

To: AmeriHealth Caritas DC Medicaid Dental Providers

Date: February 16, 2023

## Subject: New Coverage for Caries Risk Assessments

Dear Dental Provider:

In recognition of Children's Dental Health Month, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia (DC) has announced new coverage for caries risk assessments as part of its oral health initiatives to improve children's dental health.

D0601	Caries risk assess low risk	\$5.00
D0602	Caries risk assess mod risk	\$5.00
D0603	Caries risk assess high risk	\$5.00

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, early detection and management of oral conditions can improve a child's oral health, general health and well-being, and school readiness.

Caries risk assessment is a key element of preventive oral health care for infants, children, and adolescents. Children at high risk for caries benefit from quarterly applications of fluoride varnish, while those with low to moderate risk should receive fluoride varnish applications every six months.

For reference, the American Academy of Pediatrics Oral Health Risk Assessment Tool is located at the following link: <u>https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/oralhealth\_RiskAssessmentTool.pdf</u>.

If you have questions about this communication, please contact Dental Provider Services at 1-855-609-5170, option 5.

Sincerely,

AmeriHealth Caritas DC