on exam table

Exam Steps:
• Lift the lip
  • Mouth will open automatically
  • Focus on upper incisors, and molars
• Screen systematically
  • Upper Arch, Lower Arch – front and back
  • Tongue – remind to brush it!
• Apply varnish
  • Use only enough to cover teeth – not all of it
  • Varnish will spread on its own
  • Irritates open oral lesions
  • Allergy to pine nut IS NOT A PROBLEM!

Education:
• Brushing with fluoride toothpaste twice daily
• Only a rice-size smear or pea-size amount
• Flossing where teeth touch
• Dental visits 1-4 times per year depending upon risk
• Fluoride in water

Warm Handoff Dental Referral
• Who is their dentist?
• Screen local dentists
• Ask your own dentist to accept your calls!

Coding:
• CPT 99188
• ICD 10 – Z91.8 and/or Z41.8

Chart Note:
Risk Assessment:
Moderate/High Risk Factors present:
• Family member w/active decay - past 12 mos
• Parent/Caregiver, siblings have no dentist
• Bottle/sippy cup use with sweet fluid
• Child to bed w/sweet substance to drink
• Frequent snacking during the day
• Child has special healthcare needs
• Child is a recent immigrant
• Sibs >3 yo have no dental home

Protective factors present:
• Existing dental home
• Drinks water w/F or takes F supplements
• F varnish applied in the past 3 months
• Teeth are brushed twice daily
• Teeth flossed once daily if appropriate

Examination:
• Teeth healthy and gums examined - no gum disease, stains, or caries noted.
• Teeth and gums examined and the following were found:
  o White spots or visible decalcifications
  o Obvious decay
  o Restorations (fillings) present
  o Visible plaque accumulation
  o Gingivitis (swollen/bleeding gums)

Fluoride Varnish application:
• 5% NaF in xylitol varnish applied with brush to all surfaces of the erupted teeth with patient cooperation and parent verbal consent.
• Explained to give relatively soft diet for 24 hours, delay brushing and flossing until next day and limit warm beverages

Education
• Explained dental care with brushing and use of fluoride containing toothpaste a little dot not a lot twice daily.
• Explained that flossing is encouraged where teeth touch each other.

Referral to Dentist: _____________________________