Presbyterian Salud
P.O. Box 92085
Albuquerque, NM 87199-2085
www.phs.org

NOTIFICATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Chaves County Fluoride Varnish Project

July 1, 2009

Dear Healthcare Practitioner:

Presbyterian Health Plan is committed to ensuring that our practitioners and providers are kept apprised of changes that affect the way in which health care is administered, and changes in the benefits that members are offered. At the request of the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD), Presbyterian Salud is participating in the Chaves County Fluoride Varnish Project.

The majority of children between newborn and three years (0 to 3) of age do not visit a pediatric or general dentist. Intervention during young childhood is important because cavity-causing bacteria can be established in an infant's mouth by the time his/her first tooth erupts. For children at high risk of oral disease, this infection can quickly progress into rampant decay that can destroy a child's primary teeth soon after they emerge.

The Chaves County Fluoride Varnish Project, a pilot program, is a value added service allowing coverage of fluoride varnish application by Presbyterian Salud contracted, non-dental Primary Care Practitioners (PCPs) and Pediatricians located in Chaves County. As part of a child's Well Child visit, PCPs and Pediatricians are being asked to participate in this pilot program because they see children before the child's third birthday more often than a pediatric or general dentist.

Effective Date of the Chaves County Fluoride Varnish Program:
July 1, 2009

Who is eligible to receive the fluoride varnish application?
The value added benefit will be available to Salud members from newborn to a child's third birthday (0 to 3 years of age).

Who is eligible to apply the fluoride varnish to members?
Chaves County PCPs, Pediatricians, and practitioners acting in the capacity of a PCP for children between the ages of zero and the child's third birthday, who are contracted to see Salud! members.

Frequency of fluoride varnish application:
Non-dental providers will be allowed to bill up to six applications for the noted members' age range.

Coding and Reimbursement Information:

- Procedure Code: Please bill Presbyterian Salud for this service using procedure code D1206.
- Diagnosis Code: Please use diagnosis code V07.31 – Prophylactic Fluoride Administration, along with the appropriate Well Child diagnosis code.
- Reimbursement: $15.00 per application.

Training:

Providers are strongly encouraged to view the training provided in the Web links below to learn how to apply fluoride varnish to eligible members. Continuing Medical Education hours are offered through some of the training resources.

Maine Oral Health Program – Information for Providers
http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bohdcfh/odh/providers/fluoride-varnish.shtml

Dental Health Screening and Fluoride Varnish Application
http://www.meded.umn.edu/apps/pediatrics/FluorideVarnish/index.cfm

American Adamancy of Pediatrics – Oral Heath Initiative
http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/oralhealth/index.cfm
http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/oralhealth/cme/

Open Wide: Oral Health Training for Health Professionals
http://www.mchoralhealth.org/OpenWide/index.htm

Oral Health Screening Online Training - Child & Teen Checkups (C&TC) program
http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/fh/mch/webcourse/dental/index.cfm

Fluoride Varnish Training for Health-Care Professionals
http://www.smilesforlife2.org/statevarnishtraining.html

Ordering fluoride varnish for your office:

NM HSD has offered the links below directing you to the companies that sell fluoride varnish:

Duraphat®:
http://www.colgateprofessional.com/app/cop/jsp/products/productHome.jsp?prodcode=011400100
(multi-use tube)

Duraflor®:
http://www.medicom.com/productdetails.ch2?productid=360

VarnishAmerica™:
http://www.medicalproductslaboratories.com/products/varnishamerica/varnishamerica.html
(available in unit-dose package)

To view the Letter of Direction from NM HSD, please visit the Providers Web page on our website, www.phs.org, or use the link below to locate the document:
http://www.phs.org/PHS/healthplans/providers/index.htm

Please feel free to contact me by telephone, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by e-mail with any questions you may have. As always, thank you for partnering with us to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities.

Sincerely,

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