Kids Dental Specialists

Caries-risk Assessment Tool (CAT)

Your Child's name:_____ DOB:_____

RISK FACTORS TO CONSIDER	**RISK INDICATORS**		/ / ____
(For each item below, Parents please circle the most accurate response found to the right under "Risk Indicators"			
	High	**Moderate**	**Low**
Part 1 – History (Determined by interviewing the parents/primary caregiver)			
Child has special health care needs, especially any that impact motor coordination or cooperation	**Yes**		No
Child has condition that impairs saliva (dry mouth)	**Yes**		No
Child's use of dental home (frequent of routine dental Visits)	**None**	Irregular	Regular
Child has decay	**Yes**		No
Time lapsed since child's last cavity	**<12 months**	12-24 months	>24 months
Child wears braces or orthodontic / oral appliances	**Yes**		No
Child's parents and/or sibling(s) have decay	**Yes**		No
Socioeconomic status of child's parent	**Low**	Mid-level	High
Daily between meal exposures to sugars/cavity producing foods (includes on demand use of bottle/sippy cup containing liquid other than water; consumption of juice, carbonated beverages, or sports drinks, use of sweetened medications)	**>3**	1 to 2	Meal time only
Child's exposure to fluoride	**Does not use fluoridated toothpaste; use drinking water w/o fluoride and is not taking fluoride supplements**	Uses fluoridated toothpastes; usually does not drink fluoridated water and does not take fluoride supplements	Uses fluoridated toothpaste; drinks fluoridated water / takes fluoride supplements
Time per day that child's teeth/gums are brushed	**<1/day**	1/day	2-3/day
Part 2 – Clinical evaluation (determined by dentist examination of your child's mouth)			
Visible plaque (white, sticky buildup)	**Present**		Absent
Gingivitis (red, puffy gums)	**Present**		Absent
Areas of enamel demineralization (chalky white-spots on teeth	**More than 1**	1	None
Part 3 – Supplement professional assessment (Performed by dentist)			
Radiographic enamel caries	**Present**		Absent
Level of mutans streptococci or lactobacilli	**High**	Moderate	Low

Each child's overall assessed risk for developing decay is based on the highest level of risk indicator circle above (ie, a single risk indicator in any area of "high risk" category classifieds a child as being "high risk").