

Healthy North Carolina 2020

EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES

FOCUS AREA	Oral Health
OBJECTIVE	1. Increase percentage of children aged 1-5 years enrolled in Medicaid who received any dental service during previous 12 months

EBS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	'Into the Mouths of Babes' (IMB) is a program where medical professionals provide oral preventive care (oral evaluation, risk assessment, parent counseling, fluoride varnish application, dental referral as indicated by guidelines) to Medicaid insured children from the time of tooth eruption until age 3 1/2 .
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EBS LEVEL <i>CDC Ranking</i>	The different services included in the program have different levels of evidence. The level of evidence for fluoride varnish, the center piece of this preventive program, is B= Best Proven.
REFERENCE/CITATION <i>Data Supporting Level/Ranking</i>	American Dental Association. Professionally applied topical fluoride. Evidence-based clinical recommendations. JADA. 137:1151-9. Marinho VCC, Higgins JPT, Logan S, Sheiham A. Fluoride varnishes for preventing dental caries in children and adolescents. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2009, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD002279. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD002279. Pahel BT, Rozier RG, Stearns SC, Quiñonez RB. <u>Effectiveness of preventive dental treatments by physicians for young Medicaid enrollees.</u> Pediatrics. 2011;127:e682-9.

PROGRAM ATTRIBUTES	
Influence Level	Individual
Target Population	Medicaid-insured children from the time of tooth eruption until the age of 3 1/2 ; youngest children at highest risk for tooth decay and with least access to dental care
Intervention Setting	Primary care medical settings (private practice, community health centers, health departments, FQHCs) most often as part of a well-child visit
Key Measures	Children having at least four IMB preventive visits during eligibility period; percent of eligible children having procedure during any given quarter
Cost	\$51.34
Time to Implement	<u>Organization:</u> (for primary care medical site) initial one hour training plus up to two hours for dissemination of information to staff, organization of supplies and billing, logistical considerations. <u>Patient/Client:</u> 5-10 minutes, not including time to bill Medicaid for procedure
Difficulty to Implement <i>Resource Intensity</i>	Low: providers receive reimbursement for procedure from Medicaid, compensating for supplies and time. Procedure was designed to 'piggy back' onto well-child visits.
ROI <i>if known</i>	On average, IMB visits cost \$11 more than reduced dental treatment payments per person. The program almost breaks even if future benefits from prevention are not discounted. 'Into the Mouths of Babes' improves dental health for additional payments that can be weighed against unmeasured hospitalization costs. Stearns SC, Rozier RG, Kranz AM, Pahel BT, Quinonez RB. Cost-effectiveness of preventive oral health care in medical offices for young Medicaid enrollees. <i>Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med.</i> 2012;166:945-51.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION	
Organization	DPH Oral Health Section
Contact Person	Kelly Close, RDH, MHA, Preschool Oral Health Coordinator
Email / Telephone	Kelly.Close@dhhs.nc.gov / 919.707.5485 ☐
Web Site	www.ncdhhs.gov/dph/oralhealth/partners/IMB.htm

CURRENT NC-DPH SUPPORT	
T.A. – Yes/No Specific group? Other limitations?	Yes, no limitations
T.A. Contact	Kelly Close, RDH, MHA, Preschool Oral Health Coordinator kelly.close@dhhs.nc.gov / 919.707.5485
Funding – Yes/No Specific group? Other limitations?	No
Funding Contact	

EBS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED BY / NC EXAMPLES	
#1 – Organization Name / Contact Information	Coastal Children’s Clinic Dr. Graham Barden, 252.633.2900 Dr. Marston Crawford 252.447.8100
#2 – Organization Name / Contact Information	Franklin County Health Department Vicky Howell, RN, 919.496.2533 xt 2340
#3 – Organization Name / Contact Information	

OTHER COMMENTS / NOTES
<p>‘Into the Mouths of Babes’ is a partnership among the NC Oral Health Section, NC Medicaid, the NC Pediatric Society, the NC Academy of Family Physicians, the UNC Gillings Global School of Public Health, and the UNC School of Dentistry. These organizations/agencies along with others interested in young children’s oral health provide guidance to the ‘Into the Mouths of Babes’ program through the NC Early Childhood Oral Health Collaborative.</p> <p>NC Medicaid requires that medical providers receive training before providing this service to eligible recipients.</p>