

Medicaid Fluoride Varnish

Billing and Reimbursement

Application of Topical Fluoride Varnish by a **Non-Dental Practitioner**

- Fluoride varnish application should be reported on a claim using CPT code **99188**.¹
- Payment may be made not more frequently than once per **180 days** from tooth eruption to (but not including) the **sixth** birthday.²
- Fluoride varnish can be applied at any visit (well or sick visit) and payment is made separately from payment for well or sick visits.²
- The following practitioners can **order** and **bill** for fluoride varnish:²
 - Physician
 - Physician Assistant
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
- The following practitioners can **apply** fluoride varnish under the supervision and orders of the above practitioners:¹
 - Registered Nurse
 - Licensed Practical Nurse
 - Medical Assistant
- As of January 1, 2024, Ohio Department of Medicaid increased the reimbursement amount for CPT 99188.³

Fluoride varnish billing in the medical office is independent from the dental office.

¹ Ohio Department of Medicaid. Medicaid Advisory Letter (MAL) No. 665. September 28, 2022. Available at:

<https://medicaid.ohio.gov/resources-for-providers/policies-guidelines/medicaid-advisory-letters/medicaid-advisory-letters>

² Ohio Administrative Code 516-4-33. Available at: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-5160-4-33>

³ Ohio Department of Medicaid. Fee Schedule & Rates. Last updated 1/2024. Available at: <https://medicaid.ohio.gov/resources-for-providers/billing/fee-schedule-and-rates/fee-schedule-and-rates>