

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DECAY



Millions of school hours are lost each year due to dental related illness.

Early tooth loss and dental decay can result in:

- Impaired speech development
- Inability to concentrate in school
- Loss of self esteem
- Damage to permanent teeth



Department of Health & Human Services



Brochure developed by  
Kansas Department of Health &  
Environment  
Bureau of Oral Health

# PROTECT

*your*

*child's*

*teeth*

*with*

# FLUORIDE VARNISH



# WHAT IS FLUORIDE VARNISH?

- Fluoride Varnish is 5% Sodium Fluoride resin that is painted on teeth to help make the enamel stronger and more resistant to dental decay
- This temporary resin is held in close contact with tooth surface for 4 to 6 hours to allow absorption
- The varnish can be brushed off the teeth after a few hours or left on the teeth overnight
- Fluoride Varnish is pleasant tasting
- Studies show that fluoride varnish is most effective when applied at least 3 times a year
- MEDICAID approved procedure
- Fluoride Varnish can be applied at both the Medical and Dental office



# OTHER WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH



- Visit the dentist by age one
- Brush and floss daily
- Limit sugary snacks and soda pop
- Use dental sealants on permanent molars
- Visit the Dentist & Hygienist regularly
- Eat healthy snacks



Dental Sealants

# IS IT SAFE?

- Fluoride Varnish is safe because it creates a coating over the tooth and is not swallowed



- Fluoride Varnish is safe to use on children of all ages beginning as soon as they get their first teeth!

