

Partners for Prevention

You Can Make a Difference in Children's Oral Health:

When tooth decay goes untreated, the consequences can be serious and lifelong.



Tooth decay is the most common disease of childhood.

4x more common than early-childhood obesity.

5x more common than asthma.

20x more common than diabetes.

In FY 2025, 2,916 South Dakota Medicaid-enrolled children received care under general anesthesia for severe tooth decay, a highly preventable disease.

Fluoride varnish* reduces tooth decay by

↓ 37%

*Fluoride varnish is an evidence-based standard of care that is supported by AAP, Bright Futures, AAFP, USPSTF, ADA and AAPD.

Three interventions can stop the painful impacts of tooth decay.

- 1 Screen**
Spot tooth decay early and prevent painful cavities from occurring.
- 2 Educate**
Teach parents and children about oral hygiene and healthy eating.
- 3 Apply Fluoride**
Apply fluoride varnish to protect teeth from decay.

Partners for Prevention is a program of the Delta Dental of South Dakota (DDSD) Foundation, supporting the integration of oral health services into medical care across the state of South Dakota. The DDSD Foundation is a nonprofit dedicated to improving oral health for all South Dakotans. Funded by nonprofit Delta Dental of South Dakota, the state's largest dental benefits company, we work toward our shared vision that everyone deserves good oral health.

 **DELTA DENTAL®**

Delivery of oral health services can pay off.

SD Medicaid allows fluoride varnish reimbursement 3x per benefit year for children under the age of 21. The ACA requires all insurers to cover fluoride varnish with no copay.

FY 2026 Reimbursement Rate

\$33.03 / application

Partners for Prevention makes integration of oral health services easy.

We provide free of charge:

- ✓ Pre-training guidance to set up your team and systems for success.
- ✓ A free, one-hour lunch and learn or virtual training session.
- ✓ Ongoing support and trouble shooting.



“Adding oral health screenings to our well-child checks helps create a comprehensive visit saving our families time while allowing us to care for the whole child. The application of fluoride varnish during the visit has taken minimal effort and has the potential to greatly improve the overall health of our youngest patients. My clinic greatly appreciates the education and training Delta Dental has provided our nurses and doctors.”

-- Jennifer Callahan, M.D., Monument Health Family Medicine Residency, Rapid City, S.D.



Contact us to learn more:

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Delta Dental of South Dakota
Foundation

