

## Missouri Preventive Services Program FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Since there is a specific list of individuals that may conduct the PSP oral health reviews, how do I locate willing volunteers to help with the oral health review?** Personal connections are most successful. If someone from your school or agency has a friend or relative who meets the PSP oral reviewer criteria, this is the best place to start when looking for help. Each oral health reviewer will be required to complete an annual Online Oral Health Review Calibration course prior to the oral health review event. Visit our PSP web site at <https://health.mo.gov/oralhealth/psp> go to the PSP Calibrations/Trainings drop down for the Oral Health Review Calibration video.

This is the list of individuals that may conduct PSP oral health reviews.

- Dentists.
  - Dental Students (Competency as determined by faculty of respective dental school, typically third or fourth year students).
  - Dental Hygienists.
  - Dental Hygiene Students (Competency as determined by faculty of respective dental hygiene program, typically second year students).
  - Dental Assistants (Certified Dental Assistant or passage of the Missouri Dental Assisting Basic Skills exam and/or a minimum of two years chairside experience).
  - Licensed Medical Professionals (i.e., Physicians, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, etc.).
  - Medical Professional Students (Competency as determined by faculty of respective medical or nursing program).
  - Community Health Care Coordinator or Community Dental Health Care Coordinator.
2. **How many oral health reviewers will I need?** With a small number of children (<100) you may only need 1-2 oral reviewers. However, if you are planning to schedule an entire school or a very large amount of children (>100), you will need perhaps 2-3 or more. Contact the State Dental Hygienist for more information.
  3. **Will other volunteers be needed?** Yes. Options for other volunteers,
    - a. Apply the fluoride varnish to the children's teeth.
    - b. Serve as a recorder for the oral health reviewer conducting the oral health reviews, and/or assist with other paperwork.
    - c. Provide oral education/show a presentation, this can be provided on a different day.
    - d. Escort children to and from classrooms.
  4. **How many fluoride varnish volunteers will I need?** A good rule of thumb is 2 per oral health reviewer, but this amount is flexible. Each fluoride varnish volunteer will be required to complete an annual Online Fluoride Varnish Application Calibration course prior to the event. Visit our PSP web site at <https://health.mo.gov/oralhealth/psp> go to the PSP Calibrations/Trainings drop down for the Fluoride Varnish Application Calibration video.
  5. **How many recorders will I need to assist the oral health reviewer?** Schedule 1 recorder per oral health reviewer. Using a volunteer to serve as a recorder can be an efficient use of time and is a great help to speed up the oral health review process. However, a recorder to assist the oral health reviewer is not required, some oral health reviewers prefer to complete the oral health review form themselves.
  6. **What about the 2<sup>nd</sup> fluoride varnish application event 3-6 months after the first application?** The only volunteers you need for the 2<sup>nd</sup> varnish application are volunteers to apply the varnish. The more volunteers you schedule, the quicker it will be completed. Be sure all varnish volunteers have completed the online varnish training session. No oral health reviews are conducted at the second fluoride varnish application event, if completed at the first fluoride varnish event.

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7. **The child has an appointment next week with the family dentist. Can that appointment be canceled since an oral health review was completed today?** No, the oral health review is only a quick, visual oral health review. No x-rays are taken, and no treatment plan is developed. It is important that child continues to be seen by the family dentist each year so that a thorough oral exam can be completed.
8. **The child saw the dentist last week and no cavities were found during that visit, but the oral health reviewer conducting the PSP oral health review noted a possible cavity. Why?** The volunteer oral health reviewer performed a quick look in the child's mouth with the oral health review. The diagnosis by the family dentist may include x-rays and will give a complete assessment of the child's oral health. Thus, the diagnosis by the family dentist is the most reliable source of information.
9. **The child received a fluoride treatment at the dental office recently; will it cause harm to the teeth if another fluoride treatment is applied today?** No. Fluoride treatments are topical and strengthen the teeth. Evidence suggests that 4 fluoride varnish treatments a year may be beneficial for children at a high risk for dental decay.
10. **Can children with braces receive fluoride varnish?** Yes. Children with braces are more susceptible to decay/cavities and benefit greatly from the application of fluoride varnish.
11. **What will the child experience during and after the fluoride varnish application?** The fluoride varnish is a flavored sticky substance that hardens in the presence of moisture (saliva) almost immediately, thus reducing the risk of swallowing the fluoride. Following the application, the teeth will feel rough until the teeth are brushed that evening before bedtime.
12. **Can I use X's or check mark to fill in the circles on the oral health review form?** No, you must fill in the circle completely, pen or marker may be used.
13. **Why do you need school and district name?** Many school buildings throughout the state share common names. To help us reduce errors and ensure data is captured to the correct school district and specific school, we ask that the DESE full school district name and full school names be used on the cover sheets.
14. **Do I report my county of residence or the school's county?** Please report the county location of the school. We use the data to determine oral health outcomes by counties in MO.
15. **Why do I need a cover sheet for each envelope/box returned?** A cover sheet must be included with each envelope or box mailed to our office. The cover sheets identify the contents of the envelope or box. It is okay to make copies of the cover sheets.
16. **Can I use labels or a name stamp on the survey forms?** Yes. You may use pre-printed labels or school name stamp on the oral health review form to identify your school. Please place the label or stamp in the box indicated on the oral health review form.
17. **Are educational materials available in Spanish?** Yes.