

INFANT DENTAL CARE

BIRTH TO SIX MONTHS

- Clean gums with a moist rag or gauze after feedings and at bedtime.
- Consult with your Pediatrician or Pediatric Dentist about fluoride recommendations.
- Keep your teeth healthy to avoid infecting your child with cavity causing bacteria. **HEALTHY TEETH RUN IN THE FAMILY!**
- Regulate feeding habits and avoid allowing your baby to fall asleep while feeding.

SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS

- First teeth should begin to appear **TIME TO SEE YOUR PEDIATRIC DENTIST!**The decay we see at four years of age begins as the first teeth appear in the mouth. Preventive efforts must begin at this time.
- Begin brushing teeth after feeding and at bed time with a soft bristle toothbrush.
- Do not allow your baby to fall asleep while feeding and encourage your child to feed in an upright position.
- Baby begins to walk **BE ALERT TO DENTAL INJURIES.**
- Wean baby from breast or bottle by first birthday.
- Discontinue pacifier by first birthday.

TWELVE TO TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS

- Begin schedule of exams and cleanings as recommended by Dr. Ashcraft.
- Begin using a small "pea size" portion of toothpaste for brushing in the morning and after dinner. TO AVOID FLUORIDE OVERINGESTION <u>DISCONTINUE</u> ALL FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENTS ONCE BRUSHING TWICE DAILY WITH FLUORIDE TOOTHPASTE.
- Most 20 primary teeth have erupted

STAGES OF PRIMARY TOOTH ERUPTION

