



## Aetna Better Health<sup>®</sup> of Louisiana

### ‘Smile For Life Oral Health’ Services for Medicaid members 6 months to 5 years old

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has implemented a process improvement program for Medicaid with the goal of increasing the number of eligible enrollees ages 6 months to 5 years who receive **fluoride varnish application** by their Primary Care Provider. This implementation can assist with dental caries and other diseases associated with dental neglect in children.

#### Coding requirements

The LDH is allowing primary care providers who have completed the “Smile For Life Oral Health” certification to bill **CPT Code 99188** for the application of Fluoride Varnish. The Fluoride Varnish **can be applied at each visit and there is no limit** so every interaction can be an opportunity to help improve their oral health for life.

#### Resources

- Prevention of Dental Caries in Children from Birth Through Age 5 Years: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement (update in progress as of May 4, 2021). [www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/draft-update-summary/prevention-of-dental-caries-in-children-younger-than-age-5-years-screening-and-interventions](http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/draft-update-summary/prevention-of-dental-caries-in-children-younger-than-age-5-years-screening-and-interventions)
- American Academy of Pediatrics Clinical Guidance Report on Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting (Clark et al., 2020)
- LDH Informational Bulletin 16-7, Revised June 27, 2017: Professional Services Fluoride Varnish Program Policy. [www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org](http://www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org), Course No. 6: Caries Risk assessment, Fluoride Varnish & Counseling.

#### Thank you for the care you provide to our members

For questions or for more information, please contact Aetna Better Health of Louisiana at [laproviders@aetna.com](mailto:laproviders@aetna.com).

[AetnaBetterHealth.com/Louisiana](http://AetnaBetterHealth.com/Louisiana)

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