

Area:	Health Services
Subject:	HS18 Tooth Brushing / Fluoride Distribution
Reference:	1304.20(c)(3)(i) and 1304.23(b)(3)
Policy:	To promote effective dental hygiene among children in conjunction with meals and implement fluoride as recommended by dental professionals in communities where a lack of adequate fluoride levels has been determined the following guidelines shall be followed.

Procedure:**Infants up to 1 year**

At least once during the program day for half-day programs and twice daily for full-day programs.

1. Staff shall wash hands.
2. Staff shall wear non-latex gloves.
3. Cover finger with gauze pad.
4. Moisten with water a sterile gauze pad.
5. Gently wipe teeth and gums after each feeding.
6. Staff will wash hands after tooth brushing.

Toddlers 1-2 years of age

To promote good oral hygiene habits fluoride toothpaste shall be introduced in conjunction with tooth brushing under adult supervision for children at centers/FCCH. Parents shall give consent for fluoride as per consent form. If a parent does not consent for the use of fluoride toothpaste, child shall be offered a small smear of non-fluoridated toothpaste.

Under the supervision of center/FCCH staff or trained parent volunteer wearing non-latex gloves will assist toddlers with tooth brushing by modeling and supervising.

1. At least once during the program.
2. One child at a time at the sink.
3. Adults shall wash their hands and wear non-latex gloves.
4. Adult shall apply fluoride toothpaste from individual smear item (i.e., paper towel, cup, plate), then place on toothbrush (to eliminate cross contamination) and supervise each child as they brush.
5. Child shall be taught how to spit out excess toothpaste in a sanitary manner.
6. Child will wash his/her hands, with assistance as needed.
7. Adult shall rinse out toothbrush with water and return it to holder to air dry, with approved rack covering.
8. Adult will wash hands after tooth brushing.

Preschool 3 years of age and older

1. Child shall brush their teeth once daily.
2. One child at a time at the sink.
3. Adult shall wash their hands and wear non-latex gloves.
4. Adult shall hand the child his/her pre-pasted toothbrush at the sink (individual smears to avoid cross contamination).
5. Children are to brush teeth with fluoride toothpaste and spit residual toothpaste in

the sink.

6. Child will rinse toothbrush and return to adult to place in holder. (Adult will assist with rinsing as needed.).
7. Child will wash hands after tooth brushing as needed
8. Staff/adult shall wash their hands after tooth brushing.
9. The Health and Disabilities Advisory Committee shall review the Tooth Brushing Fluoride Distribution Procedure annually.

Toothbrush Replacement:

- All children's toothbrushes are to be replaced at least 3 times through-out program year (every 3 months).
- Additionally, replace toothbrushes when they have been contaminated by child illness (strep), fallen on floor or other contaminated surface.

Supervised by: Site Supervisors, Health Staff

Performed by: Center Teaching Staff, Trained Parent Volunteers

Forms needed: Consent for Fluoride, COPA Attendance Records and Volunteer Training Documentation

Frequency: Daily