

Healthy North Carolina 2020
EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES

FOCUS AREA	Oral Health
OBJECTIVE	3. Decrease the percentage of adults who have had permanent teeth removed due to tooth decay or gum disease

EBS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	Community water fluoridation
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EBS LEVEL <i>CDC Ranking</i>	B = Best/Proven
REFERENCE/CITATION <i>Data Supporting Level/Ranking</i>	www.thecommunityguide.org/oral/fluoridation.html

PROGRAM ATTRIBUTES	
Influence Level	Community
Target Population	All ages
Intervention Setting	Drinking water
Key Measures	Water fluoridation benefits all who drink the water, reducing tooth decay by 20-40 percent. It has been proven to be safe and cost effective. Eighty-eight percent of North Carolina's population who are on community water systems receive the benefits of fluoridation.
Cost	The annual cost for a U.S. community to fluoridate its water is estimated to range from approximately \$0.50 per person in large communities to approximately \$3 per person in small communities. The average lifetime cost per person is less than the cost of one dental filling.
Time to Implement	<u>Organization</u> : One year
Difficulty to Implement <i>Resource Intensity</i>	Moderate. In some areas, a small but vocal group may try to prevent implementation of or work to discontinue community water fluoridation.
ROI <i>if known</i>	One dollar invested in community water fluoridation saves \$8 to \$49 in treatment costs, depending on the size of the community. Saves more than \$4.6 billion annually in dental costs in the United States.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION	
Organization	NC DHHS, Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section
Contact Person	Kevin Buchholtz, DDS, Acting Chief, Oral Health Section
Email / Telephone	Kevin.Buchholtz@dhhs.nc.gov (336) 294-4591
Web Site	www.ncdhhs.gov/dph/oralhealth/services/fluoride.htm

CURRENT NC-DPH SUPPORT	
T.A. – Yes/No <i>Specific group? Other limitations?</i>	Yes
T.A. Contact	Kevin.Buchholtz@dhhs.nc.gov (336) 294-4591
Funding – Yes/No <i>Specific group? Other limitations?</i>	Yes. Community water systems implementing fluoridation or updating fluoridation equipment.
Funding Contact	Kevin.Buchholtz@dhhs.nc.gov (336) 294-4591

EBS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED BY / NC EXAMPLES	
#1 – Organization Name / Contact Information	
#2 – Organization Name / Contact Information	
#3 – Organization Name / Contact Information	

OTHER COMMENTS / NOTES
Information on fluoridation is available. Limited funding available to assist with community water fluoridation

Healthy North Carolina 2020
EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES

FOCUS AREA	Oral Health
OBJECTIVE	3. Decrease the percentage of adults who have had permanent teeth removed due to tooth decay or gum disease

EBS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	Preventive dental sealants
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EBS LEVEL <i>CDC Ranking</i>	B = Best/Proven
REFERENCE/CITATION <i>Data Supporting Level/Ranking</i>	www.thecommunityguide.org/oral/schoolsealants.html jada.ada.org/content/139/3/257.abstract

PROGRAM ATTRIBUTES	
Influence Level	Individual
Target Population	Children at high risk for tooth decay, shortly after the eruption of permanent molars
Intervention Setting	Dental clinic, either in a school setting or a dental office
Key Measures	Dental sealants have been proven to be safe and cost effective when targeted to children at high risk for tooth decay. The Oral Health Section monitors the proportion of children with dental sealants on an annual basis. Currently, 44 percent of North Carolina fifth grade children have sealants.
Cost	The NC Medicaid program reimburses \$28 per sealant.
Time to Implement	<u>Organization</u> : with established program, one month; for a startup, to staff and purchase equipment, one year <u>Patient/Client</u> : About 10 minutes per sealant
Difficulty to Implement <i>Resource Intensity</i>	Moderate. Isolation and clinical technique are critical to assure good retention
ROI <i>if known</i>	Sealants are a proven decay preventive strategy. CDC states that school-based dental sealant programs are cost-saving when delivered to populations at high risk for tooth decay, such as children in low-income households.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION	
Organization	NC DHHS, Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section
Contact Person	Martha S. Taylor, RDH, MBA, MHA, Prevention and School Health Coordinator,
Email / Telephone	Martha.Taylor@dhhs.nc.gov / 919.707.5492
Web Site	www.ncdhhs.gov/dph/oralhealth/services/sealants.htm

CURRENT NC-DPH SUPPORT	
T.A. – Yes/No Specific group? Other limitations?	Yes
T.A. Contact	Martha.Taylor@dhhs.nc.gov / 919.707.5492
Funding – Yes/No Specific group? Other limitations?	No
Funding Contact	

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#3 – Organization Name / Contact Information	

OTHER COMMENTS / NOTES
For information on portable dental equipment: NC Oral Health Section Danny Stafford, OHS Dental Equipment Technician Supervisor Danny.Stafford@dhhs.nc.gov / 828.467.3084,