ALL ABOUT DENTAL SEALANTS!

Tooth decay is the most common chronic disease in children. It can cause pain, lead to serious health problems and even impact your child's speech, school attendance and self-esteem.

But there's good news – You can prevent tooth decay for your child! One of the best ways to do so is to make sure your child gets dental sealants.

WHAT ARE DENTAL SEALANTS?

Dental sealants are thin, plastic coatings that are applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth to prevent cavities. The back teeth are most likely to get cavities because small amounts of food and sugars get trapped in the uneven surfaces on the tops of the teeth. Dental sealants prevent this from happening.



HOW CAN I GET DENTAL SEALANTS FOR MY CHILD?

Getting sealants is easy. Just ask your child's dentist or dental hygienist about getting dental sealants for your child. If you don't have a dentist, contact your local health department and ask if they provide sealants or if they know a dentist or clinic where you can get them.

Many schools offer a dental sealant program where dentists and dental hygienists visit and provide sealants to children during the school day. Children must have parental consent to receive dental sealants at their school.

WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD GET SEALANTS?

Your child should get dental sealants between ages 5 and 7 when their first permanent molars come in. They should get sealants again between ages 11 and 14, when their second permanent molars come in.

WHY GET SEALANTS?

Dental sealants prevent cavities from forming by preventing small amounts of food and sugars from getting trapped in the uneven surfaces of the tops of teeth. Getting sealants can also save money, pain, and time by avoiding needed treatment like fillings, crowns, or caps to fix decayed teeth.

HOW LONG DO SEALANTS LAST?

Sealants can last up to 10 years. But they need to be checked at regular dental check-ups to make sure they are not chipped or worn away or lost. The dentist or dental hygienist can repair sealants by adding more sealant material to the surface of the tooth.





Learn more about at www.dentalmuseum.com