

Dental Integration in Pediatric Primary Care: A Mixed Method Study



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PURPOSE

- Compare age of first dental visit between children who did and did not receive preventive oral health services at their primary medical home
- Understand pediatrician's attitudes, beliefs, and barriers to the implementation of oral health integration

METHODS

Quantitative

- Retrospective claims data from Medicaid-enrolled children 1-5 years of age in Ohio
- Exposure: physician-applied fluoride varnish (PAFV)
- 1° outcome: age of first dental visit
- 2° outcomes: subsequent dental utilization
- T-test

Qualitative

- 10 semi-structured interviews with pediatricians in rural and metro Ohio
- Inductive thematic analysis

RESULTS

Receipt of FV by physician	N	Mean Age, y (95% CI)	Pr > t
No	15593	4.9 (4.8, 4.9)	<.0001
Yes	2082	4.1 (4.0, 4.2)	

- PAFV group had lower frequency of caries-related dental treatment visits (40% vs. 59%)

Oral health integration in pediatric primary care is associated with dental visits at a younger age.

Pediatricians desire oral health provider integration, but significant barriers exist.

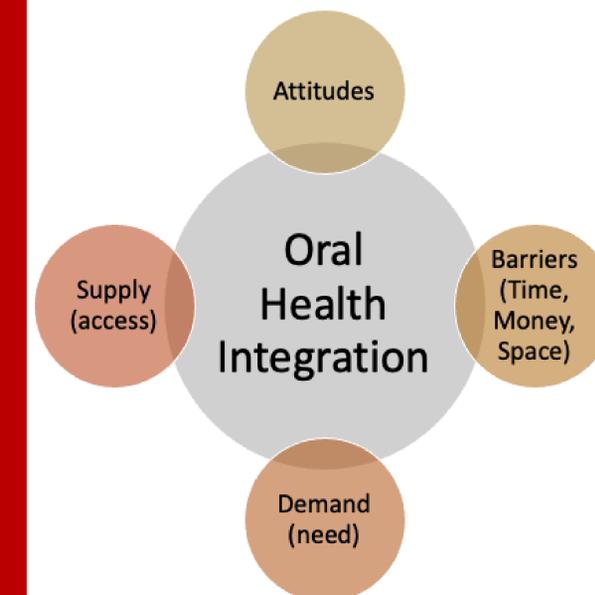
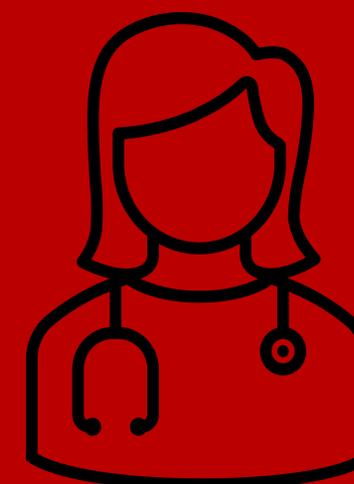


Figure 1. Thematic summary of qualitative interviews regarding barriers and drivers of oral health integration into primary care

Scan to access interview guide and references.



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Disclaimer

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