

### Oral Health

Jessica Asselin, Health Promoter

Donna Bortolot, Certified Dental Assistant Level II

October 19, 2023 | 10:00am – 12:00pm

### Meet the Team



### Registered Dental Hygienist



Linda Coulter



Lauren Sharer

### Manager



Rachel Moon -Kelly

#### Administrative Assistants



Karen Laundrie



Mariana Sojo Rodriguez M



Michelle McWalters

#### **Certified Dental Assistants**



Jenny Sparks



Donna Bortolot



Lauryn Doran



Jennifer Taylor

#### **Health Promoters**



Anna Rusak -PPL



Jessica Asselin





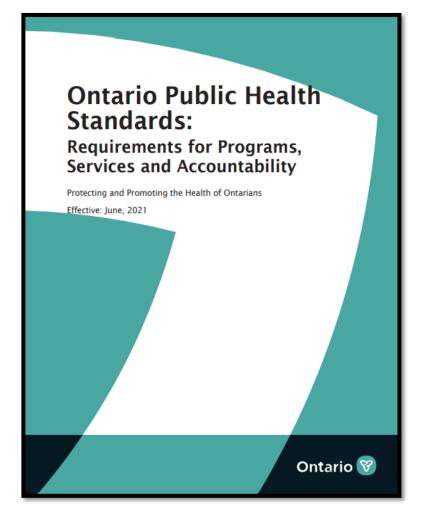


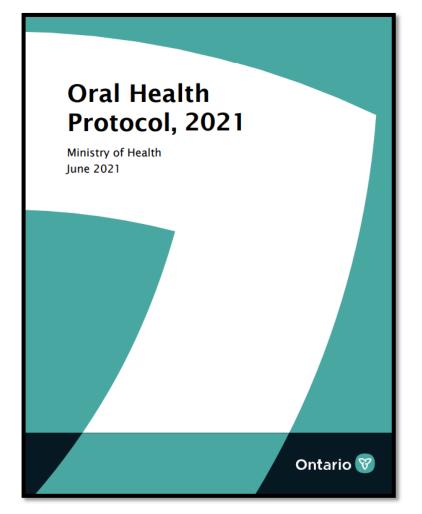






## **OPHS** Requirements















# School Screening Results HKPR District



Screening: 5071

Exclusions/Refusal: 205

Child Urgent Care: 669

Pit and Fissure Sealants: 2056

Scaling: 927

Preventive Services Only: 4099

Non-Urgent: 302



### 2022-2023

Screening: 5635

Exclusion/Refusal: 256

Child Urgent Care: 803

Pit and Fissure Sealants: 2100

Scaling: 1188

Preventive Services Only:4528

Non-Urgent: 304









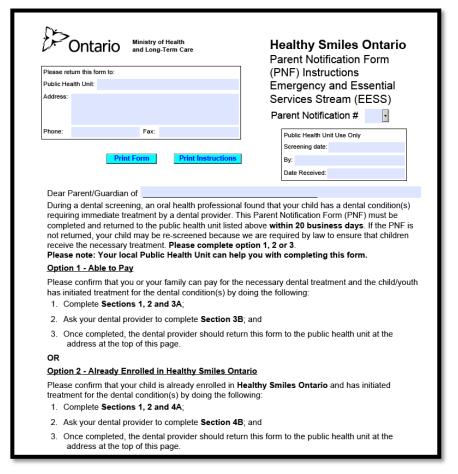
### **Parent Notifications**



### Dental Report Card



### Parent Notification Form











## In Office Screening























## Fluoride Varnish Program

#### **Program**

- Communities in the HKPR area do not have fluoridated water and are therefore eligible for Fluoride Varnish treatment
- In 2014, the Health Unit began offering Fluoride Varnish applications to Childcare Centers
- In 2015, The Health Unit began offering Fluoride Varnish to JK/SK students
- The program is voluntary; parents must sign a consent form and complete medical history for the child to participate

#### **Implementation**

- Certified Dental Assistants provide service at Childcare Centers and Schools twice per school year (fall and spring)
- Parents are notified once the service has been provided
- Children that are absent on the day of the visit are offered the opportunity to attend a Fluoride Varnish Clinic at all the Health Unit offices

#### **Moving Forward**

- The evidence in the evaluation conducted by the epidemiology team shows that Fluoride Varnish has a positive impact
- Due to the lack of fluoride in the water, we should continue to implement the program









## Fluoride Varnish (FV) Evaluation

Evaluation to assess dental decay among grade 2 students who participated in the FV program compared to students who did not receive fluoride varnish.

### Junior Kindergarten Cohort (maximum of 4 applications)

- → 2015/16 Junior Kindergarten (up to two applications)
- → 2016/17 Senior Kindergarten (up to two applications)
- → 2017/18 Grade One (no applications)
- → 2018/19 Grade Two (Screening)

### Senior Kindergarten Cohort (maximum of 2 applications)

- → 2015/16 Senior Kindergarten (up to two applications)
- → 2016/17 Grade One (no applications)
- → 2017/18 Grade Two (Screening)









### Fluoride Varnish (FV) Evaluation

- Among the cohort of JK/SK students screened by the end of grade 2, the mean Decayed, Missing, and Filled Teeth (DMFT) score was lowest among students who received 4 FV applications (mean DFMT = 2.67).
  - Students who received 3 FV applications and those who received 2 FV applications also had lower mean DMFT scores compared to those who received only 1 application and those who did not receive any fluoride application but were not statistically significant.
- Grade 2 students who had 4 FV applications were 12% less likely to have dental decay compared to those who did not receive any FV applications (RR = 0.88; 95% CI = 0.78 0.99; P-value = 0.02).
  - No statistically significant difference was observed for grade 2 students who had 2 consecutive FV applications compared to those who did not receive any FV applications.

	DMFT > 0
No FV applications (n=1,365)	851 (62%)
4 FV applications (n=274)	150 (55%)
Risk Ratio for dental decay (95% Confidence Interval)	0.88 (0.78 – 0.99)
Statistical Significance (Chi-square test)	P = 0.02*







## Fluoride Varnish (FV) Evaluation

#### **Conclusions**

 Receiving all four applications of FV was associated with a 12% reduction in the risk of dental decay among grade two students, compared to students who did not receive FV from HKPRDHU staff.

#### Limitations

- This evaluation does not account for other possible FV applications that a child may have received elsewhere, before, during, or after the in-school application of FV by HKPRDHU staff during the JK and SK school-years.
- Restrictions and school closures due to COVID-19 prevented the FV program from operating during the 2019/2020, 2020/2021, and 2021/2022 school-years.
  - As a result, three cohorts of JK students that would have been offered all four FV applications were not screened in their respective grade two year, resulting in a loss of data that could be used in the evaluation.







### Impacts of COVID-19



The Oral Health Program was suspended due to staff redeployment

Thousands of children did not receive service

Large reduction in families accessing financial assistance (HSO) because there was no screening

Decrease in offices accepting HSO patients

Increased dental treatment needs due to the lack of access









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