



The Kern County Children's Dental Health Network is committed to providing no cost dental services to children ages 0-5 throughout Kern County. The Nurse Referral Dental Treatment System is available throughout the calendar year.



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This project is sponsored by



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A partnership with

Kern County
Superintendent of Schools
Office of Mary C. Barlow ...advocates for children

Nurse Referral Dental Treatment System



Providing Dental
Services to Children
Ages Five & Younger



The referral process is easy! Children get their decay treated by a local pediatric dentist, free of charge.

HOW DOES THE NURSE REFERRAL DENTAL TREATMENT SYSTEM WORK?

When a school nurse or health aid identifies a child who has visible decay, the Nurse Referral Dental Treatment System can be a link for free dental treatment. The process is simple. If decay is visually identified, the school nurse completes the brief referral form, faxes it to the KCCDHN office, and staff facilitates an appointment with a Kern County pediatric dentist.

DO I NEED TO COMPLETE PAPERWORK BEFORE THE APPOINTMENT?

All necessary consent and medical forms will be completed by phone by the KCCDHN program staff. At the first dental appointment, medical forms will be reviewed and signed by the parent. Translation services, if needed, are also provided by the dental office.



Upon completion of the child's dental caries treatment, he/she will also receive a cleaning and fluoride treatment. If the child has her/his permanent molars, sealants will be applied to prevent decay. Prior to the child beginning the treatment process, parents will receive oral health education materials that will support maintaining good oral hygiene for their child. Information will include the importance of caring for baby teeth, proper brushing skills, and the effect fluoride has on preventing and strengthening their child's teeth.

The Nurse Referral Dental Treatment System does not include the cost of six-month visit; however, the KCCDHN program staff is available to link the family to a dentist.

- The Nurse Referral Dental Treatment System is available to children ages 0–5 who have visible decay or are experiencing pain.
- Referrals can be submitted throughout the calendar year.
- Referral forms are brief and easy to complete.
- KCCDHN staff are bilingual and available to provide information to nurses, health aides and parents.
- Referrals can be submitted by email to baantongiovanni@kern.org or by FAX at (661) 377-0329.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AND WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE SCREENING AND REFERRAL FORMS, PLEASE CONTACT BARBARA ANTONGIOVANNI AT (661) 377-0328.

