

Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Questionnaire

**Knowledge, attitude, willingness, and readiness of primary health care providers
regarding oral health services to children**

1. Please indicate the type of health practitioner you are:

- a. Family physician/general practitioner
- b. Pediatrician
- c. Nurse Practitioner
- d. Other, please specify: _____

2. How many years have you been licensed to practice independently in Canada, e.g., post-residency?

- a. 4 years or fewer
- b. 5-9 years
- c. 10-14 years
- d. 15-19 years
- e. 20+ years

3. Which of the following best describes your primary practice?

- a. Solo
- b. Group

4. Which of the following models best describe your primary practice? (Circle ALL that apply).

- a. Comprehensive Care Model
- b. Community Health Centre
- c. Family Health Group
- d. Family Health Organization
- e. Family Health Network
- f. Family Health Team
- g. Other, please specify: _____

5. What professional staff is/are available in your office? (Circle ALL that apply.)

- a. Nurse
 - b. Nurse Practitioner
 - c. Physician Assistant
 - d. Office Manager
 - e. Administrative Staff (e.g. receptionist)
 - f. Other, please specify (e.g. psychiatrist, dietician/nutritionist):
-

6. What percentage of your practice is made up of children 5 years of age or younger?

- a. 0-5%
- b. 5-10%
- c. 10-25%
- d. 25-50%
- e. 50+%

7. As part of your well child visits for children 5 years of age or younger, do you:

	Never	1-25% patients	26-50% patients	51-75% patients	>75% patients
Visually examine the oral cavity?					
Visually examine the teeth?					
Determine the child's risk for developing tooth decay?					
Advise parents/caregivers on tooth cleaning methods?					
Advise parents/caregivers on the use of bottles or sippy cups?					
Advise parents/caregivers on the use of fluoride toothpaste?					
Prescribe fluoride supplements?					

8. How often do you see children 5 years of age or younger with tooth decay?

- a. Often
- b. Sometimes
- c. Seldom
- d. Never

9. At what age do you recommend a child see a dentist for their first dental examination? (Circle only ONE.)

- a. Do not recommend a first dental examination to any child
- b. Less than 1 year
- c. 1-2 years
- d. 2-3 years
- e. Over 3 years
- f. Other, please specify: _____

10. How often do you formally refer children 5 years of age or younger to dentists?

- a. Often
- b. Sometimes
- c. Seldom
- d. Never

11. When you identify a child with tooth decay in your practice, what steps do you normally take? (Circle ALL that apply.)

- a. Have never seen a child with tooth decay
- b. Do not formally refer children to dentists
- c. Make a note in the medical chart
- d. Advise the parent/caregiver to take the child to a dentist
- e. Give the parent/caregiver the name(s) of a dentist
- f. Make a formal referral to a dentist
- g. Other, please specify:

12. Do you ask parents/caregivers if they have dental insurance for their children?

	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
When they present with a dental concern				
Routinely at intake				
Routinely at well child visits				

13. Approximately what proportion of the families you see in your practice would experience financial hardship by accessing dental care for their child(ren)?

- a. 0-10%
- b. 10-25%
- c. 25-50%
- d. 50-75%
- e. 75+%

14. Do you think there are enough dentists in your area to treat children?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't Know

15. How important is your practice's role in promoting oral health among children?

- a. Very Important
- b. Important
- c. Moderately Important
- d. Of Little Importance
- e. Unimportant

16. Please rate your willingness to do the following:

	Most Willing				Least willing
	1	2	3	4	5
Lift the child's top lip to check for tooth decay.					
Advise parents/caregivers regarding prevention measures for tooth decay (e.g. tooth brushing).					
Formally refer suspected cases of tooth decay to dental professionals.					
Obtain more education about prevention measures for tooth decay (e.g. fluoride varnish).					
Implement prevention measures for tooth decay (e.g. fluoride varnish).					

17. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Untreated tooth decay could affect the general health of a child.					
Parents should brush their young children's teeth twice a day.					
The first signs of tooth decay are white spots or lines on the tooth surfaces.					
Baby teeth are important even though they fall out.					
Community water fluoridation is important for preventing tooth decay.					
Topical fluoride therapies are important for preventing tooth decay.					
Children should have 3 meals and 2-3 snacks per day.					
Parents should limit juice to 4-6 ounces per day.					
I feel confident enough to identify tooth decay in children.					
I feel knowledgeable enough to discuss and counsel parents/caregivers regarding their children's dental hygiene.					

18. Of the following, which represent a barrier to you carrying out prevention measures aimed at dental problems? (Circle ALL that apply.)

- a. Lack of clinical time
- b. Lack of office staff to assist in prevention measures
- c. Lack of reimbursement
- d. Lack of parent/caregiver's perceived need for dental care
- e. Lack of knowledge in identifying dental problems
- f. Infants and toddlers are too young and uncooperative for oral examinations
- g. Dentists should perform these activities
- h. Other, please specify:

19. What information/resources do you currently use to help in identifying dental problems and preventing tooth decay in children?

- a. Structured well baby/well child charting system (e.g. Rourke Baby Record)
- b. Physician guidelines (e.g. Canadian Pediatric Society position statements)
- c. Local information from my health unit
- d. Recent CME/CPD event(s) or online course(s) on this subject
- e. Other, please specify:

20. Would you like more information/resources on identifying dental problems and preventing tooth decay in children?

- a. Yes
- b. No

21. Are water supplies in the Niagara Region fluoridated?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't Know

22. Do you have any further comments?

