About the ECC Initiative

The IHS Early Childhood Caries Initiative is a new program designed to promote prevention and early intervention of dental caries (tooth decay) in young children through an interdisciplinary approach. Components of the program include: early oral health assessments by community partners such as Head Start, WIC, nurses, doctors, and CHRs; fluoride varnish application by these community partners and dental teams; dental sealants on primary (baby) teeth by dental teams at an early age; the use of glass ionomer ITRs (Interim Therapeutic Restorations) restorations to reduce the need of children having to go to the operating room to receive dental treatment; and the establishment of a national oral health surveillance system to measure the impact of this Initiative.

Overall Goal: Reduce the prevalence of ECC among 0-5 year old AI/AN children by 25% by FY 2015.

1. Increase dental access for 0-5 year old AI/AN children by 10% in FY 2010 and 50% by FY 2015.

2. Increase the number of children 0-5 years old who received a fluoride varnish treatment by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by FY 2015.

3. Increase the number of sealants among children 0-5 years old by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by 2015.

4. Increase the number of ITRs among children 0-5 years old by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by 2015.

Please turn the page to learn more about the evaluation of these objectives.
ECC Initiative: Overall Goal and Outcome Objectives

Overall Goal: Reduce the prevalence of ECC among 0-5 year old AI/AN children by 25% by FY 2015.

Evaluation: BSS community-based data will be collected from each IHS Area during FY 2010 to establish a baseline prevalence of ECC. Data will be collected during subsequent years to track the prevalence of ECC in AI/AN communities.

1. Increase dental access for 0-5 year old AI/AN children by 10% in FY 2010 and 50% by FY 2015.

Evaluation: RPMS codes 0145, 0150, 0120 by age groups 0-2 and 3-5.
Baseline Data: FY 08
0-2 year olds: 8,927 received a dental exam or screening, 10% of 3-year medical user population.
3-5 year olds: 22,970 received a dental exam or screening, 25% of 3-year medical user population.

2. Increase the number of children 0-5 years old who received a fluoride varnish treatment by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by FY 2015.

Evaluation: RPMS codes 1203 and 1206
Baseline Data: FY 08
0-2 year olds: 8,264 fluoride varnish treatments.
3-5 year olds: 25,004 fluoride varnish treatments.
Note: do not have # children who received a FV treatment in 08

3. Increase the number of sealants among children 0-5 years old by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by 2015.

Evaluation: RPMS code 1351
Baseline Data: FY 08
0-2 year olds: 1,904
3-5 year olds: 13,717

4. Increase the number of Interim Therapeutic Restorations (ITRs) among children 0-5 years old by 10% in FY 2010 and 25% by 2015.

Evaluation: RPMS code 2940
Baseline Data: FY 08
0-2 year olds: 497
3-5 year olds: 3,142