

# AbCd Montana

## Caries Risk Assessment (CRA) Tool - Birth to age 36 months



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Initial/baseline exam date: \_\_\_\_\_ Recall exam YES/NO

ASSESSMENT		LOW/MED RISK TRAITS	HIGH RISK TRAITS	NOTES
GROUP A	Obvious white spots (early enamel caries) on teeth			
	Primary caregiver has had active dental caries in the past 12 months			
GROUP B	Child has had restorations placed in the last 2 years			
	Child has special healthcare needs			
	Child has continual access to a bottle or a sippy cup with liquids other than water			
	Child has >3 times/day between-meal snacks of sugars/cooked starch/sugared drinks			
	Child sleeps with a bottle or a sippy cup containing a drink other than water			
	Child is allowed to use the breast as a pacifier			
	Child has saliva-reducing factors including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medications</li> <li>• Medical or genetic factors</li> </ul>			
	Low total exposure to systemic (water or prescription) and topical fluorides (toothpaste)			
	Sibling with a history of Early Childhood Caries			
	Heavy plaque and bleeding gums			
Other (please explain):				
<b>NOTE:</b> Need ONE of Group A <b>OR</b> TWO of Group B from above for a child to be considered "High Risk".				



For help with any program questions, please contact:

**Jan Paulsen**  
**(406) 444-3182**

Also reference our new resource:

[www.BrightSmilesMontana.com](http://www.BrightSmilesMontana.com)

as well as the Montana Dental

Association's website:

[www.MontanaDental.org](http://www.MontanaDental.org)

### Caregiver education:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Etiology of caries (frequent sugar + bacteria + teeth = caries)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Caries are preventable
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transmission of caries from caregiver and siblings to child
- \_\_\_\_\_ Healthy snacks and drinks: protein snacks (cheese, meat, nuts), fresh fruits/vegetables and water
- \_\_\_\_\_ Caries promoting snacks: juice, fruit chews, raisins, fruit roll-ups, granola bars and cereal
- \_\_\_\_\_ No "bottle propping" or allowing the child to walk around with a bottle or a sippy cup
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protective nature of fluorides and xylitol
- \_\_\_\_\_ How to identify early caries ("white spots") and to check for them daily
- \_\_\_\_\_ Proper brushing and flossing techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin brushing teeth with a "smear" of fluoridated toothpaste as soon as first teeth erupt.

### Recommendations given to caregiver:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do not let siblings or self share anything that has been in their mouth with the child
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have an ADULT brush the child's teeth with fluoridated toothpaste daily until age 6
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give fluoride supplementation to child daily
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have an ADULT floss the child's teeth that are touching until age 10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reduce sugar exposure (between-meal snacks, bottle/sippy cup use during the day &/or at night)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do not use the breast as a pacifier
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wean child to a cup (not a sippy cup) by age one
- \_\_\_\_\_ Caregiver to begin 5 week Xylitol gum therapy: chew 1 piece of Xylitol 4/day for 5 minutes

# AbCd Risk-Based Age Dependent Table of Benefits

Aged 0-2 Years	Aged 3-5 Years
<p><b>D0145</b> Oral Evaluation of a Patient Under 3 Years of Age and Counseling with Primary Caregiver</p> <p><b>D0425</b> Caries Susceptibility Tests ("Caries Risk Assessment")*</p> <p><b>D1310</b> Nutritional Counseling for Control of Dental Disease</p> <p><b>D1330</b> Oral Hygiene Instructions</p> <p><b>D0601, D0602, or D0603</b> Caries Risk Assessment Findings: Low, Medium, High*</p>	<p><b>D1310</b> Nutritional Counseling for Control of Dental Disease</p> <p><b>D1330</b> Oral Hygiene Instructions</p>

\* For children aged 0-2 years, AbCd MT Caries Risk Assessment (D0425) must be completed at least once every 12 months and the results of the assessment retained in the dental record. When submitting a dental claim for AbCd MT Caries Risk Assessment (D0425) also submit the outcome of the assessment as the appropriate and corresponding Caries Risk Assessment Finding code (D0601, D0602, or D0603).

For children aged 0-2 years with an AbCd MT Caries Risk Assessment finding of "High" (D0603) might consider providing up to 6 AbCd MT recall visits per year. The frequency of the recall visits should be supported in the dental record by noting the condition being treated or prevented and the associated level of ongoing risk. For children aged 0-2 years, all of the associated CDT codes noted in the AbCd MT Risk-based Age Dependent Table of Benefits and fluoride varnish (D1206) may be provided at each subsequent visit as indicated by medical necessity. The dentist determines which services are appropriate and medically necessary and is responsible for appropriate documentation of each service. Services performed must be in compliance with the CDT code descriptions in effect at the time of service.



## Questions? We can provide answers.



**Does your patient need assistance with transportation?** Your patient may qualify for reimbursement of travel expenses to their dental appointments. Please call Kelly Aughney 406-444-3182 or have your patient call 1-800-292-7114 for prior authorization.

**Do you have a concern about a patient or a patient's caregiver?** One of the goals of AbCd Montana is to assist families in developing good dental service consumer behavior. If you have a patient whose caregiver is having difficulty keeping scheduled appointments, being on time or other challenging behavior we would like to help. Please call Kelly Aughney 406-444-3182.

**Do you have questions about coding for dental services?** Call us, we can help you. Please call Kelly Aughney 406-444-3182.

**Are you having difficulty with a claim?** Jan Paulsen, the AbCd Montana liaison will act as an advocate for you. Please call with any claim questions or concerns 406-444-3182.

**Do you need initial AbCd Montana certification or a refresher?** Go to [www.BrightSmilesMontana.com](http://www.BrightSmilesMontana.com) for details on initial or refresher AbCd Montana certification.

**Do you need additional information on young child oral health or information about AbCd Montana?** Please access [www.BrightSmilesMontana.com](http://www.BrightSmilesMontana.com)

For answers to these questions and for help with all AbCd Montana related inquiries, please call  
**Kelly Aughney (406) 444-3182**

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