

Georgia Medicaid to Provide Coverage for Application of Fluoride Varnish for Children When Performed by Physicians

In a recent meeting with the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH), the Chapter was advised that the Georgia Medicaid program will provide reimbursement for the application of fluoride varnish by physicians in the Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Program.

This service can be billed using CPT D1206 and can be billed on the form 1500. The service is billable under the following Categories of Service: 430 (Physician Services), 431 (Physician's Assistant Services), and 740 (Nurse Practitioners). When done in a physician's office, the procedure can be delegated to appropriate clinical staff. The reimbursement amount is \$17.59. The service can be provided for children aged one month through 13 years, 11 months of age, twice annually. The code is already open and further details will be included in the July 1 version of the Medicaid Health Check manual, available on the Georgia Health Partnership web portal.

The three Medicaid CMO's were notified of this new coverage benefit and it is our current understanding that all 3 will follow Medicaid FFS and begin paying for this service. However each CMO has 60 to 90 days to implement this benefit so at the earliest, the CMO's would likely begin by Aug 1st.

As more details emerge when the CMO's clarify their policies, we will forward more information to you. We will also create an Oral Health page and post this on Chapter's website next week. This page will include educational resources and videos available from the AAP on this issue.

The Chapter welcomes and appreciates this policy change by the Georgia Medicaid program. Improved oral health is a key goal of the AAP and research has shown that the application of fluoride varnish by pediatricians can be an effective, early adjunctive service to support improved dental care for children.

If you have any questions, please contact Fozia Khan Eskew at the Chapter office at 404-881-5074 or via email at feskew@gaaap.org

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