Benefit Coverage
Covered Benefit for lines of business including: Health Benefits Exchange (HBE), Rite Care (MED), Children with Special Needs (CSN), Substitute Care (SUB), Rhody Health Partners (RHP), Rhody Health Expansion (RHE), Rhody Health Options Unity (RHO), Rhody Health Options Integrity (MMP)

Excluded from Coverage: Extended Family Planning (EFP)

Approval is based on review of the medical necessity documentation. The application of fluoride varnish is covered four (4) times a year for children up to age four (4) in the PCP’s office. The applications should start at the time of the eruption of first teeth, about age six (6) months. No prior authorization is necessary.

Description
Dental caries is the most common chronic disease of childhood. Primary care providers have a role in providing access to preventive dental services particularly for the very young and disadvantaged children. Fluoride acts by promoting enamel remineralization, decreasing enamel demineralization, and inhibiting bacterial metabolism and acid production. Fluoride varnish does not require specialized equipment or personnel and can be applied quickly to teeth enamel. Studies have shown a high fluoride uptake in the enamel and considerable caries reduction following the application of varnish containing fluoride.

Coverage Determination
Neighborhood’s coverage of fluoride varnish is secondary to dental care that is otherwise covered, specifically the RIteSmiles program. Fluoride varnish is covered for children up to age four (4) who may receive up to four (4) fluoride varnish treatments in one year and for children age five (5) to eighteen (18) up to once per year as necessary.

Increased risk of caries may be secondary to poor oral hygiene, prolonged nursing or breast-feeding, poor family dental health, enamel defects, genetic abnormality of teeth, many multi-surface restorations, chemo- or radiation therapy, eating disorders, cariogenic diet, exposed root surfaces, physical or mental disability that impacts ability to care for teeth.

*For More information on Coding please reference the Authorization Quick Reference Guide

CMP Number: CMP-042
CMP Cross Reference: 

References:


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Annual Review Month: November

**Disclaimer:**

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