

# CARIES RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL



**bright smiles**  
FROM BIRTH

Date:

Patient Name:

Birth Date:

Child's Caries risk is:  High  Moderate  Low

Factors		High Risk	Moderate Risk	Protective/ Low risk
Contributing Conditions				
	Child low social economic status and/or eligible for a government program (Medicaid, WIC, Head Start etc.) and/or uninsured	YES		
	Child has >3 between meal sugar containing snacks or beverages per day	YES		
	Child is put to bed with bottle/sippy cup containing anything but water	YES		
	Parent/Caregiver has poor oral health and/or active caries	YES		
	Child has special health care needs that prevents or limits adequate oral health care	YES		
	Child is recent immigrant		YES	
Findings from visual oral health assessment:				
	Presence of white spot lesions or other enamel effects	YES		
	Presence of visible cavities or fillings	YES		
	Presence of visible plaque on teeth		YES	
Protective factors:				
	Child has established dental home			YES
	Child has teeth brushed by caregiver daily with fluoridated toothpaste			YES
	Child receives fluoride varnish application from health professional			YES
	Child lives in area with optimally fluoridated drinking water			YES

Reviewing risk factors for early childhood caries may assist the provider and family in understanding the overall factors that contribute to or protect from caries. Risk Assessment categorization of low, moderate or high is based on preponderance of factors for the individual. However, clinical judgment may justify the use of one fact in determining overall risk. Generally, presence of one high risk factor indicates the child is at high risk for caries. Use of this form is not a replacement for a through assessment of a dentist or physician.