  
**OH NO...**  
**IS THAT REALLY OUR MEASURE?!?**  
**HOW TO IMPROVE FV RATES IN 3-6 YEAR OLD PATIENTS**  
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 QIP LEARNING COLLABORATIVE  
 JULY 28, 2018

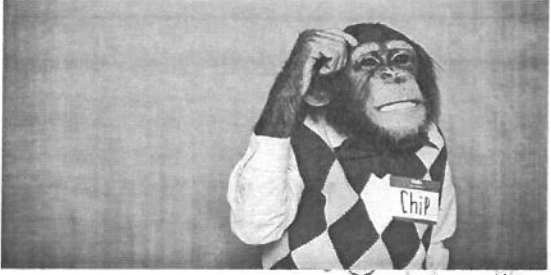
At least 1 Fluoride Varnish recorded in 3-6 year old patients – 39.7 %



What are we doing wrong?



How do we make this better?



**IMPORTANT QUESTIONS WHEN IMPLEMENTING A CHANGE**

Why is this change important?  
 Can we create a change that is amenable to our workflow?  
 Does the change affect the financial health of our office?  
 How best do we implement the change?  
 And the PDSA cycles begin!

**WHY IS FV APPLICATION IN A PEDIATRIC OFFICE IMPORTANT?**

Fluoride varnish, a high concentration fluoride coating that is painted on teeth, can prevent about one-third (37%) of decay in the primary (baby) teeth and up to 43% in permanent teeth.

- Enhances the uptake of calcium and phosphorus during remineralization
- Increases resistance to acid attack
- Disrupts cariogenic bacterial activity

Provides an opportunity to highlight dental health and prevention of cavities

Pediatric patients are already coming to us – captive audience!

Wheeler VCC, Wirthgott R, White T, Clarkon B. Fluoride varnishes for preventing dental caries in children and adolescents. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2017, Issue 7. Art. No.: CD010777. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.cd010777.pub2.

CAN WE CREATE A CHANGE THAT IS AMENABLE TO OUR WORKFLOW?



DOES THE CHANGE AFFECT THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE OFFICE?

Yes...in a good way!

SC DHHS Fluoride Varnish Guidelines (in effect since April 1, 2018):

- ❖ FV may be applied during sick or well visits at the eruption of the first tooth through the month of the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday
- ❖ Children 0-6 (up to the month of their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday) may receive a maximum of 4 applications per year
- ❖ Children ages 7-21 may receive one application per year
- ❖ Reimbursement for CPT code 99188 - \$16.20 per application

HOW BEST DO WE IMPLEMENT THE CHANGE?

**DENTAL PROTOCOL**

**When to apply dental varnish-**

- 12 mos, 24 mos, 36 mos, 2 yrs, 3 yrs, 4 yrs, 5 yrs. (BAND allows Fluor for those ages, can be applied as soon as teeth erupt)
- 6 yrs - 11 yrs (BAND CHIEF BACK allows Fluor for those ages)

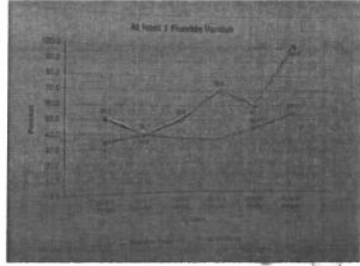
**When not to apply dental varnish-**

- Do not apply if the patient refuses due to placement or preference
- DOCUMENT THE REASON WHY VARNISH WAS APPLIED

**HOW TO APPLY**

- BRUSH AND RINSE, APPLY VARNISH WHILE MOISTNESS OF PTE ADDS TO THE ADHESION
- HAVE ASSISTANT LET IT DRY (DO NOT HAVE A BUBBLER)
- ADD COATING TO PATIENT'S DENTAL RECORD
- BRUSH GUM LINE AND CHEEK
- ASK IF THE PATIENT WOULD LIKE TO BE RECALLED FOR ANOTHER APPLICATION AT NEXT VISIT

MEASURE YOUR SUCCESS (OR GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD)



THANK YOU!

