

PCMH Learning Network: Dental Health

October/November 2023 Series

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Content

OVERVIEW OF KEY IDEAS

- Fluoride varnish need, billing, & infrastructure
- Dental health training/education resources in PA
- Dental health team roles
- How to search for providers in each region
- Educational materials for providers and patients
- Managed care roles in accessing dental health providers



Access to Dental Care



Dental Workforce
Shortage



Transitions in Office
Types



Pandemic Effects



Water Fluoridation
Rollbacks

World Health Organization: Global Oral Health Status Report

Fig. 1 Ranking of most prevalent conditions per WB country income level

Higher rank  Lower rank

	Global	World Bank low income	World Bank lower-middle income	World Bank upper-middle income	World Bank high income
Oral diseases	1	1	1	1	1
Neurological disorders	2	5	2	3	2
Digestive diseases	3	7	4	2	6
Respiratory infections & TB	4	4	3	4	9
Skin diseases	5	3	5	6	5
Sense organ diseases	6	9	8	5	7
Musculoskeletal disorders	7	11	9	7	3
NTDs & malaria	8	2	7	12	19
HIV/AIDS & STIs	9	8	10	8	10
Nutritional deficiencies	10	6	6	13	15
Unintentional injury	11	13	13	9	4
Diabetes & CKD	12	14	12	10	8
Mental disorders	13	10	11	11	11
Cardiovascular diseases	14	16	14	14	13

Basic Screening Survey

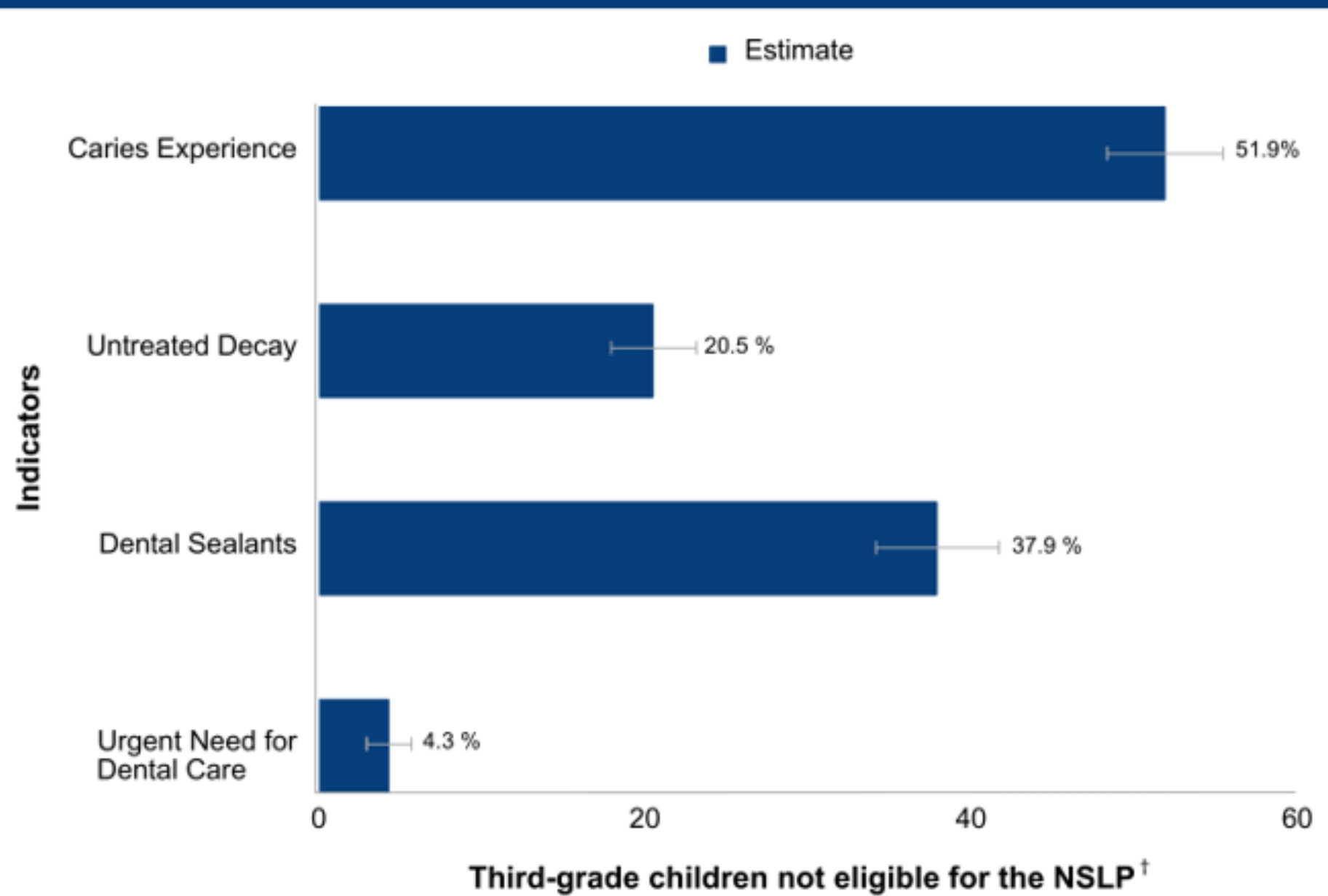
Oral Health Indicators by Race and Ethnicity in Pennsylvania*

Race/Ethnicity	Caries	Treated Decay	Untreated Decay	Urgent Treatment Need	Sealed Permanent Molars
White	56.9%	24.1%	46.1%	5.5%	38.5%
Black or African-American	65.1%	32.5%	50.9%	32.9%	30.8%
Hispanic	65.8%	27.8%	52.3%	27.5%	33.1%
Asian	66.2%	26.1%	56.7%	26.6%	26.0%
Multi-racial	64.5%	25.4%	54.1%	24.9%	41.9%

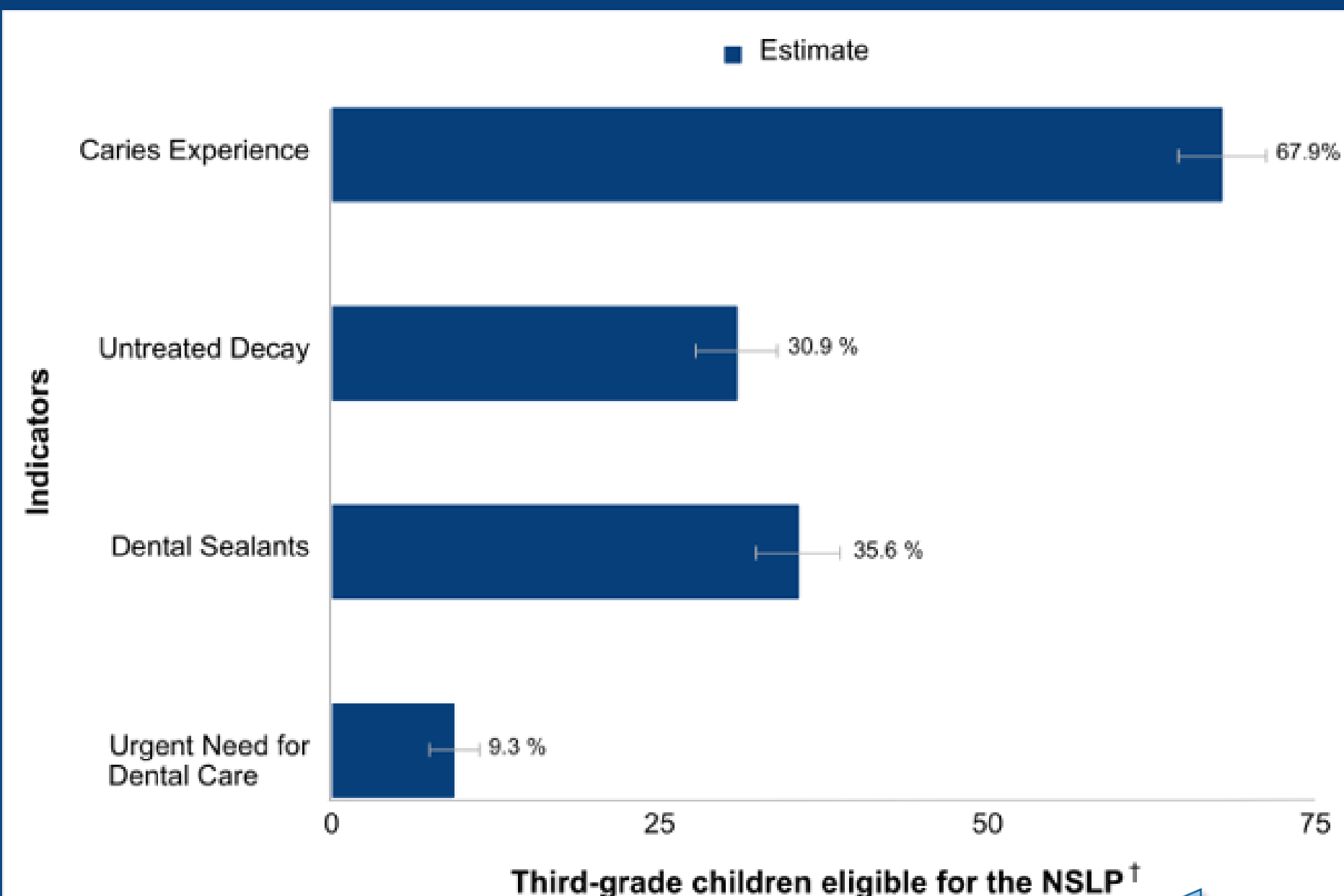
* All percentages are weighted

Basic Screening Survey

Statewide Prevalence of Dental Conditions Among Higher-Income[†] Third-Grade Children



Statewide Prevalence of Dental Conditions Among Low-Income[†] Third-Grade Children



Why Medical Providers?

Dental cavities are the number one most common chronic disease of children, and nearly 100% preventable.

Children see medical providers 10 times by age 2 for checkups.

Fluoride varnish is cost-effective and most clinically effective when applied every 3 months.



History of 99188

- **“Legal”**
 - First used in US when approved by the FDA in 1994
 - Added (Medicaid) with dental code D1206 - April 1, 2010
 - Added for most private insurances - 2013-2016
 - Conversion to CPT 99188 - January 1, 2015
- **Codes**
 - CPT 99188 ± 96160 or 96161 for risk assessment, and 98960 for patient education by qualified staff
 - ICD 10 – Z29.3, Z13.84, Z41.8, K02.9, K12.2, K08.8
- **Requirements**
 - Training for medical providers
 - Caries risk assessment and patient education/anticipatory guidance

- Currently required for Medicaid plans
- Not required for most private insurance
- 2 options in Pennsylvania
 - Smiles for Life Curriculum
 - PAAAP Oral Health in Your Office
- Medicaid Bulletin from 2016

Smiles for Life
A national oral health curriculum

www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org

 Healthy Teeth
Healthy Children
A Pennsylvania Medical/Dental Partnership

www.healthyteethhealthychildren.org

A Program of the PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

www.HealthyTeethHealthyChildren.org

Varnish Training



www.healthyteethhealthychildren.org

Current Status for 99188

- **Reimbursement**
 - Up to 4 times/year
 - Until age 21 for Medicaid
 - Until age 6 for most commercial insurances
 - \$6-\$35 for 99188
- **Who Applies?**
 - Physician, NP, PA
 - RN, LPN (under Medicaid only)
- **Requirements**
 - Training for medical providers
 - Caries risk assessment and patient education/anticipatory guidance



New Tools in Your Box!

- **Silver Diamine Fluoride**
 - **CPT Code 0792T (starting July 2023)**
 - **D1354 (dental code)**
- **At-Home Prevention**
 - **Iodine**
 - **OTC and Rx Fluoride**
 - **Casein phosphopeptide-amorphous calcium phosphate (CPP-ACP)**



- Within Pennsylvania, there are 163 dental health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), representing nearly 2 million individuals without access to dental care.
- The shortage of dentists in Pennsylvania is expected to continue on a downward trend through 2035. Over 30% of dentists are planning to retire in the next five years.
- Fewer providers means longer wait times to secure an appointment. According to a recent secret shopper survey of more than 1,200 practices, patients wait on average 55 days for a new patient dental visit. This number nearly doubles for those relying on federally qualified health centers (FQHCs).

2023 Oral Health Workforce

Why is it Important?



The Dental Health Team

Dentist/
Specialist

Registered
Dental
Hygienist

Expanded
Function
Dental
Assistant

Social Workers/
Community
Health Workers

Dental
Assistant

Public Health
Dental Hygiene
Practitioner
(PHDHP)

Front Desk/
Insurance
Coordinator

YOU!

How Can I Use a PHDHP?



✓ January 16, 2021 Practice Update

✓ Co-located Services

✓ Education and Anticipatory Guidance:
Teething, Pacifier Use, Falls/Trauma,
Lip/Tongue Ties, Nutrition/Snacking,
etc.

✓ PHDHPs Can Bill Medicaid

✓ Better Dental Referrals



How Do I Help My Patients Connect with Dental Care?

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
 - List of Medicaid dental providers
- United Way 211
 - 200 dental listings statewide
- PCOH “Finding Dental Care”
 - List of high-level sources of care
- Fluoride map
 - Can be linked in with EHR
- *****PA Medicaid Providers



Sources for Patient Education Materials

HEALTHY MOUTH!

- Regular dental visits for child and family beginning at 1 year old
- Brush with a smear of toothpaste 2 times a day - assist child until 7-8 years old
- Drink fluoridated tap water

HEALTHY FOOD!

- No more than 4 ounces of 100% juice per day, given WITH a meal
- Choose MyPlate.gov
- Only water between meals

HEALTHY CHILDREN!

- Hold baby to feed
- Limit sugary snacks
- Healthy snacks

Important: The last thing to touch your child's teeth before bedtime should be the toothbrush with a tiny smear of fluoride toothpaste!

DentaQuest FOUNDATION | American Academy of Pediatrics | Healthy Teeth Healthy Children

What is Fluoride Varnish?

Fluoride varnish is a coating that can be painted on the teeth to prevent tooth decay.



What are the benefits?

- Safe and Effective
- Quick and Easy to apply
- Strengthens Enamel
- Can stop early tooth decay or white spots

Who needs Fluoride Varnish?

Any child who has:

- White spots on teeth
- Cavities
- No fluoridated water
- No regular dentist
- Special health care needs
- Two or more snacks or sugary drinks per day



Ask your doctor or dentist about fluoride varnish for your child!

DentaQuest FOUNDATION | American Academy of Pediatrics | Healthy Teeth Healthy Children

www.healthyteethhealthychildren.org

WHY DO CHILDREN NEED FLUORIDE?

Our mouths contain BACTERIA + That bacteria combines with sugars in the foods we eat and the beverages we drink and produces... = ACID

The acid that is produced harms tooth enamel and damages teeth

FLUORIDE PROTECTS TEETH BY MAKING THEM MORE RESISTANT TO ACID

Get Your Fluoride Here!

- Use fluoride toothpaste
- Drink fluoridated water
- Use fluoride mouthwash
- Visit your dentist for fluoride treatments

FLUORIDE is an important mineral for all children. Talk to your doctor or dentist to learn more.

PAORALHEALTH.ORG

What Should Kids Drink?

WATER

6-12 months	12-24 months	2-5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve anytime • Choose tap water • Only water between meals
4-8 oz a day	8-32 oz a day	8-48 oz a day	

MILK

0-12 months	12-24 months	2-5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve at meals • Choose low-fat whole milk • Flavored milks often have added sugar
Breast milk or formula only	16-24 oz a day	16-20 oz a day	

JUICE

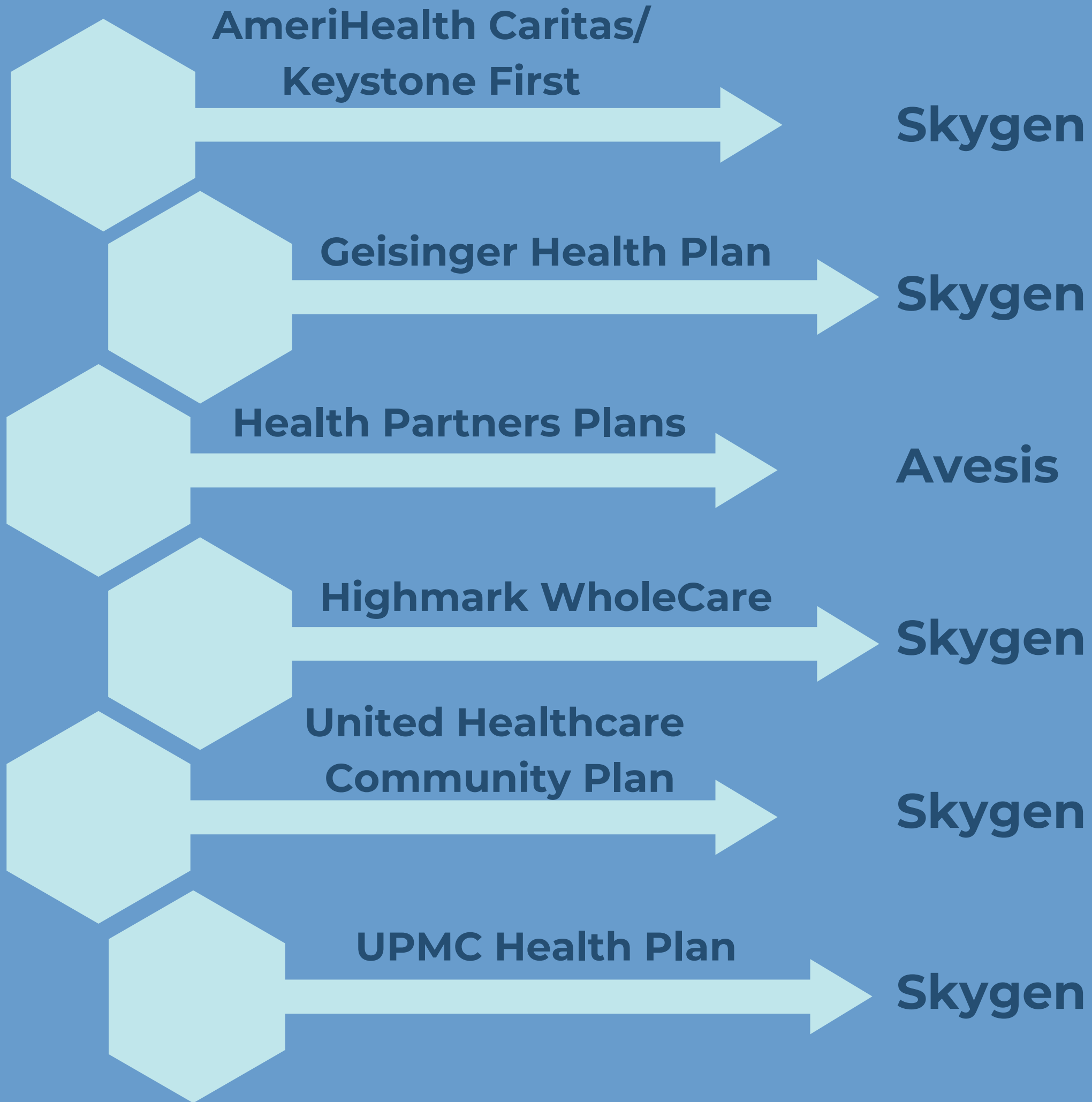
0-12 months	1-4 years	4-6 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juice once in a while only at meals • Choose 100% fruit juice only
Not recommended	≤ 4 oz a day	4-6 oz a day	

Choosing water from the start will promote a lifetime of health for your child.

PCOH PA Coalition for Oral Health

www.paoralhealth.org/requestmaterials/

**PA Department of
Human Service,
Office of Medical
Assistance
Programs**



What if my Patient Can't Find a Provider?



Medicaid

- Number on the back of the card
- Call the DHS MCO Helpline 1-800-537-8862 or visit the [Maximus website](#) to create a list for your area
- Ask for non-participating provider

Age Issues

- Age one recommendation from AAPD since 1987
- Pediatric dental vs. general dentist
- Orthodontist referral at age 7-8, always



Thank You

What Questions Do You Have?

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