

## School Fluoride Varnish Delivery Programs

### Summary Evidence Table

#### Abbreviations Used in this Document

##### Dental Abbreviations

1M: First molar

2M: Second molar

DFS: Decayed (cavitated) and filled tooth surfaces

DiFS: Decayed (including incipient lesions) and filled permanent tooth surfaces

DiMFS: Decayed (including incipient lesions), missing and filled permanent tooth surfaces

DiMFT: Decayed (including incipient lesions), missing, and filled permanent teeth

DMFS: Decayed (cavitated), missing, and filled permanent tooth surfaces

dfs: Decayed (cavitated) and filled primary tooth surfaces

difs: Decayed (including incipient lesions) and filled primary tooth surfaces

dimfs: Decayed (including incipient lesions), missing, and filled primary tooth surfaces

dimft: Decayed (including incipient lesions), missing, and filled primary teeth

dmfs: Decayed (cavitated), missing, and filled primary tooth surfaces

dmft: Decayed, (cavitated) missing, and filled primary teeth

ds: Untreated decayed (cavitated) primary tooth surfaces

##### Other Abbreviations

AOR: Adjusted odds ratio

Apps: Number of annual applications

BL: Baseline

Calculated: Adjusted by authors for consistent measures across studies

CT: Controlled before-after study design

FU: Follow-up

FV: Fluoride varnish

M: Month

NA: Information not available from study

OH: Oral health

PF: Preventive fraction

RCT: Randomized controlled trial

RR: Relative risk ratio

SD: Standard deviation

SES: Socio-economic status

Tx: Treatment

C: Control

Y: year

## Notes

- Prevalence: % of students with at least one affected tooth
- Percentage: % of teeth or tooth surfaces with caries
- Mean: number of teeth or tooth surfaces affected per student
- Incidence: Prevalence or percentage at FU – Prevalence or percentage at BL
- Increment: Mean at FU – Mean at BL
- Relative ratio or risk: Incidence or increment for Tx / Incidence or increment for C
- Only 1 effect measure per study was used in synthesizing evidence across studies. The following criteria were used to select measure in studies with multiple effect measures:
  - Longest FU period
  - Highest application frequency
  - Measure caries at surface vs. tooth level if available
  - Use increment vs. person level incidence if available
  - Include incipient decay in caries measure if available
- Suitability of design includes three categories: greatest, moderate, or least suitable design.
- Quality of Execution: Studies are assessed to have good, fair, or limited quality of execution.
- Participation rate is the number of students receiving intervention treatment divided by number targeted for intervention
- Attrition: Number of students at FU exam divided by number of students at BL
- Statistically significant if  $p < 0.05$
- The Community Guide only summarizes race/ethnicity for studies conducted in the United States

| <b>Study</b>                             | <b>Population Characteristics</b>                           | <b>Intervention Characteristics</b> | <b>Results</b>  |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Author, Year:<br>Abreu-Placeres,<br>2019 | Country: Dominican Republic<br>Country Income: Upper-middle | Setting: School-<br>based           | Difference in FV receipt: NA<br><br>Caries Initiation |

| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Study Design: RCT<br/>Unit of randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Eligibility: age 6 to 7 Y; at least one sound erupting permanent 1M; no systemic condition; verbal consent to participate; and behavior allowed dental evaluation and treatment.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention 2 apps per Y: 60<br/>Intervention 4 apps per Y: 60<br/>Control: 60<br/>Attrition: 12.8%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: 6 to 7 Y, mean=6.58 Y<br/>Female: 51%<br/>SES: Low<br/>Urbanicity: urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: "Low"</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Percentage of 1M with Di=29.1%</p> | <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV apps per Y:<br/>2 and 4</p> <p>Other Services: OH education and diet counseling; tooth brushing training; toothbrush/ fluoride toothpaste every 3 M; and referrals for dental care for cavitated lesions</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>negative (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period:<br/>2015 to 2016</p> <p>Study funded by:<br/>Colgate-Palmolive</p> | <p>Dentition: Erupting sound permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 12 M<br/>Outcome: incidence % of permanent 1M surfaces with untreated including incipient decay</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>Adjusted odds ratio (AOR):<br/>2 apps<br/>AOR C vs Tx: 1.06 (95% CI: 0.84 to 1.34; p = 0.638)<br/>Calculated Tx vs C:<br/>1/1.06=0.943<br/>4 apps<br/>AOR C vs Tx:1.46 (95% CI: 1.18 to 1.81; p&lt;0.001)<br/>Calculated Tx vs C:<br/>1/1.46=0.684</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Arruda et al;<br/>2012</p>  | <p>Country: Brazil<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility:</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Dentist<br/>FV apps Y: 2</p>  | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation</p>   |

| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Study Design: RCT<br/>Unit of randomization: School<br/><br/>Suitability of Design: Greatest<br/><br/>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Consent by parent and child; no orofacial congenital anomaly</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 198<br/>Control: 181<br/>Attrition: 44.6%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=9.14 Y; Range: 7 to 14 Y<br/>% Female: 54:<br/>SES: 25% in poverty<br/>Urbanicity: Rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Mean DiFS: Intervention: 6.15;<br/>Control: 5.59</p> | <p>Other services:<br/>OH education provided to Tx and C groups</p> <p>Comparison: placebo</p> <p>Study period:<br/>January 2006 to December 2007</p> <p>Funding: University of Michigan Office of Vice President and Research Faculty Grants and Awards program funding and by A.O. Arruda Foundation</p> | <p>Dentition: All permanent teeth</p> <p>FU: 12 M<br/>Outcome: DiFS increment<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>C: 7.72<br/>Tx: 4.61<br/>PF was 40% (95%CI: 34.3–45.7%)<br/>Calculated RR=0.60</p> <p>Adverse effects: None reported</p> |
| <p>Author, Year: Autio-Gold et al; 2001<br/><br/>Study Design: RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization:</p>                                       | <p>Country: USA<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Children from 10 Head Start schools were invited to participate</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):</p>  | <p>Setting: School based and linked</p> <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: NA</p>   | <p>Difference in FV Receipt: NA</p> <p>Dentition: All primary teeth<br/>FU: 9 months<br/>Caries Initiation<br/>Outcome: Mean dmfs<br/>Effectiveness:</p>  |

| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Intervention: 68<br/>Control: 115<br/>Attrition: 19.1%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 82.4%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=5.5 Y; Range: 3 to 5 Y<br/>% Female: 54%<br/>SES: NA<br/>Race/ethnicity:<br/>African-American: Tx: 71.2%, C: 72.8%<br/>White: Tx: 25.4%, C: 24.7%<br/>Hispanic: Tx: 1.7%, C: 1.2%<br/>Asian: Tx: 1.7%, C: 1.2%<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban and rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: Yes</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: NA</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Mean dmfs (SD): Intervention, 2.51 (4.02); Control 2.58 (3.27)</p> | <p>Comparison:<br/>Negative</p> <p>Study Period:<br/>Prior to 2001</p> <p>Study Funded by:<br/>NA</p> | <p>Mean dmfs: Tx 2.51 at BL and 3.05 at FU; C 2.58 at BL and 4.05 at FU; increment Tx 0.54 vs. C 1.47</p> <p>Difference in mean dmfs for Tx vs. C significant at FU (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>) but not at BL</p> <p>Calculated RR: 0.37</p> <p>Caries Progression<br/>Outcome: % incipient lesions progressing to dentin</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>Tx 2.4% vs. C 3.6% (<math>p &lt; 0.0001</math>)<br/>Calculated RR=0.67</p> <p>Caries Regression<br/>Outcome: % active incipient lesions becoming inactive<br/>Tx 81.2% vs. C 37.8% (<math>P &lt; 0.0001</math>)<br/>Calculated RR=2.15</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Bergstrom et al, 2014</p>  | <p>Country: Sweden<br/>Country Income: High</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based</p>  | <p>Difference in FV Receipt:<br/>NA</p>  |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Study Design: RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Eligibility: Children who started sixth grade in 2005, 2006 and 2007 from seven secondary schools. No exclusion criteria reported</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 381<br/>Control: 331<br/>Attrition: 16.6%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 84.3%</p> <p>Demographics:<br/>Age: Mean=NA;<br/>Range: 12-16 Y<br/>% Female: 49%<br/>SES: 7% from high-risk, 40% from-medium risk and 53% from low-risk areas based on socioeconomic index<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: NA</p> <p>Access to Dental Care:<br/>Adolescents took part in dental checkups at public dental clinic at 18 month intervals</p> | <p>Provider: Dental nurses or hygienist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: supervised tooth brushing without any toothpaste every 6 months</p> <p>Comparison: Negative</p> <p>Study Period<sup>1</sup>: Prior to 2008-2011</p> <p>Study Funded by: NA</p> | <p>Dentition: Permanent (from distal surface of canine to mesial surface of 2Ms)<br/>FU: 42 M<br/>Caries Initiation:<br/>Outcome: Mean DiFS in approximal tooth surfaces<br/>Effectiveness: Increment for Tx was 1.24 and for C was 1.31; Difference in mean for Tx vs C not statistically significant at BL (P=0.671) or FU (P=0.847).<br/>Calculated RR = 0.95</p> <p>Caries Progression<br/>Outcome: Mean incipient lesions progressing to cavitated<br/>Tx: 0.1 vs. C: 0.09 (Difference not statistically significant; P=0.765)<br/>Calculated RR=1.11</p> <p>Adverse Effects: None reported</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | BL Caries: Mean ADiFS (SD):<br>Intervention 0.9 (1.99); Control 0.76 (2.12)  |  |  |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Bergstrom et al, 2016</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>Retrospective longitudinal cohort</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Moderate</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Fair</p> | <p>Country: Sweden<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Adolescents born in 1993 and 1998 who were part of FV school program in 2003 and 2008 and those born 1993 who were not part of FV program</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 8111<br/>Control: 5831<br/>Attrition: NA</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographics:<br/>Age: Mean=NA;<br/>Range: 12-15 Y<br/>% Female: 48%<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to Dental Care:<br/>Adolescents took part in dental checkups at public dental clinic</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dental nurses</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: Two lessons on oral health and tobacco use</p> <p>Comparison: Negative</p> <p>Study Period: Intervention done in 2003 and 2008</p> <p>Study Funded by: NA</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt:<br/>Adolescents in intervention group on average received 1.98 FV treatments annually compared to 0.64 for usual care group.</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: Permanent (from distal surface of canine to mesial surface of 2Ms)</p> <p>FU: 48 M</p> <p>Outcome: Mean DiFS in approximal tooth surfaces<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Increment for Tx was 1.09 and for C was 1.6<br/>Calculated RR = 0.68.<br/>General linear models indicated differences in increments significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math>.</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | <p>at 18 month interval where they received 1 FV application.</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Mean ADiFS (SD): Intervention 0.85 (1.8); Control 1.1 (2.03)</p>  |   |  |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Braun et al, 2016</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT<br/>Unit of randomization center/classroom</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Good</p> | <p>Country: USA<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: participants from Navajo Head Start centers. Children &lt;3 y of age and caregivers unable to understand English were excluded, as were children with a fluoride varnish allergy</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 443<br/>Control: 424<br/>Attrition: 51.7%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 83.4%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Range: 3-5 (mean: 3.7)<br/>% Female: 51%<br/>SES: low<br/>Race/ethnicity: Navajo<br/>Urbanicity: Rural</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Trained community oral health specialist</p> <p>Apps per Y 4.</p> <p>Other services:<br/>Tx: 5 oral health promotion events for children and 4 for parents<br/>All participants: toothbrush and toothpaste during enrollment and follow up visits.</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>negative</p> <p>Study period:<br/>2011-2013</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: All teeth (primary and permanent reported separately)<br/>FU: 12, 24 and 36 M<br/>Outcomes: Mean DMFS, mean dmfs</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>FU 36 M:<br/>DMFS increment for Tx=1.6 vs. C=1.6<br/>Calculated RR=1</p> <p>mean dmfs increment for Tx=12.9 vs. C=10.8; calculated RR=1.19</p> <p>FU 24 M (used in stratification analysis):<br/>DMFS increment for Tx=0.4 vs. C=0.4; calculated RR=1</p> |



| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   | <p>Optimally fluoridated: NA</p> <p>Access to dental care: 89% past-year dental visit</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Mean dmfs: Intervention=19.9, Control=22.8</p> <p>Prevalence (dmfs&gt;0):<br/>Intervention=86.5%; Control=90.1%</p>   |  | <p>mean dmfs increment for Tx=8.6 vs. C=8.4; calculated RR=1.02</p> <p>FU 12 M (Used in stratification analysis):<br/>DMFS increment for Tx=0.03 vs. C=0.02; calculated RR=1.5<br/>mean dmfs increment for Tx=3.4 vs. C=4.3; calculated RR=0.79<br/>No statistically significant differences when comparing the outcomes for Tx and C groups over time from BL to FU.</p> <p>Adverse effects: None reported.</p> |
| <p>Author, Year<br/>Bravo et al; 1997</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of randomization:<br/>classroom</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Good</p> | <p>Country: Spain<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: NA</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Total 362 (3 arms: FV, negative control, and sealant; BL size by arm: NR); only used FV and control arms in analysis<br/>Attrition: 13.3%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 84% (based on 3 arms)</p> <p>Demographic:</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist and assistant<br/>Apps per Y: 2</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>negative control (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period:<br/>1990-1992</p> <p>Study funded by: NR</p> | <p>Change in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation:<br/>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 48 M<br/>Outcome: % 1M developing caries<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>RR from cox model=0.46 (p&lt;0.001)</p> <p>24 M effectiveness (used in stratification analysis)</p> <p>Caries Initiation:<br/>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 24 M</p>   |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   | <p>Age: Range: 6 to 8 (mean: 7.28)<br/>           % Female: 49<br/>           SES: low-middle<br/>           Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: low; no school-based programs</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>           Mean dft<br/>           Tx: 2.65<br/>           C: 2.63<br/>           Mean DMFT<br/>           Tx: 0.45<br/>           C: 0.56</p> |  | <p>Outcome: DMFS<br/>           Effectiveness:<br/>           Increment (fissured + non-fissured) for Tx=1.48 vs. C=2.58; statistically significant difference in increment FV vs. C from multivariable regression (P&lt;0.05)<br/>           Calculated RR=0.57</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p>  |
| <p>Author, Year<br/>           Chu et al., 2002</p> <p>Study design:<br/>           RCT</p> <p>Unit of randomization:<br/>           Student</p> <p>Suitability of design:<br/>           Greatest</p> <p>Quality of execution:<br/>           Good</p> | <p>Country: China<br/>           Country Income: Upper middle<br/>           Eligibility: Have dentin caries in upper primary anterior teeth.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>           Intervention: 73<br/>           Control: 73<br/>           Attrition: 15.8%</p> <p>Participation: NA</p> <p>Demographic</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based (preschool)</p> <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV apps per Y: 4</p> <p>Other services: OH education provided by teachers at BL and regularly throughout study</p> <p>Comparison: placebo</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries regression<br/>           Dentition: Upper primary anterior teeth (incisors and canines)<br/>           FU: 30 M<br/>           Outcome: mean ds arrested</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>           Mean ds arrested: Tx=1.54 vs. C=1.27 (difference not statistically significant);<br/>           calculated RR=1.21.</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | <p>Age: Range 3 to 5 Y; mean 4Y<br/>           % Female: 44%<br/>           SES: NA<br/>           Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: 40% had other dental care in 30 months</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>           Mean dmf upper anterior tooth surfaces = 4.66</p>  | <p>Study period: Likely 1997 to 2000</p> <p>Study funded by:<br/>           Authors report there's no conflict of interest.</p>   | <p>Adverse effects: none reported</p>  |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>           Clark et al; 1985</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>           RCT</p> <p>Unit of randomization:<br/>           Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>           Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>           Good</p> | <p>Country: Canada<br/>           Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility:<br/>           Included 6-7-year-olds attending 17 schools in non-fluoridated communities; no exclusion criteria reported</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>           Intervention: 280<br/>           Control: 275<br/>           Attrition: 9.5%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 78.7%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>           Age: Mean=NA<br/>           Range: 6 to 7 Y</p> | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>           Provider: Dental hygienist<br/>           FV apps per Y: 2<br/>           Other Services:<br/>           Every child received professional prophylaxis; fluoride dentifrice at home, while some also received daily fluoride supplements.</p> <p>Study period<sup>1</sup>:<br/>           Prior to 1984</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation 20 and 34 M FU<br/>           Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>           FU: 32 M<br/>           Outcome: Mean DMFS<br/>           Effectiveness:<br/>           Increment for Tx=2.43 vs. C=3.11; PF=21.9% (p&lt;0.05)<br/>           Calculated RR=0.78</p> <p>Dentition: Primary 1Ms and 2Ms<br/>           Outcome: mean dfs<br/>           Effectiveness:<br/>           Increment Tx: 1.49 vs. C: 2.06; PF=27.2% (not statistically significant)<br/>           Calculated RR=0.72</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | <p>% Female: NA<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: Paper states, "No attempts were made to eliminate exposure to other types of routine cavity prevention".</p> <p>BL caries: Intervention: 0.45; Control BL 0.36</p> | <p>Study funded by: Medical Research Council of Canada Grant</p>   | <p>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 20 M<br/>Outcome: Mean DMFS<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Increment for Tx=1.73 vs. C=2.02; PF=14.4% (not statistically significant);<br/>Calculated RR=0.86</p> <p>FU: 20M<br/>Dentition: Primary 1Ms and 2Ms<br/>Outcome: mean dfs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Increment Tx: 1.62 vs. C: 1.74; PF=6.9% (not statistically significant);<br/>calculated RR=0.93</p> <p>Adverse Effects: none reported</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Dudowitz, 2018</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>Before-after</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Least</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Fair</p> | <p>Country: USA<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Select high-need schools and offered services to all children with signed consent forms</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>2776</p> <p>Attrition: 77.6%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 60.0%</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: licensed member of dental team</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: 3-tier approach: 1) community wide OH education; 2) Direct</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Regression<br/>Dentition: Mixed<br/>FU: 9 M<br/>Outcome: Mean number of white/brown spots changed from 1.7 at BL to 1.3 at FU (P=0.001)</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p>   |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | <p>Demographics:<br/> Age: Mean=8.3 Y;<br/> Range: 3.2 -13.9 Y<br/> % Female: 52.5%<br/> SES: low<br/> Race/ethnicity: at least 90% Latino<br/> Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: Yes</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: 41% reported no past 6 M dental visit</p> <p>BL caries: 66% had active caries overall, 33.3% had early reversible disease, 26.5% had visible decay, mean number of caries =2.7</p> | <p>preventive care and early intervention at school and 3) linking children in need to more intensive restorative care.</p> <p>Comparison: None</p> <p>Study Period: 2012-2015</p> <p>Study Funded by: NA</p> |   |
| <p>Author, Year: Effenberger et al; 2021</p> <p>Study Design: RCT</p> <p>Unit of Randomization: School</p> | <p>Country: South Africa<br/> Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility:<br/> <u>Included</u>: all children with signed consent and who participated in BL examination.<br/> <u>Excluded</u>: Children with chronic stomatitis or ulcerated gums, a history of asthma or known allergies to used materials.</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Trained local non-professional assistants<br/> Annual FV apps: 4</p> <p>Both arms participated in a</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/> Dentition: All teeth (primary and permanent teeth reported separately)</p> <p>FU: 12 and 24 M</p> <p>Outcome Measure:</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Good</p> | <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 287<br/>Control: 226<br/>Attrition: 32.9%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Range: 4 to 8 y; Mean 6.1 y<br/>% Female: 48.3<br/>SES: Low<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: No</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Mean dmfs (SD):<br/>Intervention=4.8 (4.0);<br/>Control=4.9 (4.2)<br/>Mean DMFS: intervention=0.1 (0.5); control=0.1 (0.4)</p> | <p>school-based toothbrushing program: received OHE, F toothpaste (1450 ppm) and supervised toothbrushing at BL and FU.</p> <p>Comparison: no treatment</p> <p>Study period: Feb 2018 to Feb 2020</p> | <p>Mean DiMFS, dimfs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>FU 24 M:<br/>DiMFS increment Tx=1.7 vs. C=2.6 (Significance in increment difference not reported);<br/>calculated RR=0.65</p> <p>dimfs increment Tx=5.5 vs. C=7.1 (Significance in increment difference not reported);<br/>calculated RR=0.77</p> <p>FU 12 M:<br/>DiMFS increment Tx=0.6 vs. C=0.7 (Significance in increment difference not reported);<br/>calculated RR=0.86<br/>DiMFT increment Tx=0.1 vs. C=0.1 (Significance in increment difference not reported)<br/>Calculated RR=1.00</p> <p>dimfs increment Tx=4.2 vs. C=4 (Significance in increment difference not reported);<br/>calculated RR=1.05<br/>Adverse Effects: None reported</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Florio, 2001</p> <p>Study Design:</p>                       | <p>Country: Brazil<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p>   | <p>Setting: School-Linked</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt:<br/>NA</p>   |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Eligibility: Children from four different public day nursery schools with at least two first permanent molars with restricted enamel decay. 1M with hypoplastic pits, occlusal fillings, or fissure sealants, radiolucent area in proximal surfaces, reaching the enamel-dentin junction or beyond it, were excluded.</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention 11<br/>Control 11<br/>Attrition: 4.5%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 13.6%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=6;<br/>Range: NA<br/>% Female: NA<br/>SES: low<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: NA</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: High</p> | <p>Provider: Dentist with assistant</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: professional prophylaxis done each quarter and children had access to restorative care as needed.</p> <p>Comparison: toothbrush training with mouthwash</p> <p>Study Period: Prior to 2001</p> <p>Study Funded by: NA</p> | <p>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms with restricted enamel decay<br/>FU: 12 M</p> <p>Caries progression<br/>Outcome: % incipient caries lesions progressing<br/>Effectiveness: Tx= 5.5% vs. C=6.1% (Not statistically different)<br/>Calculated RR=0.90</p> <p>Caries Regression<br/>Outcome: % incipient caries lesions arrested<br/>Effectiveness: Tx=83.3% vs. C=72.7% (Not statistically different) Calculated RR=1.15</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | BL Caries: at least 2 first permanent molars with restricted enamel decay.  |   |  |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Grodzka et al,<br/>1982</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>CT</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution:<br/>Fair</p> | <p>Country: Poland<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Children were from 18 selected prep schools.</p> <p>Sample Size (BL): total 401, not reported by group<br/>Attrition: 19.9%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographics:<br/>Age: range: 3-4, mean 3.5<br/>% Female: NA<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: NA</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: NA</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Mean dimft (SD)<br/>Intervention =6.79 (3.91),<br/>Control=6.62 (3.88)<br/>Mean dimfs (SD)<br/>Intervention =10.20 (8.29),<br/>Control =11.01 (12.9)</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services: NA</p> <p>Comparison: negative</p> <p>Study period<sup>1</sup>: prior to 1982</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: All primary teeth<br/>FU: 24 M<br/>Outcome: Mean dimfs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>dimfs increment Tx=6.24 vs. C=6.89 (Increment difference not significant, P=0.307)<br/>Calculated RR: 0.91</p> <p>Adverse Effect: NA</p> |



| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Hardman et al;<br/>2007</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of randomization:<br/>School</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Country: UK<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: NA</p> <p>Sample size (BL)<br/>intervention: 420<br/>Control: 412<br/>Attrition: 20.2%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 37.8%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: range: 6-8, mean 6.9 Tx,<br/>7.0 C<br/>% Female: 49<br/>SES: low<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA;<br/>Fluoride milk program started in schools during study</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Prevalence dft<br/>Intervention=67.7%,<br/>control=60.9%<br/>Mean dft<br/>Intervention=2.53,<br/>Control=2.26</p> | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider:<br/>Dental therapist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services:<br/>Toothbrush and toothpaste containing 1,450ppm F provided to both groups at BL.</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>negative control (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period<sup>1</sup>: prior to 2007</p> <p>Study funded by:<br/>NR, one author employed by FV manufacturer.</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: 1Ms<br/>FU: 26 M</p> <p>Outcomes: Incidence DiFS, mean difs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Incidence DiFS Tx 44.9% (=150/334) vs. C 45.8% (=151/330)<br/>Incidence not statistically different<br/>Calculated RR=0.98</p> <p>Outcome: Mean difs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Increment Tx=0.71 vs. C=1.12 (increment difference significant, P=0.03)<br/>Calculated RR=0.63</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Hedman et al,<br/>2015</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of<br/>Randomization:<br/>School</p> <p>Suitability of<br/>Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/>Execution:<br/>Good</p> | <p>Country: Sweden<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Included schools should have at least 100 students in grades 6-8, situated in above low risk area, and have special room for dental services delivery.</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 270<br/>Control: 264<br/>Attrition: 13.1%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 96.0%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=NA;<br/>Range: 12-16 Y<br/>% Female: 45% (Tx)<br/>SES: 9% immigrants (Tx)<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: NA</p> <p>Access to Dental Care:<br/>Adolescents could attend school dental clinic as needed and those with high risk were offered preventive measures</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dental Hygienist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services:<br/>recurrent education about oral health and tobacco once each semester High-risk children received preventive measures and dietary advice, OH instructions and F treatments. High-risk children in control schools also received same dental care at dental clinic and could visit dental hygienist for advice and help.</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>Negative</p> <p>Study Period:<br/>2009-2011</p> | <p>Difference in FV Receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: Permanent (from distal surface of canine to mesial surface of 2Ms)</p> <p>FU: 24 M</p> <p>Outcome: Mean DiFS in approximal tooth surfaces<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Increment for Tx= 0.66 vs. C=0.99 (increment difference not significant, P=0.1); calculated RR was 0.67</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | <p>and health consultation at school clinic</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Mean ADiFS (SD)<br/>Intervention: 0.11 (0.44)<br/>Control: 0.10 (0.38)<br/>Prevalence ADFS<br/>Intervention: 26.2%, Control: 27.8%</p>   | <p>Study Funded by:<br/>NA</p>   |  |
| <p>Author, Year<br/>Jiang et al; 2014</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of<br/>Randomization:<br/>Student</p> <p>Suitability of<br/>Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/>Execution:<br/>Good</p> | <p>Country: Hong Kong<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Children with good general health, not on long-term medication/ with parental consent<br/>Excluded: Children with major systemic disease or on long-term medication, and those who were not cooperative and refused examination</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 149<br/>Control: 152<br/>Attrition: 6.6%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: mean 16 months</p> | <p>Setting: School-linked<br/>Provider: Dental hygienist &amp; Dentist<br/>FV apps per Y:<br/>2<br/>Other Services: NA</p> <p>Study period: April 2010-2012</p> <p>Study funded by:<br/>Hong Kong Research Grant Council</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries initiation<br/>Dentition: All primary teeth<br/>FU: 24 M<br/>Outcome: Mean dimft<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Mean dimft increment Tx=0.3 vs. C=0.2 (Difference in increment not statistically significant);<br/>calculated RR=1.5</p> <p>Adverse Effects: None reported</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   | % Female: intervention 55%, control 57%<br>SES: middle to high<br>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban<br><br>Optimally fluoridated: No<br><br>Access to dental care: NA<br><br>BL caries:<br>Prevalence dis: 2%  |   |   |
| Author, Year:<br>Kidd et al., 2020<br><br>Study Design:<br>Retrospective Cohort<br><br>Suitability of Design:<br>Moderate<br><br>Quality of Execution: Good | Country: UK<br>Country Income: High<br><br>Eligibility:<br>Attended schools in area with high social deprivation<br><br>Sample size (BL): 31,581<br>Attrition: NA<br><br>Participation Rate: 48.9%<br><br>Demographic:<br>Age: Range: 48 to 72 M;<br>% Female: 49.1%<br>SES: Low<br>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban<br><br>Optimally fluoridated: No | Setting: School based<br><br>Provider: Dental nurses<br><br>FV applications per Y: 2<br><br>Other services: | Difference in FV receipt: NA<br><br>Caries Initiation<br>Dentition: Primary<br>FU: Approximately 24 M<br><br>Outcome: Obvious caries experience<br><br>Effectiveness: Multivariable regression model controlling for socio-demographic characteristics, other program interventions and social deprivation status found that odds ratios for 2-year caries initiation in adolescents receiving 5+ applications vs. 0 applications were 1.25 for least deprived, 1.15 for next-least deprived, 0.92 for moderately deprived, |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|--|---|--|---|
|  | <p>Access to dental care: 70% had dental visit during study</p> <p>BL caries: Prevalence: 29.8%</p>   | <p>Comparison: No FV applications (Study controlled for other interventions)</p> <p>Study period: Intervention likely done from 2012-2015</p> <p>Study funded by Scottish government</p>     | <p>0.80 for next to most deprived, and 1.09 for most deprived. Trend in OR by social deprivation level statistically significant.</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p>  |
| <p>Author, Year: Liu et al; 2012</p> <p>Study Design: RCT</p> <p>Unit of Randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Country: China</p> <p>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility: <u>Included</u>: children with at least one molar with deep fissures or enamel level caries; <u>Excluded</u>: molars with dentin level caries</p> <p>Sample size (BL): Intervention 124 Control 128 Attrition: 4.8%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 2</p> <p>Other services: none</p> <p>Comparison: negative control (placebo)</p> <p>Study period: April 2008-2010</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation</p> <p>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms FU 24 M</p> <p>Outcome: Incidence of dentin caries (% molar surfaces developing dentin caries)</p> <p>Effectiveness: % molar surfaces developing dentin caries for Tx=2.4% vs. C=4.6% (Difference in incidence significant at p=0.002); calculated RR=0.52</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|---|---|--|---|
|   | <p>Demographic:<br/> Age: mean 9.1<br/> % Female: Intervention 56%,<br/> Control 46%<br/> SES: NA<br/> Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: 40% of<br/> intervention and 34% of control<br/> reported dental visit history</p> <p>BL caries: 35% of teeth in both<br/> groups had enamel caries<br/> (teeth with dentin caries were<br/> excluded)</p>                                   |  | <p>Adverse Events: None reported</p>  |
| <p>Author, Year<br/> McMahon, 2020</p> <p>Study Design:<br/> RCT<br/> Unit of<br/> randomization:<br/> Student</p> <p>Suitability of<br/> Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/> Execution: Good</p> | <p>Country: UK<br/> Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: No contraindications<br/> for FV, (i.e., hypersensitivity to<br/> colophony and/or any other<br/> constituents; No history of<br/> bronchial asthma requiring<br/> hospitalization; No history of<br/> allergic episodes requiring<br/> hospital admission; and No<br/> signs of distress on the day of<br/> BL inspection or signs of verbal<br/> or non-verbal reluctance.</p> | <p>Setting: School-<br/> based</p> <p>Provider: NA<br/> FV apps Y: 2</p> <p>Other services: daily<br/> supervised<br/> toothbrushing (1,000<br/> ppm fluoride<br/> toothpaste) in<br/> nursery school; free<br/> tooth brush and<br/> paste for home use;<br/> community-based</p> | <p>Difference in FV Receipt: Receipt<br/> of 3 or more fluoride varnish<br/> applications over 2 in<br/> intervention group was 84%<br/> compared to 6% in control group</p> <p>Caries initiation:<br/> Dentition: all primary teeth<br/> FU: 24M<br/> Outcome: Mean dmfs</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/> dmfs increment Tx=1 vs. C=0.9<br/> (Difference not significant);<br/> calculated RR=1.11</p> |

| Study                                 | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|                                       | <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention 643<br/>Control 641<br/>Attrition: 10.4%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 38.6%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: All children age 3<br/>(mean=3.54 Y)<br/>% Female: 50<br/>SES: participants socially deprived (5 levels of social deprivation and all participants from 2 highest socially deprived scale)<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban (greater Glasgow)</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: 8% and 6% of T and C, respectively received FV outside of program</p> <p>BL caries: dmft<br/>Prevalence:17%<br/>Mean: Intervention=0.6,<br/>Control=0.5</p> | <p>dental health support workers; and oral health advice within primary dental services</p> <p>Comparison: children not receiving FV but receiving other service</p> <p>Study period: 2012-2015</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Adverse Effects: None reported</p>                        |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Milsom, 2011</p> | <p>Country: UK<br/>Country Income: High</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries initiation</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Study Design: RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization: School</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Eligibility: Attended state maintained primary schools. Could not have: 1) history of asthma or severe allergic reaction that required hospitalization; 2) fixed orthodontic appliance involving &gt; 4 teeth; 3) participated in another clinical study within 3 M of initial examination, and 4) ulcerative gingivitis/stomatitis.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 1473<br/>Control: 1494<br/>Attrition: 12.7%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 48.1%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Range: 7 to 8 Y; mean 8.1 Y<br/>% Female: 50%<br/>SES: Deprived area<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban and rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA</p> | <p>Provider: Dentist first year and dental therapist thereafter<br/>FV Apps Per Y: 3<br/>Other services NA.</p> <p>Comparison: No treatment</p> <p>Study period: 2006 to 2009</p> | <p>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 36 M<br/>Outcome: Mean DFS</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>Mean DFS increment Tx=0.66 vs. C=0.63 (Increment did not statistically differ); calculated RR=1.05</p> <p>Adverse Effect: 12 (0.8%) of 1,473 participants reported minor and self-limiting reactions, including nausea (7), vomiting and diarrhea (1), high temperature (1), swollen tongue (1), sore mouth (1), and mouth ulcer (1)</p> |



| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  | BL caries: Median DFS=0;<br>median dmft=3  |  |   |
| <p>Author, Year,:<br/>Moberg-Skold,<br/>2005</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of<br/>Randomization:<br/>Student</p> <p>Suitability of<br/>Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/>Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Country: Sweden<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility:<br/>Schools in high, medium, and<br/>low caries risk are where risk<br/>determined by social<br/>determinants of health. Present<br/>findings for all children and<br/>those in high- risk areas</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: All 190; High<br/>caries risk area 44<br/>Control: All 181, High risk 40<br/>Attrition: 11.2%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: 13 to 16 Y<br/>% Female: 48<br/>SES: varied<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: Low-risk<br/>group yes, other risk groups no</p> | <p>Setting: School-<br/>based</p> <p>Provider: Dental<br/>nurses and dental<br/>hygienists<br/>FV Apps Per Y: 2<br/>Other services: OH<br/>education and had<br/>annual dental visit</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>Negative control</p> <p>Study period: 1998-<br/>2001</p> | <p>FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Dentition: Permanent teeth from<br/>distal surface of canine to mesial<br/>surface of 2nd molars<br/>Caries Initiation<br/>FU: 36 M<br/>Outcome: Mean DiFS in<br/>approximal tooth surfaces</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>All children:<br/>Increment Tx= 0.79 vs. C=1.85<br/>(Increment statistically differed<br/>p&lt;0.001); calculated<br/>RR=0.43</p> <p>High-risk children<br/>Increment Tx= 0.95 vs. C= 3.06<br/>(Increment statistically differed<br/>p&lt;0.001); calculated<br/>RR=0.31</p> <p>Caries Progression<br/>Outcome: Mean incipient lesions<br/>progressing<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>All children:<br/>Tx=0.1 vs. C=0.4</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | <p>Access to dental care: Annual dental exam where FV delivered to controls</p> <p>BL caries: Mean DFT:<br/>Low risk: 0.60<br/>High risk: 2.65</p>  |   | <p>(Progression significantly different); calculated RR=0.25</p> <p>High-risk children:<br/>Tx=0.18 vs. C=0.9<br/>(Progression significantly different); calculated RR=0.20</p> <p>Adverse effects: None reported</p>   |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Modeer et al,<br/>1984</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT<br/>Unit of<br/>Randomization:<br/>Student</p> <p>Suitability of<br/>Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/>Execution: Good</p> | <p>Country: Sweden<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Children selected from 3 different schools, no specific inclusion/exclusion criteria mentioned</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 118<br/>Control: 118</p> <p>Attrition: 17.8%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=14 Y;<br/>Range: NA<br/>% Female: 43% (Tx)<br/>SES: NA</p> | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Trained dental nurse and hygienist</p> <p>FV Apps Per Y: 4</p> <p>Other Services:<br/>Both groups participated in routine fluoride mouth rinse every 14 days with 0.2% NaF</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>Negative</p> <p>Study Period<sup>1</sup>:<br/>Prior to 1984</p> | <p>Difference in FV Receipt: NA</p> <p>Dentition: Permanent teeth from distal surface of canine to mesial surface of 2nd molars<br/>FU: 36 months</p> <p>Caries Initiation</p> <p>Outcome: Mean DiFS in approximal tooth surfaces<br/>Effectiveness<br/>Increment<br/>Tx=3.7 vs. C=4.8 (Significance not reported)<br/>Calculated RR=0.77</p> <p>Caries Progression<br/>Outcome: % incipient lesions progressing<br/>Effectiveness:</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|---|---|--|--|
|   | <p>Urbanicity: Rural (Outskirts of Stockholm)</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: "High"</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>Mean ADiFS<br/>Intervention: 4.1; Control: 5.3<br/>Prevalence ADiFS<br/>Intervention: 12.4%; Control: 14.9%</p>   | <p>Study Funded by:<br/>NA</p>   | <p>Tx=60.6% vs. C=64.4% (Not statistically different)<br/>Calculated RR=0.94</p> <p>Caries Regression<br/>Outcome: % caries lesions regressing<br/>Effectiveness: Tx= 5.7% vs. C=5.9% (Not statistically different)<br/>Calculated RR=0.97</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p>                                      |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Munoz-Millan et al; 2018</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT<br/>Randomization<br/>Unit:<br/>Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design:<br/>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Country: Chile<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p><u>Eligibility:</u><br/><u>Included:</u><br/>Children without cavitated caries or previous dental treatments.</p> <p><u>Excluded:</u> Children with systemic diseases, disabilities or developmental enamel defects and those with temporary residences.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 131<br/>Control: 144<br/>Attrition: 31.3%</p> | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Dentist<br/>FV Apps Per Y: 2<br/>Other services:<br/>Both arms received OH education every 6 M; assessment of teeth, dental hygiene and dietary habits; instructions on brushing teeth and use of fluoride toothpaste; daily supervised tooth brushing; printed materials; free toothbrush and toothpaste (500 ppm)</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries initiation<br/>Dentition: All primary teeth<br/>FU: 24 M<br/>Outcome: Mean dmft<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Mean dmft increment<br/>Tx=1.7 vs. C=2.5<br/>Increment difference not significant, P=0.51<br/>Calculated RR=0.68</p> <p>Adverse effect: none reported</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|---|---|--|---|
|   | <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Range: 2 to 3 Y; Mean 32.4 M for T, 33.5 M for C<br/>% Female: 54.5<br/>SES: Low<br/>Urbanicity: Rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: 28% of students in treatment and 21% in control group had outside dental care during study</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Only included children without caries</p> <p>Note: 53% of population screened for eligibility had caries and were excluded.</p> | <p>F). All preschools brushed children's teeth at least once a day.</p> <p>Comparison: Placebo</p> <p>Study period:<br/>May 2012 to Dec 2014</p> |   |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Pitchika; 2013</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>CT</p> <p>Suitability of Design:</p> | <p>Country: Germany<br/>Country Income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: Healthy 2- to 3-year-olds with parental consent</p> <p>Sample size (BL):</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist or hygienist<br/>FV Apps Per Y: 2<br/>Other services: daily supervised brushing</p>            | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation:<br/>Dentition: All primary teeth<br/>FU: 24 M<br/>Outcome: Mean dimfs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Mean dimfs increment</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p>   | <p>Intervention: 195<br/>Control: 179<br/>Attrition: 17.6%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age:<br/>Range: 2 to 3 Y; Mean NA<br/>% Female: NA<br/>SES: 90% subjects low to moderate SES<br/>Urbanicity: Rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: 1 dental visit per year to reduce dental anxiety</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Prevalence:<br/>dmfs: Overall 19.2%</p> | <p>with fluoride toothpaste; dietary counseling; OH instruction to parents</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>Negative control</p> <p>Study period: 2009 or after</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Tx= 3.6 vs. C= 4<br/>(Difference in increment not significant)<br/>Calculated RR=0.90</p> <p>Adverse Effects: NA</p>                                     |
| <p>Author; Year: Sirivichayakul et al., 2023</p> <p>Study design: RCT</p> <p>Unit of randomization: Student</p> | <p>Country: Thailand<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility: Healthy children with at least one quadrant showing sound contact surfaces of posterior teeth.<br/>Distal surfaces of the canine or 1M, or mesial surfaces of the</p>   | <p>Setting: School based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist</p> <p>FV apps per Y: 2</p> <p>Other services:</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Dentition: approximal surfaces of primary canines through second molars</p> <p>FU: 12 and 18 M</p> <p>Dentition:</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Suitability of design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>1M or 2M showing clinically sound and radiographically sound or initial carious lesion.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 62<br/>Control: 64<br/>Attrition: 16.7%</p> <p>Participation: 45.7%</p> <p>Demographic<br/>Age: Range 4 to 6 Y; Mean: 5Y<br/>% Female: 51.6%<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: No</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA<br/>BL caries: Mean dmft (SD):<br/>Intervention 5.4 (4.8),<br/>Control 5.1 (4.0)</p> | <p>Dietary advice; oral hygiene instruction &amp; supplies; OR education materials; dental care referral</p> <p>Comparison: Placebo</p> <p>Study period: March 2019 to Oct 2020</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Outcome: % sound surfaces developing cavitated caries</p> <p>12 M:<br/>Tx 8.9% vs. C 13.8% (Difference significant at P=0.003)<br/>Calculated RR=0.64</p> <p>18 M:<br/>Tx 12.7% vs. C 20.3% (Difference significant at P&lt;0.001)<br/>Calculated RR=0.63</p> <p>Caries Progression<br/>% surfaces with incipient caries progressing to dentin</p> <p>12 M<br/>Tx 24.5% vs. C 26.7% (Not statistically different P=0.76)<br/>Calculated RR=0.92</p> <p>18 M<br/>Tx 33.0% vs. C 36.9% (Not statistically different, P=0.26)<br/>Calculated RR=0.89</p> <p>Adverse effects: NA</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Souza et al, 2021</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p>  | <p>Country: Brazil<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility: Healthy children age 6-7 with at least 1 smooth surface active caries lesion from</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Trained examiners (likely dentists)</p>   | <p>Difference in FV Receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation</p> <p>Dentition: Permanent</p>  |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Unit of Randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>5 selected schools, children taking antibiotics, undergoing ortho treatment or had received professional FV application 6 months prior to study were excluded.</p> <p>Sample Size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 20<br/>Control: 20<br/>Attrition: 10.0%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean=NA;<br/>Range: 6 to 8 Y<br/>% Female: 40%<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated: Yes</p> <p>Access to Dental Care: NA</p> <p>BL Caries:<br/>5.2% of the total surfaces had active caries</p> | <p>FV Apps Per Y: 5 (1 per week for 4 consecutive weeks and then single application at 6 months)</p> <p>Other Services:<br/>Children were educated about cariogenic diet and oral hygiene during school visits.</p> <p>Comparison: Placebo</p> <p>Study Period<sup>1</sup>:<br/>Prior to 2021</p> <p>Study Funded by:<br/>Acknowledgements to FGM-DentsCare (Joinville-SC, Brazil) for manufacturing the experimental materials.</p> | <p>FU: 18 Mo</p> <p>Outcome Measure:<br/>Incidence % smooth surfaces developing decay (including incipient lesions)</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>Incidence<br/>TX: 2.3%<br/>C: 6.9%<br/>Difference not statistically significant<br/>Calculated RR=0.33</p> <p>Adverse Effects: None reported</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Tagliaferro et al;<br/>2011</p>   | <p>Country: Brazil<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility:</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Dental hygienist &amp; Main</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation</p>   |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Study Design: RCT</p> <p>Unit of Randomization: School</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p><u>Included:</u> 6-8 years old children, with at least two sound permanent first molars; presenting dmft <math>\geq 3</math> or at least one active cavitated lesion or dmfs + DMFS=0 and parental consent</p> <p><u>Excluded:</u> Children with systematic diseases, communication, and/or neuromuscular problems, fixed orthodontic appliances, severe hypoplasia/fluorosis, and/or allergy to the colophony component of the varnish.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 109<br/>Control: 110<br/>Attrition: 19.2%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: Mean= 7 Y<br/>Range: 6 to 8 years<br/>% Female: 52.0<br/>SES: 72% of families had an income of 1 to 4 times the Brazilian minimum wage<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> | <p>Researcher (likely dentist)</p> <p>FV apps per Y: 2</p> <p>Other Services:<br/>OH education 1 hour sessions every 3 months, covering dental caries, periodontal diseases, dental plaque and fluoride. Oral hygiene instructions, supervised tooth brushing and dietary counseling were presented to children means of lectures, videos, educational games and oral quizzes</p> <p>Study period<sup>1</sup>:<br/>Prior to 2011</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Dentition: occlusal surfaces of permanent 1Ms</p> <p>FU: 24 M</p> <p>Outcome: mean DMFS</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>All children:<br/>Calculated increment based on pooled increments for high-risk and low-risk groups: Tx 0.20 vs. C 0.26 Significance not reported<br/>Calculated RR=0.76</p> <p>High-risk children:<br/>Increment Tx 0.29 vs. C 0.39 (increment difference not statistically significant)<br/>Calculated RR=0.74</p> <p>Adverse Effects: none reported</p> |



| Study   | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|--|---|--|
|   | <p>Optimally fluoridated: Yes</p> <p>Access to dental care: Could access restorative and preventive care in a clinic</p> <p>BL caries: mean dmft (SD)<br/>Highrisk<br/>Control: 4.53 (3.04)<br/>Intervention: 4.28 (2.54)</p> <p>Low risk<br/>0 for botx controls and intervention</p>   |   |  |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Turska-Szybka,<br/>2021</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT</p> <p>Unit of<br/>Randomization:<br/>Blocks of children</p> <p>Suitability of<br/>Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of<br/>Execution: Good</p> | <p>Country: Poland<br/>Country Income: High<br/>Eligibility: Inclusion: (i) all primary teeth erupted, and (ii) the presence of at least 1 noncavitated or cavitated lesion. Exclusion: (i) medical problems or were on medication that could affect their oral health, (ii) a history of severe allergic episodes, and (iii) cognitive disabilities and/or special needs. (iv) children with &gt; 10 tooth surfaces with dentin lesions and those taking antibiotics within the last 2 weeks prior to the BL examination.</p> | <p>Setting: School-linked<br/>Provider: Dentist<br/>FV apps per Y:<br/>4<br/>Other services:<br/>All children received OH education, toothbrushing, and caries examinations at baseline. No dietary restrictions or any other fluoride supplements were recommended or prescribed during the study duration. The parents were</p> | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: primary teeth<br/>FU: 12 M<br/>Outcome: Mean dimfs<br/>Effectiveness:<br/>Mean dimfs increment<br/>Tx 1.8 vs. C 4.9 (Increment difference statistically significant, P&lt;0.05)<br/>Calculated RR: 0.37</p> <p>Adverse Effects: minor reports discontent with color of varnish</p> |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|---|---|---|---|
|   | <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 60<br/>Control: 60<br/>Attrition: 5.8%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: range 36 to 71 M,<br/>mean intervention = 51, control =46<br/>% Female: intervention 41.7,<br/>control 48.3<br/>SES: NA<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA</p> <p>BL caries: Mean dimft (SD)<br/>Intervention 11.0 (17.7)<br/>Control: 10.7 (5.4)</p> | <p>also informed about the need for restorative treatment for those children exhibiting dentin lesions.</p> <p>Comparison:<br/>negative control (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period: August 2017-August 2018</p> <p>Study funded by:<br/>manufacturer paid for varnish used in the study</p> |   |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Wang et al; 2021</p> <p>Study Design:<br/>RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization:<br/>Class</p> | <p>Country: China<br/>Country Income: Upper middle</p> <p>Eligibility: Exclusion: acute or chronic systematic disorders, gingivitis or ulcers, allergy history, participation in other trials in 24 M, fluorosis, hypoplastic defects, sealed 1M</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based</p> <p>Provider: Dentist and assistant</p> <p>FV apps per Y:<br/>2</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: Permanent 1Ms<br/>FU: 24 and 36 M<br/>Outcome: Mean DFS.</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>36 M</p> |

| Study  | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 2657<br/>Control: 2740<br/>Attrition: 7.3%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: range 6 to 7 Y, mean intervention = 6.81 Y, control =6.85<br/>% Female: 46<br/>SES: low<br/>Urbanicity: rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated No</p> <p>Access to dental care: low</p> <p>BL caries: caries prevalence in primary dentition:<br/>Intervention: 87.3%<br/>Control: 85.7%<br/>Mean DFS 1<sup>st</sup> molars 0.03 in Intervention and 0.04 in Control (about 67.5% had erupted 1<sup>st</sup> molars)</p> | <p>Other services: Supervised toothbrushing and OH education provided to both groups.</p> <p>Comparison: negative control (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period: October 2014-December 2017</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Model-based increment per year Tx 0.25 vs. C 0.38<br/>Increment difference significant at p&lt;0.001<br/>Calculated RR=0.66</p> <p>24 M<br/>Model-based increment per year Tx 0.19 vs. C 0.3<br/>Increment difference significant at p&lt;0.001<br/>Calculated RR=0.63</p> <p>Adverse Effects: None significant. Only one child complained about the taste of the fluoride varnish</p> |
| <p>Author, Year: Wu, 2020</p> <p>Study Design:</p>                       | <p>Country: China<br/>Country Income: Upper middle<br/>Eligibility:</p>   | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Dentist<br/>FV apps per Y:</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition Permanent 1Ms</p>  |

| Study  | Population Characteristics   | Intervention Characteristics   | Results  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>RCT<br/>Unit of Randomization: Student</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Good</p> | <p><u>Included</u>: 9 schools randomly selected from 325 schools;<br/><u>Excluded</u>: Children with systemic diseases, a long history of medication use and a history of allergies.</p> <p>Sample size (BL):<br/>Intervention: 999<br/>Control: 1004<br/>Attrition: 12.7%</p> <p>Participation Rate: NA</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: 6 to 8 years<br/>Female: 45.7%<br/>SES: low<br/>Urbanicity: rural</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated NA</p> <p>Access to dental care: low</p> <p>BL caries:<br/>Prevalence of caries in 1Ms: 24%</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Other services: OH education (healthy diet, oral hygiene, toothbrush and fluoride toothpaste, and brushing instruction) provided to Tx and C every 6 months.</p> <p>Comparison: no treatment</p> <p>Study period:<br/>November 2014 to November 2017</p> | <p>FU 36 M</p> <p>Outcomes: Mean DiMFS Effectiveness:<br/>DiMFS increment Tx 1.46 vs. C 1.85</p> <p>Difference in means not significant at BL (p=0.285) but significant at FU (p=0.009)<br/>Calculated RR=0.79</p> <p>Adverse event: none reported</p> |
| <p>Author, Year:<br/>Zimmer et al;<br/>1999</p> <p>Study Design:</p>   | <p>Country: Germany<br/>Country income: High</p> <p>Eligibility: NA</p>  | <p>Setting: School-based<br/>Provider: Dentist (likely)<br/>FV apps per Y:</p>   | <p>Difference in FV receipt: NA</p> <p>Caries Initiation<br/>Dentition: all permanent teeth<br/>FU: 48 M</p>   |

| Study   | Population Characteristics  | Intervention Characteristics  | Results  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>RCT<br/>Unit of randomization: School</p> <p>Suitability of Design: Greatest</p> <p>Quality of Execution: Fair</p> | <p>Sample size (BL): 419 total<br/>Attrition: 24.1%</p> <p>Participation Rate: 76.5%</p> <p>Demographic:<br/>Age: 7.1 mean for group which received <math>\geq 2</math> FV applications per year, NR for other groups<br/>% Female: 49.8<br/>SES: low<br/>Urbanicity: Urban/suburban</p> <p>Optimally fluoridated No</p> <p>Access to dental care: NA</p> <p>BL caries: mean DMFT = 0.48 in group who received <math>\geq 2</math> treatments per year, 0.39 in group who received <math>&lt; 2</math> treatments per year, 0.38 in control</p> | <p>2+ group: 4 times first year and 3 the following years.<br/><math>&lt; 2</math></p> <p>Other services: All groups received OHE and supervised toothbrushing annually.</p> <p>Comparison: negative control (no placebo)</p> <p>Study period: 1991-1995</p> <p>Study funded by: NA</p> | <p>Outcome: Mean DMFT</p> <p>Effectiveness:<br/>All students:<br/>Increment Tx 1.04 vs. C 1.39<br/>Statistical significance not reported<br/>Calculated RR=0.75</p> <p><math>\geq 2</math> applications per Y<br/>Increment Tx 0.88 vs. C 1.39<br/>Difference statistically significant (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>)<br/>Calculated RR=0.63</p> <p><math>&lt; 2</math> applications per Y<br/>Increment Tx 1.28 vs. C 1.39<br/>Difference not statistically significant<br/>Calculated RR=0.92<br/>Adverse Effects: NA</p> |