

RE: Request for Coverage of Hydroxyapatite Varnish

Dear _____,

I am writing to you today to advocate for the inclusion of hydroxyapatite varnish as a covered benefit for your dental insurance plans. As a dentist with many years of clinical experience, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of this material on my patients oral health.

Hydroxyapatite varnish offers a safe and effective, minimally invasive approach to arresting and remineralizing early cavitations. Unlike traditional fillings, which require local anesthetic and drilling, and often sedation and general anesthesia, varnish can be applied topically during follow-up and routine checkups to manage disease just like fluoride vanishes. This not only reduces the need for more invasive procedures but also creates a positive dental experience for young patients, fostering a lifelong commitment to oral health.

In my practice, the use of hydroxyapatite varnish has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of fillings and crowns I place on my patients. This translates to fewer anesthesia visits, reduced treatment time, and ultimately, a lower overall cost for both patients and insurance providers. Additionally, by arresting the progression of cavities early, we can prevent the need for more extensive and expensive restorative procedures down the line. Hydroxyapatite has also been shown to help modulate and optimize the oral microbiome, something fluoride cannot do.

Here's a breakdown of the positive impact I've observed:

- **Reduced Number of Fillings:** Since incorporating hydroxyapatite varnish into my practice, I have seen a significant decrease in the number of fillings placed on patients.
- **Fewer Anesthesia Visits:** The painless application of varnish eliminates the need for anesthesia in many cases, reducing anxiety and creating a more positive dental experience for young patients.
- **Early Intervention:** Varnish allows for early intervention, stopping the progression of cavities before they require more invasive procedures.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recognizes hydroxyapatite varnish as a valuable tool for caries prevention. By including coverage for code D2991, _____ would be demonstrating a commitment to proactive oral healthcare for children and adults, ultimately leading to a healthier and more cost-effective approach to dentistry.

I urge you to strongly consider adding hydroxyapatite varnish to your list of covered benefits. I am

confident that this decision would have a significant positive impact on the oral health of your patients.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to provide any further information, research, or answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Kalyssa Bontrager

Kalyssa Bontrager, D.D.S.

General Dentist / Owner

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