

# Sealant Receipt on Permanent First Molars (SFM)

## 2024 PAPM Oral Health Performance Measures

### Importance of Dental Sealant Application

Aetna Better Health® Kids wants to help our members keep their teeth healthy. Aside from daily brushing, routine preventive oral healthcare with a dentist that includes services such as sealant application to permanent first molars can ensure this. Aetna Better Health Kids measures this care through the PAPM Oral Health Performance Measure - Sealant Receipt On Permanent First Molars (SFM).

### PAPM Measure Description

This performance measure assesses the percentage of enrolled children who have ever received sealants on permanent first molar teeth.

Two rates are reported:

- At least one sealant in the 48 months prior to their 10th birthday
- All four molars sealed in the 48 months prior to their 10th birthday

### Eligible Population

Enrolled children turning 10 years old in the Measurement Year (MY)

### Exclusions

Children that have any of the following services on all four of their permanent first molars in the 48 months prior to their 10th birthday will not be included in the measure:

- Members who receive Preventive Resin Restoration
- Members who have any Restorative service (including Occlusal Tooth Surface Restoration)
- Members who have any Endodontic service
- Members that have any Extractions
- Members that have any Prosthodontic service

### Capturing Care

Sealants provided by a dental practitioner are identified administratively in claims data using the following code:

Code Class	Codes	Service Description
CDT	D1351	Sealant — per tooth (20 years of age or younger)

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Please be sure to indicate also that the sealant was applied to a permanent first molar:

Tooth Number Code	Tooth Name
3	Permanent Maxillary Right First Molar
14	Permanent Maxillary Left First Molar
19	Permanent Mandibular Left First Molar
30	Permanent Mandibular Right First Molar

### Strategies for Increasing Sealant Application for Children Treating at Your Office

- If transportation is an issue for keeping appointments offer some of the following resources in the state of Pennsylvania.
  - Medical Assistance Transportation: Member can call in to Aetna Better Health Kids Special Needs Unit at 1-855-346-9828 for assistance.
  - Refer parents to school based dental programs in their area so their child can be seen during the school day.
- Begin educating parents on the importance of sealant application on their child's first permanent molars from the time they initiate care in your office:
  - Typically, children should get sealants on their permanent molars and premolars as soon as these teeth come in. In this way, the sealants can protect the teeth through the cavity-prone years of ages 6 to 14.
- Partner with the health plan on member outreach and education regarding sealants and why they are important, how they are applied, and that this service is covered by the health plan!
  - Set up events where education on oral health and sealants are offered as well as scheduling with patients the get sealants applied.
- Partner with local pediatric offices and educate families on the linkage between good oral health and physical health.