

April 11, 2018

AHCCCS dental requirements:

The 1st birthday means it is time for the 1st dental visit

Dear Care1st Dental Providers and Staff:

Care1st members under 21 years are assigned to a dental home by age 1. All members under 21 years of age must be seen by a dentist for routine preventive care according to the Dental Periodicity Schedule contained in the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM Exhibit 431-1). ***This includes a first dental visit while a child is still 1.***

Care1st is reaching out to parents and guardians of members to close gaps in dental care for members aged 1-20 years old. Please assist parents and guardians in scheduling a visit.

Other important notes:

- ***Dental providers should apply fluoride varnish, if indicated, to a child younger than 2 years.*** Fluoride varnish applications may occur every six months up until the child's second birthday.
- ***Dental sealants should be applied to first and second molars on children ages 5 to 15.*** Sealants are covered every three years up to 15 years of age. Additional applications must be deemed medically necessary and require PA.



The AHCCCS Dental Periodicity Schedule follows on the next page. Please post a copy of the schedule in your office for easy reference.

Dental providers are encouraged to read AHCCCS Policy 431 related to Oral Health in Ch. 400, Medical Policy for Maternal and Child Health, to ensure they are up-to-date with all AHCCCS oral health requirements. AHCCCS medical policies can be accessed at <https://azahcccs.gov/shared/MedicalPolicyManual/>.

**Contact Maritza Jimenez, LPN, QI Manager - EPSDT/MCH/DDD Programs,
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Looking for your assigned Provider Network Rep? On our website go to Providers > Provider Rep Contact Info



EXHIBIT 431-1, AHCCCS DENTAL PERIODICITY SCHEDULE

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTIVE PEDIATRIC ORAL HEALTH CARE*				
These recommendations are designed for the care of children who have no contributing medical conditions and are developing normally. These recommendations may require modification for children with special health care needs.				
AGE	12-24 months	2-6 years	6-12 years	12 years and older
Clinical oral examination including but not limited to the following: ¹	X	X	X	X
➤ Assess oral growth and development	X	X	X	X
➤ Caries-risk Assessment	X	X	X	X
➤ Assessment for need for fluoride supplementation	X	X	X	X
➤ Anticipatory Guidance/Counseling	X	X	X	X
➤ Oral hygiene counseling	X	X	X	X
➤ Dietary counseling	X	X	X	X
➤ Injury prevention counseling	X	X	X	X
➤ Counseling for nonnutritive habits	X	X	X	X
➤ Substance abuse counseling			X	X
➤ Counseling for intraoral/perioral piercing			X	X
➤ Assessment for pit and fissure sealants		X	X	X
Radiographic Assessment	X	X	X	X
Prophylaxis and topical fluoride	X	X	X	X

¹ First examination is encouraged to begin by age 1. Repeat every 6 months or as indicated by child's risk status/susceptibility to disease.

NOTE: Parents or caregivers should be included in all consultations and counseling of members regarding preventive oral health care and the clinical findings.

NOTE: As in all medical care, dental care must be based on the individual needs of the member and the professional judgment of the oral health provider.

* Adaptation from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Schedule