



# Provider Newsflash



A fax bulletin for the Molina Healthcare of Washington Provider Network

## Unleash the Power of Oral Health (Medicaid)

Untreated tooth decay can be serious and lifelong. The good news is that primary care providers can reduce the risk of decay. Oral health services are quick, easy to integrate into your well-child visits, and reimbursable.

Tooth decay is the most common disease of childhood:

- 4x more common than early childhood obesity.
- 7x more common than asthma.
- 20x more common than diabetes.

**Fluoride varnish is a USPSTF grade B recommendation for children under age 5.**

### Why Medical Providers?

You are families' trusted source of health information! Medical providers see young children up to 11 times in their first three years—providing many more opportunities than your dental colleagues.

Research shows that when Medicaid-enrolled children receive an oral health screening from a medical provider, they are much more likely visit a dentist.

Oral Health Services in 4 Simple Steps:

1. Screen: Identify tooth decay early and prevent painful cavities from occurring.
2. Educate: Teach parents/caregivers and children about oral hygiene and healthy eating.
3. Act: Apply fluoride varnish to protect teeth from decay.
4. Refer: Connect children to ongoing dental care through ABCD (ABCD-dental.org) or DentistLink (DentistLink.org).

Molina is proud to partner with Arcora Foundation to train all pediatric primary care providers on integrating oral health services into well-child visits and how to bill for these services.

To learn more, please contact:

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Integrating Oral Health into Medical Care

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Bending the Arc of Oral Health Toward Equity