# **Survey of Dental Caries Prevention: Dental Hygienists**

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. Your confidential answers will be used by the HealthEfficient team to develop continuing education and other intervention programs for dentists and dental team members to improve the oral health of the public.

1.	In the past year have you had child patients (ECC)?  ☐ Yes ☐ No	6 months to	o 3 years of ag	ge present v	vith early chi	ldhood car	ies
2.	In your opinion, what are <b>three</b> main challenges a practitioner experiences with a child patient 6 months to 3 years of age who has early childhood caries or ECC? <b>(Select THREE)</b> Child is in pain at visit  Child has difficult behavioral issues  Child does not return for follow-up care  Child (parent) is frequently a no-show  Parent/caregiver does not follow my instructions  Child's teeth always needs cleaning  Parent/caregiver does not seem to care about child's oral health  I don't feel adequately trained to treat these cases  Parent/caregiver continues to give sweet drinks in child's bottle or sippy cup  Parent/caregiver will not accept the recommended fluoride regimen  I don't encounter problems  Other, please explain						
3.	How effective do you think each of the follo years of age?	wing is for p	oreventing de	ntal caries ir	n children 6 ı	months to	3
	Effectiveness for Children	Not	Somewhat		Very	Don't	
	Age 6 months to 3 years of age	Effective	Effective	Effective	Effective	Know	
	Community Water Fluoridation						
	Dietary fluoride drop/tablets						
	Fluoride dentifrices						
	Fluoride varnish						
	Cleaning infant's mouth						
	Toothbrushing without a fluoride dentifrice						
	Routine dental care						
	Professional prophylaxis						
	Silver diamine fluoride						

4.	their home use?  Yes  No
5.	Do you ask the source of drinking water for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
6.	Do you recommend your child patients 6 months to 3 years of age drink tap water?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
7.	Do you routinely assess dental caries risk factors for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  (If no, skip to question 9)  ☐ Yes ☐ No
8.	Which of the following caries risk factors do you use for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  (Select all that apply.)    Frequency of dental visits   Child has special health care needs   Child's exposure to fluoride   Child has decay   Times per day child's teeth are brushed   Socio-economic status of child's parents   Mother's history of caries   Daily between-meal exposures to cavity producing food   Visible plaque   Presence of enamel demineralization   New lesions since last visit   Other, please explain
9.	Do you discuss with pregnant patients or women of child-bearing age the importance of good oral health and how it may impact the health of their newborn?  Yes  No
10.	Do you discuss oral care for a newborn infant with your pregnant patients?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
11.	Do you provide caries prevention education to parents/caregivers of children 6 months to 3 years of age? (If no, skip to question 13)  Yes No

	How frequently do you provide caries prevention education years of age?  At initial visit  As needed  At every visit  Other, please explain		
13.	What topics do you include in caries prevention education to 3 years of age? (Select all that apply.)	n for parents/caregiver	rs of children 6 months
	Торіс	Children ages 0-18 months	Children ages 19-36 months
	Toothbrushing instruction		
	Cleaning infant's mouth/gums		
	Flossing instruction		
	Use of fluoride varnish		
	Fluoride drops/tablets		
	Prevention of early childhood caries		
	Community water fluoridation		
	Mechanism of fluoride action		
	Nutrition/sugar reduction		
	Use of fluoride dentifrice		
	Use of silver diamine fluoride		
	Other, please specify		
14.	Is it your clinic policy to provide motivational interviewing  ☐ Yes ☐ No	to families of young p	patients?
15.	Is it your clinic policy to set self-management goals with fa ☐ Yes ☐ No	amilies of young patier	nts?

16. Please indicate the extent to which you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
It is desirable to use professionally applied					
fluorides for all children in areas without					
fluoridated water.					
The most important mechanism of action					
of fluoride is that it is incorporated into					
developing teeth to make them more resistant to acid demineralization.					
The increased use of bottled water					
increases tooth decay among young			П		
children.	_	_	_	_	_
Levels of salivary microorganisms may	П	П	П	П	П
indicate levels of caries risk or activity.	Ц	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Dental caries is a chronic, infectious					
disease process.	_				_
Dilute, frequently administered fluorides					
are more effective in caries prevention					
than more concentrated, less frequently administered fluorides.					
The most important mechanism of action					
of fluoride is the remineralization of					
incipient decay.			_	_	
Quantity of sugar consumed is more					
important in causing caries than frequency	<i>'</i> □				
of sugar consumption.					
Fructose, glucose and sucrose are	П	П	П	П	П
cariogenic.				Ц	
Decreased salivary flow increases the risk					
for developing caries.		_	_		
Removal of plaque is more valuable for					
maintaining gingival health than for preventing caries.					
preventing caries.					

17.	17. During a typical workweek, how often do you use the following communication techniques with your patients?						h your	
				Always	Most of the time	Occasion- ally	Rarely	Don't Know
	Ask patients to repinstructions	eat back informa	tion or					
	Speak slowly							
	Limit the number of a time to 2-3	of concepts prese	nted at					
	Ask patients to tell home to follow ins	-	ill do at					
	Use simple langua	ge						
	Hand out printed r	materials						
	Underline key poir	nts on print mater	ials					
	Write or print out	instructions						
	Draw pictures or u	se printed illustra	tions					
	Refer patients to t sources of informa	ition						
	Ask assistant or ot up with patients for							
	Use video or DVD							
18.	Some clinicians beli can prevent ECC in		prevent E	CC among	their Medica	id patients. F	low sure are	you that you
	Very Sure □	Somewhat Sure	Somewhat Unsure		Very Unsure	Don't Know □		
19.	When treating preg appointments.	nant women, I as	k her whet	her she is	attending red	commended	prenatal me	edical
	Always	Most of the time □		sionally	Rarel <sup>,</sup>	у		
20.	When our dental te appointment was.	am learns a patie	nt is pregn	ant, we a	sk when her la	ast prenatal r	nedical	
	Always □	Most of the time □		sionally	Rarel <sup>,</sup> □	у		

21.	(Select all that apply		nas not nad a prenata	ii medicai visit, we:	
	☐ Explain to her that	at prenatal visits a	re important for her h	ealth and her baby's	health
	☐ Refer her to an C	* *			
	☐ Help her make ar	n appointment wit	th the OB		
	☐ Other, please exp	olain			
22.	We recommend wor	men with infants 6	6 months to 3 years of	age take their child f	or well-baby visits.
		Most of			
	Always	the time	Occasionally	Rarely	
23.	We consult with pre	natal providers re <b>Most of</b>	garding mutual patien	ts.	
	Always	the time	Occasionally	Rarely	
24.	We have established	l relationships and	d a referral process wit	h prenatal providers.	
	Always	Most of the time □	Occasionally	Rarely	
Tell	us about you.				
25.	Excluding dental hyg ☐ Yes ☐ No	iene school, have	you ever taken a cour	se on communication	n skills?
26.	How would you rate  Very good Good Poor Very poor Not sure	your dental hygie	ene school training reg	arding dental caries p	orevention?
27.	Where did you recei ☐ In the United Star ☐ Outside the Unite	tes	giene education?		
28.	How many years has  ☐ Less than 5 years  ☐ 6-10 years  ☐ 11-20 years  ☐ More than 20 years		graduated from denta	al hygiene school?	

29.	What is your gender?  ☐ Female  ☐ Male  ☐ Other, please specify
30.	Are you Hispanic/Latino?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
31.	What is your race ethnicity? <b>(Select all that apply.)</b> ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  ☐ Asian  ☐ Black or African American  ☐ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  ☐ White  ☐ Unknown

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This publication was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of cooperative agreement number UK7MC33231. This information or content and conclusions are those of TOHF project staff and should not be construed as the official policy of HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. government, nor should any endorsements be inferred.

# **Survey of Dental Caries Prevention: Dental Hygienists Scoring Rubric**

This document describes how to score the Dental Survey.

- The survey has 31 questions.
- The demographic and informational questions are not scored.
  - o Demographic and informational questions: 1, 2, 18, 25-31
- The scoring for each question is explained below the question.
- The correct answer for each question is high-lighted in yellow.

## Max possible score:

# **Survey of Dental Caries Prevention: Dental Hygienists**

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. Your confidential answers will be used by the HealthEfficient team to develop continuing education and other intervention programs for dentists and dental team members to improve the oral health of the public.

1.	In the past year have you had child patients 6 months to 3 years of age present with early childhood caries (ECC)?  ☐ Yes ☐ No NOT Scored (informational)							
2.	In your opinion, what are <b>three</b> main challenges a practitioner experiences with a child patient 6 months to 3 years of age who has early childhood caries or ECC? <b>(Select THREE)</b> Child is in pain at visit  Child has difficult behavioral issues  Child does not return for follow-up care  Child (parent) is frequently a no-show  Parent/caregiver does not follow my instructions  Child's teeth always needs cleaning  Parent/caregiver does not seem to care about child's oral health  I don't feel adequately trained to treat these cases  Parent/caregiver continues to give sweet drinks in child's bottle or sippy cup  Parent/caregiver will not accept the recommended fluoride regimen  I don't encounter problems  Other, please explain  NOT Scored (informational)							
3.	How effective do you think each of the follo years of age?	wing is for p	oreventing de	ntal caries ir	n children 6 ı	months to 3		
	Effectiveness for Children	Not Effective	Somewhat	Effective	Very Effective	Don't		
	Age 6 months to 3 years of age Community Water Fluoridation		Effective			Know		
	Dietary fluoride drop/tablets				_	П		
	Fluoride dentifrices							
	Fluoride varnish							
	Cleaning infant's mouth							
	Toothbrushing without a fluoride dentifrice							
	Routine dental care					_		
	Professional prophylaxis							
	Silver diamine fluoride							
	SCORING: Each correct response is scored 1			_				
	'Very Effective' are correct. Scores can range		terns I T unu	J, response	S ST CITIES L	convc or		

4.	Do you recommend fluoride products (tablets, drops, toothpaste) for patients 6 months to 3 years of age for their home use?  Yes  No SCORE: Yes = 1; No = 0
5.	Do you ask the source of drinking water for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No = 0
6.	Do you recommend your child patients 6 months to 3 years of age drink tap water?  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No = 0
7.	Do you routinely assess dental caries risk factors for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  (If no, skip to question 9)  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No = 0
8.	Which of the following caries risk factors do you use for your patients 6 months to 3 years of age?  (Select all that apply.)  Frequency of dental visits  Child has special health care needs  Child's exposure to fluoride  Child has decay  Times per day child's teeth are brushed  Socio-economic status of child's parents  Mother's history of caries  Daily between-meal exposures to cavity producing food  Visible plaque  Presence of enamel demineralization  New lesions since last visit  Other, please explain  SCORE: Each item selected is scored 1 point. 'Other' = 0. Scores can range from 0-11.
9.	Do you discuss with pregnant patients or women of child-bearing age the importance of good oral health and how it may impact the health of their newborn?  Yes  No SCORE: Yes = 1; No =0
10.	Do you discuss oral care for a newborn infant with your pregnant patients?  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No =0

11.	Do you provide caries prevention education to age? (If no, skip to question 13)  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No =0	o parents/caregive	ers of child	dren 6 months to 3	3 years of	
12.	How frequently do you provide caries prevent years of age?  ☐ At initial visit	tion education to	parents/c	aregivers of childro	en 6 month	s to 3
	☐ As needed ☐ At every visit					
	☐ Other, please explain  SCORE: At every visit = 1; all other items = 0					
13.	What topics do you include in caries prevention to 3 years of age? (Select all that apply.)  Topic	on education for p  Children ages	arents/ca	regivers of childre  Children ages	n 6 months	;
		0-18 months	<mark>Score</mark>	19-36 months	Score	
	Toothbrushing instruction		1		1	
	Clean infant's mouth/gums		1		0	
	Flossing instruction		0		0	
	Use of fluoride varnish		1		1	
	Fluoride drops/tablets		1		1	
	Prevention of early childhood caries		1		1	
	Community water fluoridation		1		1	
	Mechanism of fluoride action		1		1	
	Nutrition/sugar reduction		1		<mark>1</mark>	
	Use of fluoride dentifrice		1		1	
	Use of silver diamine fluoride		<mark>1</mark>		<mark>1</mark>	
	Other, please specify					
	SCORE: Correct responses are indicated in the 'Other' is not scored. Scores can range from 0 know if the clinic is in an area with communi with CWF, not checking this item is correct. If be checked. Scores can range from 0-22.	to 22. For item #5 ty water fluoridat	5 (fluoride :i <mark>on (CWF</mark>	drops/tablets), w ). If respondent pr	<mark>e will need</mark> actices in a	<mark>l to</mark> in area
14.	Is it your clinic policy to provide motivational  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No =0	interviewing to fa	milies of y	oung patients?		
15.	Is it your clinic policy to set self-management  ☐ Yes ☐ No SCORE: Yes = 1; No =0	goals with familie	s of young	g patients?		

16. Please indicate the extent to which you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
It is desirable to use professionally applied fluorides for all children in areas without fluoridated water.	□ <mark>2</mark>	□ <mark>1</mark>	□ <mark>0</mark>	□ <mark>0</mark>	□ <mark>0</mark>
The most important mechanism of action of fluoride is that it is incorporated into developing teeth to make them more resistant to acid demineralization.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	0
The increased use of bottled water increases tooth decay among young children.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	1
Levels of salivary microorganisms may indicate levels of caries risk or activity.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	0	<mark>0</mark>
Dental caries is a chronic, infectious disease process.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>
Dilute, frequently administered fluorides are more effective in caries prevention than more concentrated, less frequently administered fluorides.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	1
The most important mechanism of action of fluoride is the remineralization of incipient decay.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>
Quantity of sugar consumed is more important in causing caries than frequency of sugar consumption.	⁄	□ <mark>0</mark>	□ <mark>0</mark>	□ 1	□ <mark>0</mark>
Fructose, glucose and sucrose are cariogenic.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>
Decreased salivary flow increases the risk for developing caries.	_ _ 2	□ 1	 0	 0	 
Removal of plaque is more valuable for maintaining gingival health than for preventing caries.	□	□	□	□	□
	<mark>2</mark>	<mark>1</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>	<mark>0</mark>

SCORE: Score each response as indicated. Scores can range from 0 to 27.

17.	17. During a typical workweek, how often do you use the following communication techniques with your patients?							
				Always	Most of the time	Occasion- ally	Rarely	Don't Know
	Ask patients to reinstructions	epeat back informa	tion or					
	Speak slowly							
	Limit the numbe a time to 2-3	r of concepts prese	nted at					
	Ask patients to to home to follow i	ell you what they w nstructions	ill do at					
	Use simple langu	ıage						
	Hand out printed	d materials						
	Underline key po	oints on print mater	ials					
	Write or print ou	it instructions						
	Draw pictures or	use printed illustra	itions					
	Refer patients to sources of inform	the internet or oth	ner					
		other office staff to for post-care instru						
	Use video or DVI	•						
18.	O. Scores can rang	elieve that they can						
	Very Sure □ Not Scored (In	Somewhat Sure  Gormational)	Somewha Unsure	-	Very Unsure □	Don't Know □		
19.	When treating preappointments.	egnant women, I as	k her wheth	ner she is	attending re	commended	prenatal m	edical
	Always	Most of the time	Occas	ionally	Rarel	у		
	Score each respor	nse as follows: Alwa	ys = 3; Mos	t of the t	ime = 2, Occa	isionally = 1; I	Rarely = 0.	

20.	When our dental team learns a patient is pregnant, we ask when her last prenatal medical appointment was.				
	Always	Most of the time	Occasionally	Rarely	
	Score each response	as follows: Alway	s = 3; Most of the time	= 2, Occasionally = 1	.; Rarely = 0.
21.	(Select all that apply ☐ Explain to her that ☐ Refer her to an C	<b>7.)</b> at prenatal visits a B for an appointn			health
	☐ Help her make ar	n appointment wit	th the OB		
	☐ Other, please exp	olain			
	For the first three ite	ems, score each se	elected item as 1 point.	'Other' = 0.	
22.	We recommend wor	men with infants 6	5 months to 3 years of a	age take their child fo	or well-baby visits
		Most of			
	Always	the time	Occasionally	Rarely	
					. Darrah . — O
	score each response	as follows: Alway	s = 3; Most of the time	= 2, Occasionally = 1	.; <b>kare</b> ly = 0.
23.	·	Most of	garding mutual patient		
	Always	the time	Occasionally	Rarely	
				2 0	Danah. O
24.			s = 3; Most of the time		
	Always	Most of the time □	Occasionally	Rarely	
	Score each response	as follows: Alway	rs = 3; Most of the time	= 2, Occasionally = 1	.; Rarely = 0.
	us about you. e demographic quest	ions are not soore	a.		
IIICS	e demographic quest	ions are not score	u.		
25.	Excluding dental hyg ☐ Yes ☐ No	iene school, have	you ever taken a cours	e on communication	skills?
26.	How would you rate  Very good Good Poor Very poor	your dental hygie	ne school training rega	rding dental caries p	revention?

27.	Where did you receive your dental hygiene education?
	☐ In the United States
	☐ Outside the United States
28.	How many years has it been since you graduated from dental hygiene school?  Less than 5 years  6-10 years  11-20 years  More than 20 years
29.	What is your gender?  ☐ Female  ☐ Male  ☐ Other, please specify
30.	Are you Hispanic/Latino?
	☐ Yes
	□ No
31.	What is your race ethnicity? <b>(Select all that apply.)</b> ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  ☐ Asian
	☐ Black or African American
	☐ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
	☐ White
	□ Unknown

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