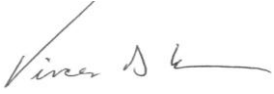




ISSUE DATE May 1, 2012	EFFECTIVE DATE June 1, 2012	NUMBER 09-12-27, 31-12-27
SUBJECT Revision of On-Line Training Module for the Application of Topical Fluoride Varnish		BY  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify providers that the on-line training module provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics titled “Oral Health Risk Assessment: Training for Pediatricians and Other Child Health Professionals” was discontinued. This on-line training module was replaced with the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine’s “Smiles for Life” continuing medical education (CME) course, which provides instruction for the application of topical fluoride varnish (TFV).

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all physicians and independently practicing Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs) enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program who render services to MA recipients in the Fee-for- Service (FFS) delivery system, including ACCESS Plus. Providers enrolled in the managed care delivery system should direct their questions regarding training certification requirements to their appropriate managed care organization.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Public Welfare (Department) has historically paid dentists for TFV treatments using procedure code D1206 defined as “application of topical fluoride varnish”. In MA Bulletin 09-10-38, 31-10-08 titled “Application of Topical Fluoride Varnish by Physicians and CRNPs”, issued March 15, 2010 and effective April 1, 2010, the Department announced it would also pay the physician and CRNP for the application of TFV, D1206, when provided to MA eligible children under the age of five. Physicians and CRNPs were also informed of a training module provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) titled “Oral Health Risk Assessment: Training for Pediatricians and Other Child Health Professionals”, with instructions for the application of TFV which was available on AAP’s website, at no cost to the provider. The Department required the physician and CRNP to complete the training, receive a certificate of completion and submit the certificate to the Department in order to receive MA Program payment for procedure code D1206.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

DISCUSSION

The AAP notified the Department that, as of June 1, 2011, they would no longer provide the oral health training module on its website. Instead, the AAP endorsed the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's Smiles for Life CME course, which can be accessed via the Smile for Life website at <http://www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org> (Course 6 - Fluoride Varnish) at no cost to the provider. This training curriculum was reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA).

Physicians and CRNPs wishing to be trained in the application of TFV for children under the age of five, should access the "Smiles for Life" CME course, Fluoride Varnish module.

Physicians and CRNPs who were previously trained and certified via the AAP's online training module and whose MA Program provider enrollment file(s) have been updated by the Department to include the TFV indicator are not required to be recertified via the "Smiles for Life" CME course.

PROCEDURE:

In order for the physician and CRNP to be paid for procedure code D1206 under the FFS delivery system, including ACCESS Plus, the physician or CRNP must:

- 1) Complete the "Smiles for Life" on-line training course titled "Fluoride Varnish";
- 2) Receive a copy of the Fluoride Varnish training certificate; and
- 3) Submit a copy of the training certificate via mail or fax to the Provider Enrollment Unit in one of the following ways:

NOTE: At the top of your training certificate, please include the **13-digit MA provider identification number(s)** for which your certificate applies. Make sure to include all applicable service locations.

Providers may mail their TFV certifications to:
Department of Public Welfare
Office of Medical Assistance Programs
Provider Enrollment
Attention: TFV Indicator
P.O. Box 8045
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-8045

-or-

Providers may fax their TFV certifications to:

Provider Enrollment
Attn: TFV Indicator
Fax # 717-772-6765

Upon receipt, the Enrollment Unit will add the TFV indicator to the rendering provider's enrollment file. This will take approximately 30 days from the Department's receipt of the certificate.

After the TFV indicator is added to the rendering physician's or CRNP's enrollment file, the physician or CRNP will receive MA Program payment for claims submitted for the provision of TFV, procedure code D1206 to children under 5 years of age. The Department will notify physicians and CRNPs of their enrollment file updates.

PLEASE NOTE:

Physicians and CRNPs who were previously trained and certified and whose MA Program provider enrollment file(s) have been updated by the Department to include the TFV indicator are not required to be recertified via the "Smiles for Life" CME course.

Physicians or CRNP claim denials for procedure code D1206 will occur when physicians or CRNPs fail to submit proof of successful completion of the application of TFV training course.