

First Tooth Billing FAQs



Does OHP cover fluoride varnish?

- Oregon Health Plan (OHP)-enrolled children (under 19 years of age) may have fluoride applied twice every 12 months:
 - Additional topical fluoride treatments may be available, up to a total of 4 treatments per child within a 12-month period, when high-risk conditions or oral health factors are clearly documented in chart notes.
- Children under 19 years of age may have topical fluoride varnish applied by a medical provider during a medical visit.
- Bill the CCO on a professional claim (CMS-1500 or electronic equivalent) using the appropriate CDT procedure code (D1206 – Topical fluoride varnish) or the CPT code (99188- Application of topical fluoride varnish by a physician or other qualified health care professional) and ICD-10 Diagnosis code Z41.8 (Prophylactic fluoride administration).
- Topical fluoride treatment from a medical practitioner counts towards the overall maximum number of fluoride varnish treatments.

Does OHP cover fluoride varnish in an FQHC/IHS?

- Topical Fluoride Varnish applied in a **medical setting** of a Federally Qualified Health Center/Rural Health Center/Indian Health Center is inclusive of the office visit or well-child check and is **not** reimbursable as a stand-alone service.

Do third party payers reimburse fluoride varnish?

- Private third party payers have their own rules about reimbursing for fluoride varnish. Many do not reimburse medical providers for applying fluoride varnish using the CDT code D1206, but are more likely to reimburse the CPT code 99188. Please check with your provider representative for specific policy information.

Many medical offices bill third party payers for fluoride varnish. If the third party payer does not reimburse, the office either charges the patient a nominal fee, or writes off the cost.

Who can be reimbursed for applying fluoride varnish?

- Physicians (MD, DO), advanced practice nurses, licensed physician assistants, or someone who has been officially delegated by one of these providers can be reimbursed for fluoride varnish application. (The billable provider is responsible for those working under their license, the only requirement is she or he complies with licensing rules for delegation.) The person who applies the fluoride varnish must have had training in the application of fluoride varnish, but the rules do not specify which training for fluoride varnish application.

Is the oral screening in the medical office reimbursed?

- For children under 6 years of age, CDT code D0191-oral assessment of a patient, is covered as an enhanced oral health service in medical settings.

- Medical providers may bill the CCO directly for D0191 if the CCO has integrated dental. Bill DMAP if dental has not been integrated.
- D0191 may be billed in the medical home once per year for a child up to 6 years of age.
- Some CCO's, like FamilyCare, have opted to reimburse D0191 until age 19. Please check with the CCO directly to find out if they will offer reimbursement past age 6.

What are the qualifications for providing D0191?

- The oral health assessment must be done by a physician (MD, DO), advanced practice nurse, or licensed physician assistant.
- The provider must have completed the appropriate training (either First Tooth or Smiles for Life) within the last 3 years.

What does D0191 need to include?

- Anticipatory guidance & counseling
- Referral to a dentist to establish a dental home
- Documentation in chart of risk assessment findings & services provided
- Utilizing a standardized Caries Risk assessment tool that is endorsed by one of the following organizations:
 - Oregon Oral Health Coalition
 - American Dental Association
 - American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
 - American Academy of Pediatrics

For additional information on OAR's regarding dental services for medical and dental providers, see OAR 410-123-1260.