

Let's Talk: Pediatricians and Oral Health

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August 21, 2015



Florida Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics

Why Advocacy Matters

- Work you do everyday “in the exam room,” one on one to improve the health and well-being of individual patients.
- Provides opportunity to move beyond individual solutions to create broader systemic change.
- Pediatricians can help change community norms and public policy to protect children’s health and well-being.
- As a pediatrician you are both a credible and natural advocate for children and your profession.



Current FCAAP Advocacy

FCAAP is particularly concerned with the high rates of early childhood caries.....and the detrimental effects this disease can have on children.

...FCAAP supports community water fluoridation as a way to help protect children's teeth.

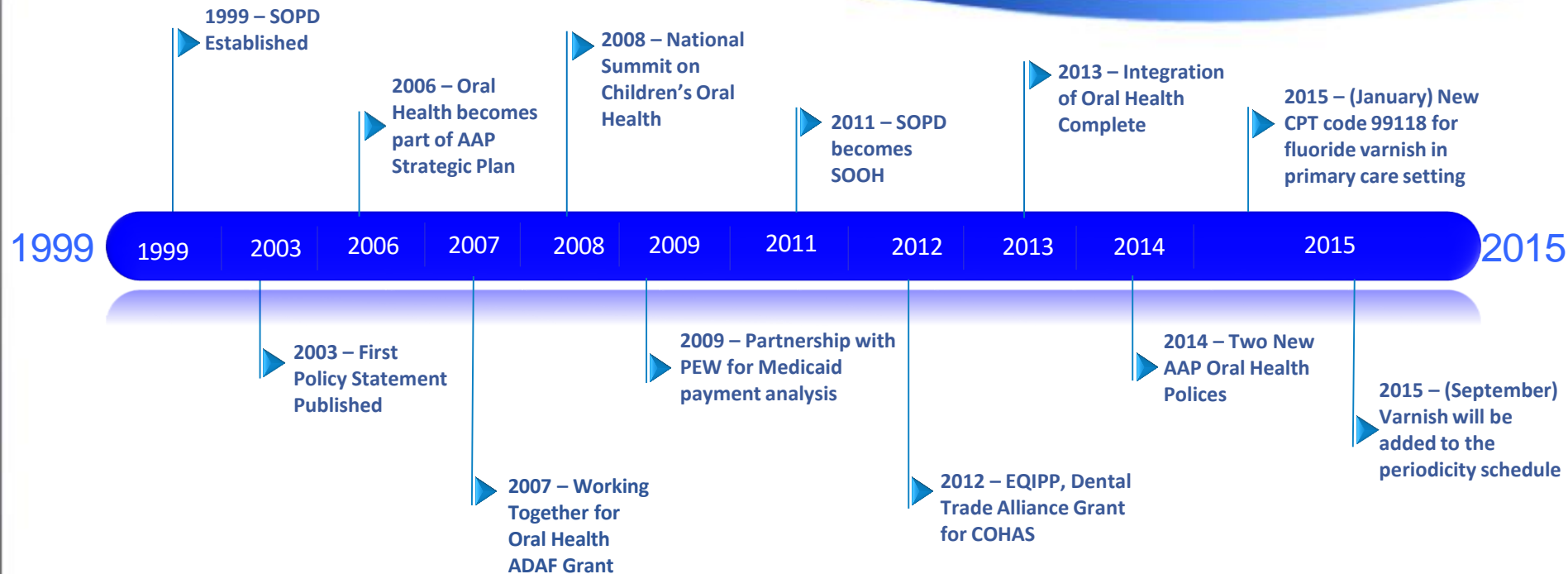


AAP Children's Oral Health Strategic Goals

- To promote oral health care in primary pediatric settings by giving anticipatory guidance to families about oral hygiene, diet, fluoride, and the importance of the first dental visit at 1 year of age.
- To educate and advocate for primary pediatric care professionals to apply fluoride varnish.
- To educate policy makers and payers about the importance of reimbursement for pediatric oral health care.



Major AAP Oral Health Milestones



Changing the Face of Oral Health

- **2006**

- 0 Chapter Oral Health Advocates
- ~ 10 pediatricians interested in oral health (Oral Health Initiative)
- 170 members of the SOPD (all dentists)

- **2015**

- 60 Chapter Oral Health Advocates
- 478 members of the SOOH

SOPD



SOOH

Progress Has Been Made

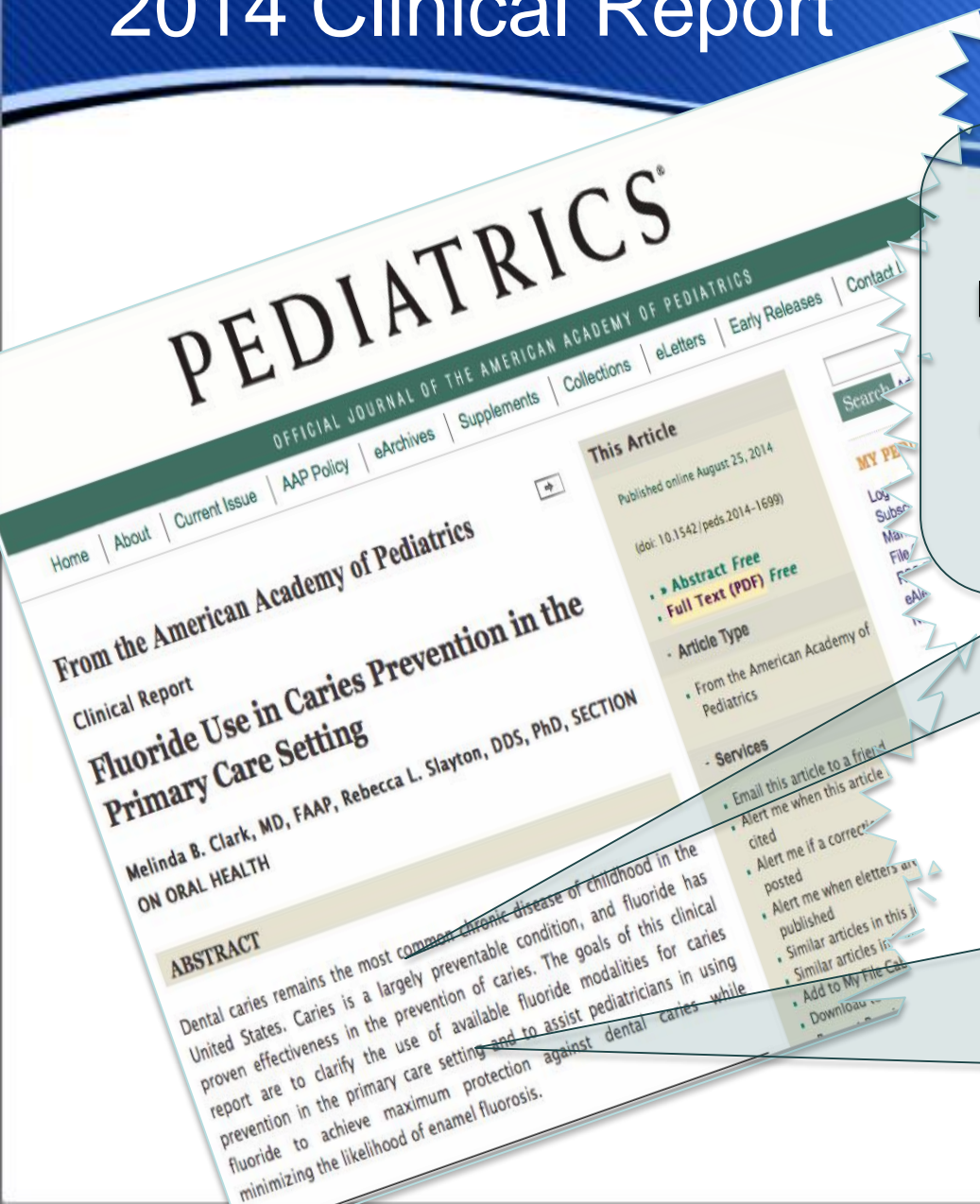
Pediatricians should:

Topic	2008	2012
Counsel Families on Oral Hygiene	85-99%	90%
Perform Caries Risk Assessment	91%	75%
Apply Fluoride Varnish	19%	42%

Current practices:

Topic	2008	2012
Residency Training	22%	65%
Post-Residency Training	22%	47%
Apply Fluoride Varnish	3%	7%

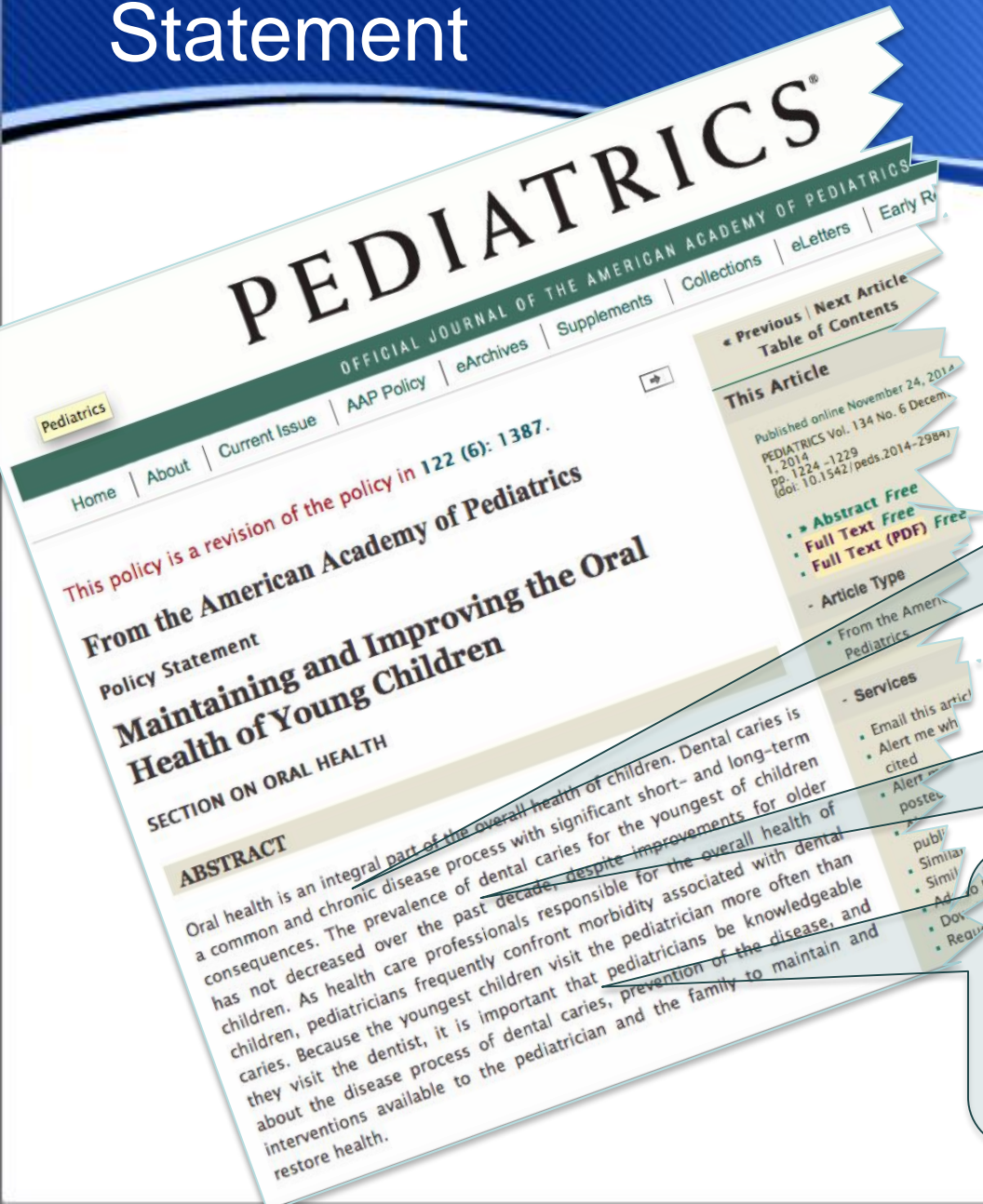
From the American Academy of Pediatrics 2014 Clinical Report



Dental caries remains the most common chronic disease of childhood in the United States.

...use of available fluoride modalities for caries prevention in the primary care setting and to assist pediatricians in using fluoride to achieve maximum protection against dental caries...

2014 AAP Revised Oral Health Policy Statement



Oral health is an integral part of the overall health of children

...prevalence of dental caries for the youngest of children has not decreased over the past decade...

...important that pediatricians be knowledgeable about the disease process of dental caries, prevention of the disease, and interventions available...

Dental Caries in Children from Birth Through Age 5 Years: Screening



PREVENTION OF DENTAL CARIES IN CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 YEARS CLINICAL SUMMARY OF U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION

Summary of Recommendations and Evidence

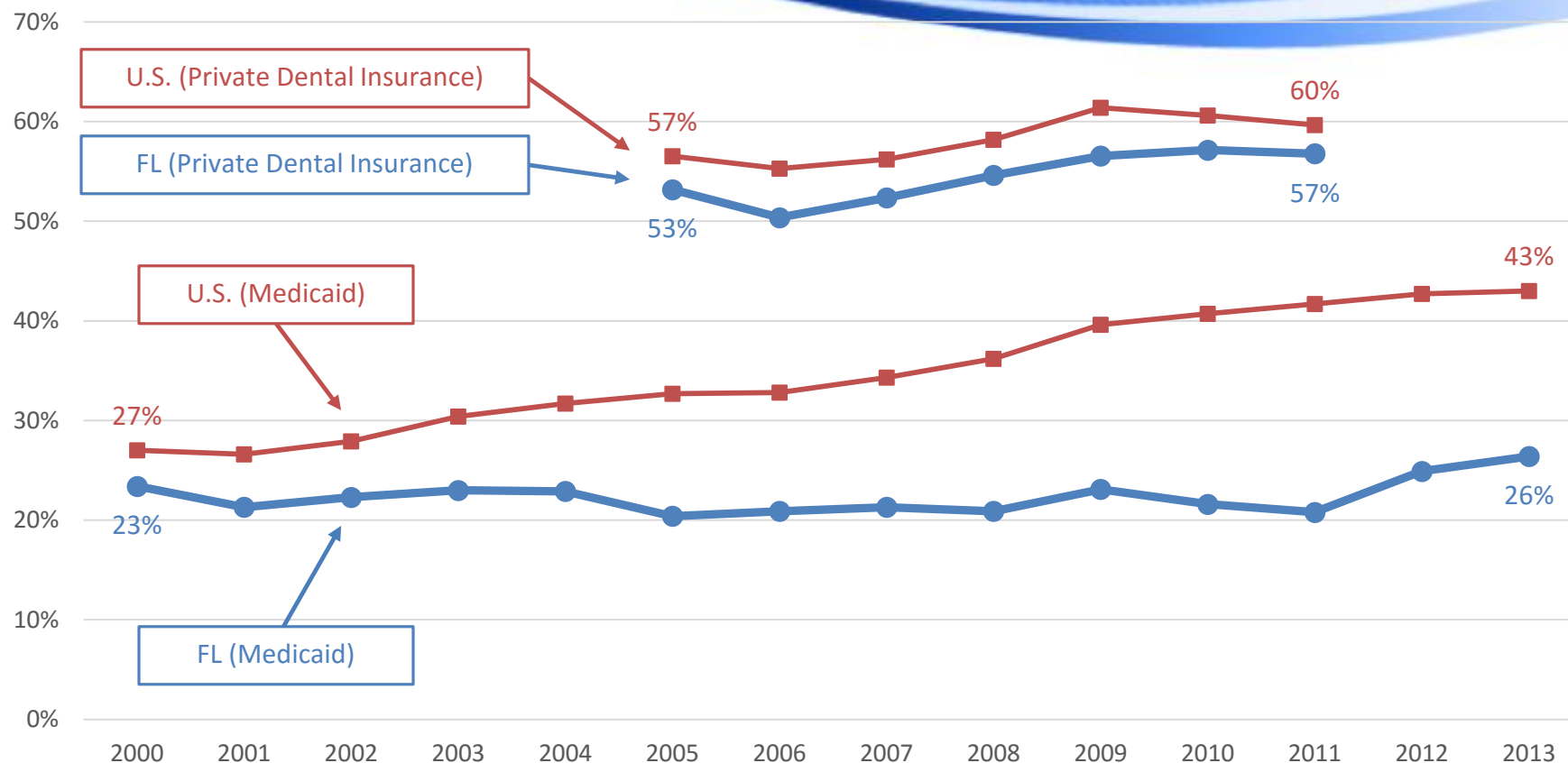
Population	Recommendation	Grade (What's This?)
Children From Birth Through Age 5 Years	The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians prescribe oral fluoride supplementation starting at age 6 months for children whose water supply is deficient in fluoride.	B
Children From Birth Through Age 5 Years	The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians apply fluoride varnish to the primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption.	B
Children From Birth Through Age 5 Years	The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of routine screening examinations for dental caries performed by primary care clinicians in children from birth to age 5 years.	I

Why is Fluoride Varnish Cost Effective?

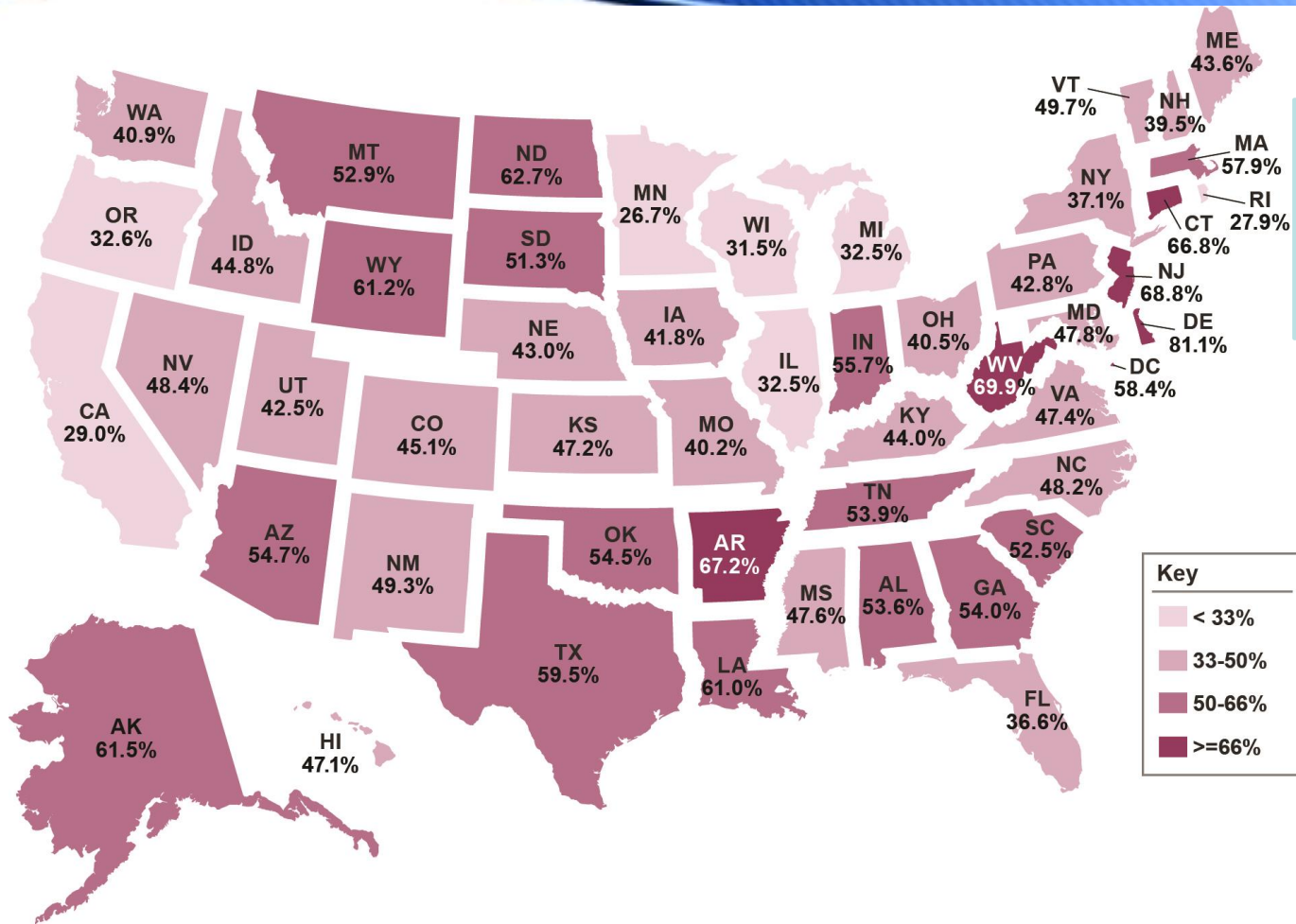
- Fluoride applied during primary medical care visits can reduce decay rates by one-third.
- The lack of access to preventive dental measures can result in high costs for complex restorative procedures.
- Fluoride varnish is an inexpensive preventive measure that can curb high costs to state Medicaid programs treating tooth decay.



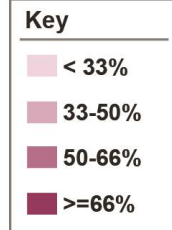
Dental Care Use among Children



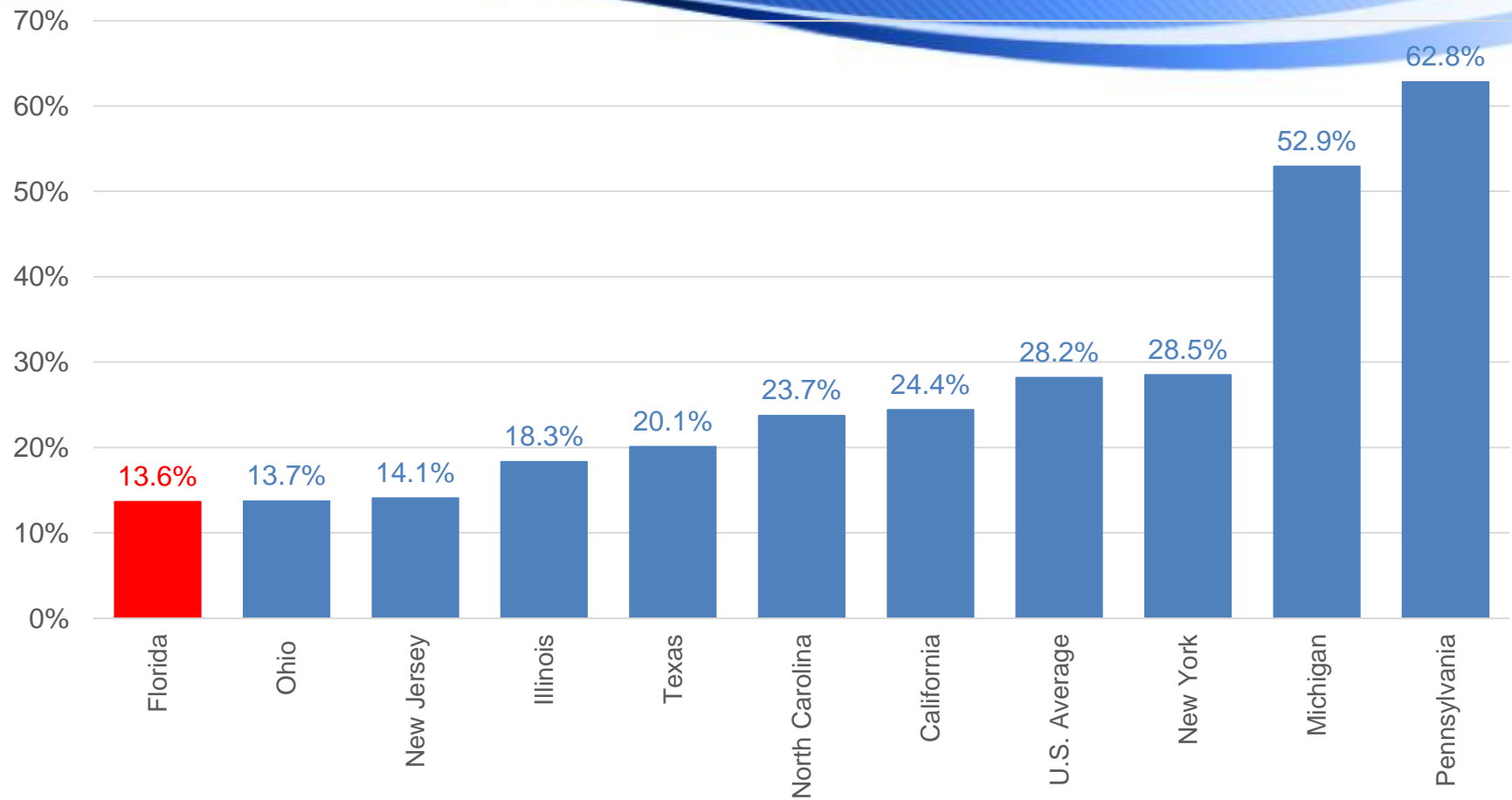
Medicaid Reimbursement



Florida has the
8th lowest
reimbursement
levels

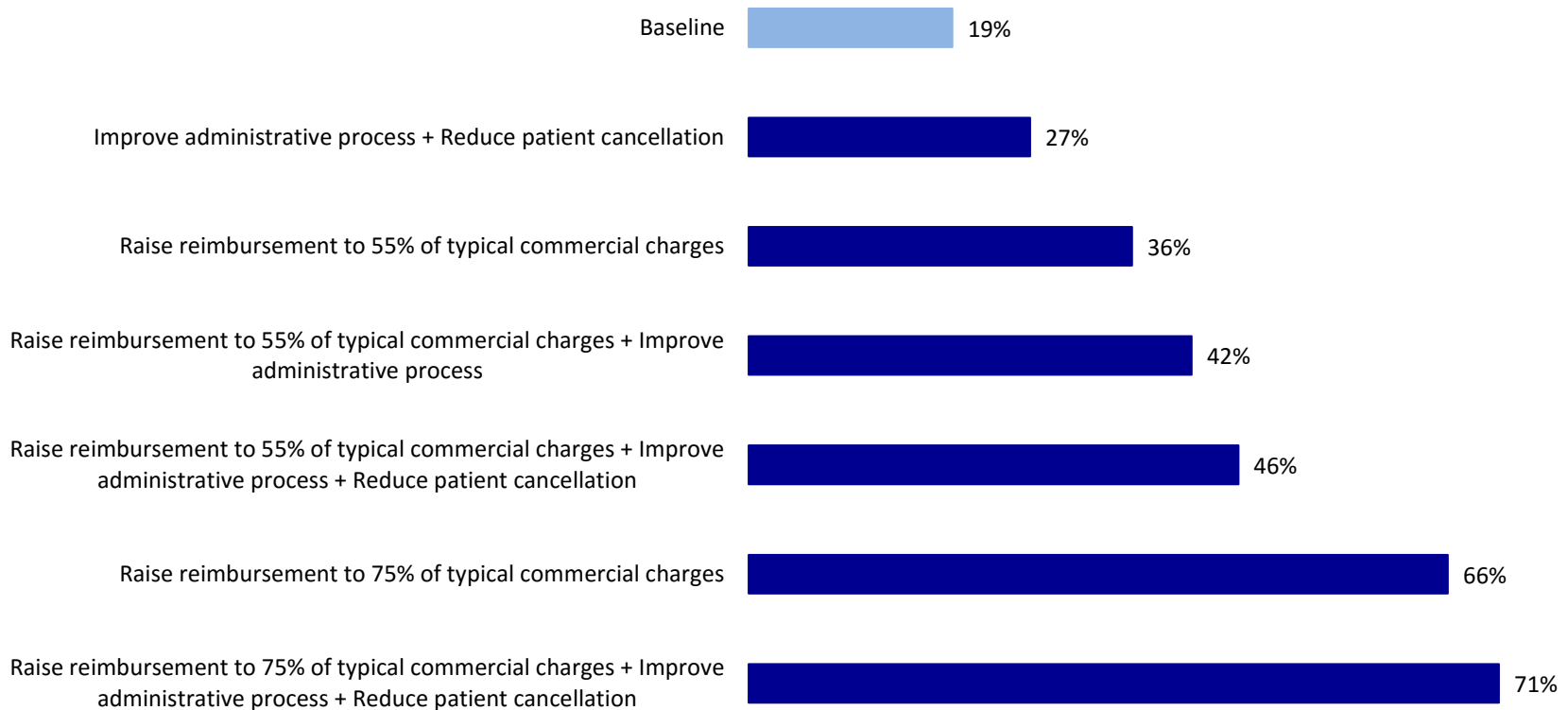


Percent of Dentists Accepting New Medicaid Patients



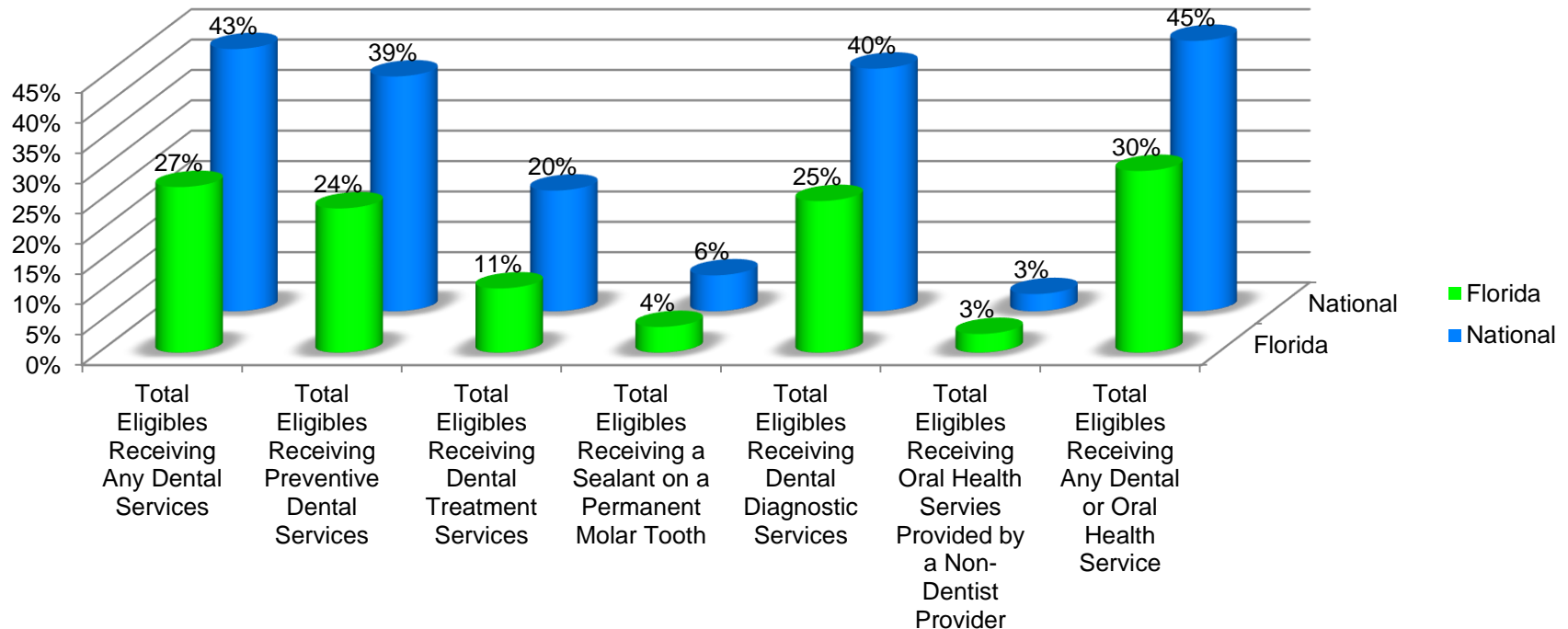
Simulating Impact of Alternative Medicaid Reforms on Provider Participation

Predicted Likelihood of Dentist Participation in Medicaid



Annual EPSDT Participation Report

Florida FY 2014



AAP Ongoing Efforts

- Private payer and Medicaid advocacy
- Training – utilizing the grassroots efforts of the COHAs, maintaining educational materials, and creating new resources
- Studying what works and does not work related to OH in primary care
- Nurturing inter-professional relationships and projects
- Community water fluoridation advocacy
- Parent education – ilikemyteeth.org, healthychildren.org, www.aap.org/oralhealth



AAP Oral Health Education & Training Resources

www.aap.org/oralhealth

- Chapter Oral Health Advocates
- Protecting All Children's Teeth Curriculum (PACT)
- Bright Futures Oral Health Resources
- Education and Quality Improvement in Pediatric Practice (EQIPP)
- Smiles for Life National Oral Health Curriculum



How do I order, apply,
and get reimbursed
for fluoride varnish?



Join the Section on Oral
Health



Find your state's Oral
Health Advocate



Where can I get training?
Protecting All
Children's Teeth

Hurdles Remain for the Integration of Oral Health into Pediatric Practice

- Training pediatricians and encouraging integration
- Implementing preventive oral health care into the patient centered medical home (PCMH)
- Improving access to dental care for children on Medicaid/CHIP
- Recognizing children who are at high risk for developing caries
- Paying for oral health services in the primary care setting
- Understanding the role of the Affordable Care Act
- Improving collaboration between dentists & pediatricians

