



Healthy mouths start early

Very young children typically see their primary care provider more than eight times for well-child visits before they ever see a dentist. These early medical visits create an important opportunity to support oral health and introduce preventive dental care.

Remove barriers.

Improve access.

Promote healthier smiles across Tennessee.

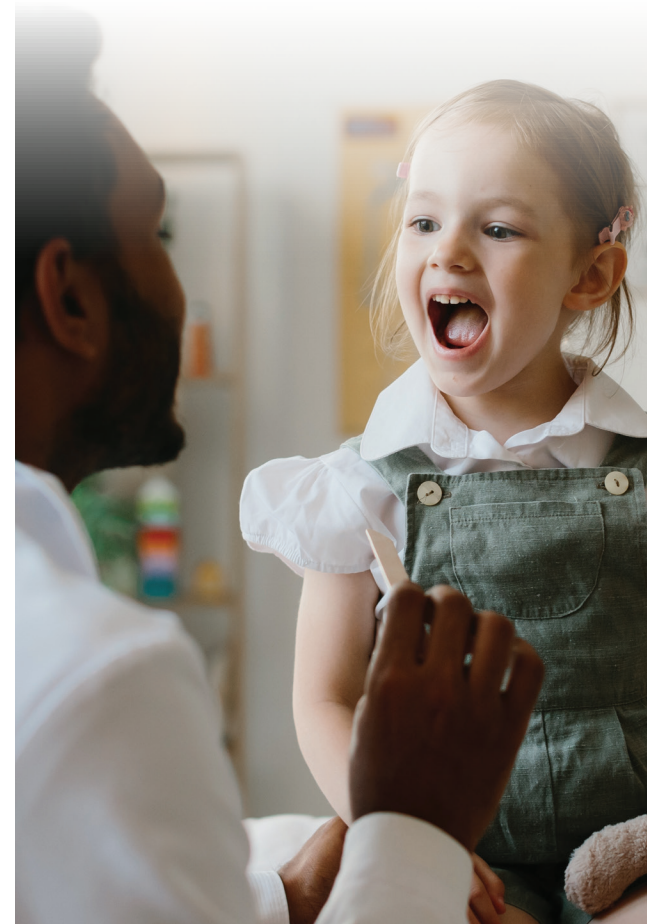


Questions?

Scan the QR code or visit TennCare.RenaissanceBenefits.com for more information.



The Non-Traditional Fluoride Varnish Program





What is fluoride varnish?

Fluoride varnish is a concentrated form of fluoride applied directly to the surface of teeth to help strengthen enamel and prevent tooth decay. It's a sticky resin that quickly hardens upon contact with saliva and is well-tolerated for infants, children and those with special health care needs.

Why consider fluoride varnish in the medical setting?

- It provides a painless start to oral disease prevention.
- No special dental equipment or lengthy training is needed.
- Application takes only two minutes.

Primary care physicians, pediatricians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners can apply fluoride varnish.

Three risk factors

Infants and children who are at moderate to high risk of developing cavities are considered appropriate candidates for fluoride varnish applications. Look for:

- A history of cavities or visible plaque and white lesion spots
- Using a bottle past age 1 or sleeping with a bottle containing liquids other than water
- Breastfeeding on demand at night after teeth have developed

The application process

Application in three steps

Every six months, fluoride varnish can be applied using a multi-use tube with a cotton swab or a pre-packaged single-dose disposable applicator.

- STEP 1** Use gentle finger pressure to open the child's mouth and remove any excess saliva or plaque with a gauze sponge.
- STEP 2** Isolate and keep dry one quadrant of teeth at a time and apply a thin layer of the varnish to all surfaces of the teeth. Patients can both rinse their mouth and leave after application.
- STEP 3** Advise caregivers to avoid brushing or flossing the child's teeth for at least four hours (preferably 24), avoiding hot drinks for four hours.
- STEP 4** Advise caregivers to follow up with the child's Dental Home provider, providing a referral card to caregivers.



Member eligibility and service guidelines

- Eligible TennCare members ages 6 months old to age 5 are covered.
- Members must receive a dental screening and fluoride varnish in the same visit.
- Reimbursement is **\$20.50** per fluoride varnish application and **\$12** per dental screening.
- Each member is limited to two visits per year.

Important CDT and CPT codes

- D0190: Dental screening
- D1206: Topical fluoride varnish
- CPT 99429 Dental screening
- CPT 99188 Topical fluoride varnish