

**Table 21.2 CHDP PERIODICITY SCHEDULE FOR DENTAL REFERRAL BY AGE**

Age (years)	12 Month Dental Referral	6 Month Dental Referral**
1* - 20	 Once a year <u>minimum</u>	 Most CHDP children are moderate to high caries risk. Refer every 6 months.*** <b>Children with special needs may need more frequent referrals.</b>

- A dental screening/oral assessment is required at every CHDP health assessment regardless of age.
- Refer children directly to a dentist:
  - **At least annually** beginning at age one for maintenance of oral health (mandated beginning at age 3).
  - **At any age** if a problem is suspected or detected
  - **Every six (6) months** if moderate to high risk for caries
  - **Every three (3) months** for children with documented special health care needs when medical or oral condition can be affected
- To help find a dentist for a child with Medi-Cal, contact Denti-Cal at 1-800-322-6384 or <http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov>. For families with or without Medi-Cal, the local CHDP program can assist in finding a dentist.

\* The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) policy recommendation is to establish a dental home by age one: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;122/6/1387.pdf>.

\*\* For Medi-Cal eligible children, Denti-Cal will cover preventive services (exam, topical fluoride application, and prophylaxis) once in a six month period and more frequently if there is a documented necessity. Denti-Cal has adopted the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's (AAPD) "Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Oral Health Care" which indicates frequencies for diagnostic and preventive procedures: [http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/provsrvcs/bulletins/Volume\\_26\\_Number\\_7.pdf](http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/provsrvcs/bulletins/Volume_26_Number_7.pdf). The AAPD emphasizes the importance of very early professional intervention and the continuity of care: [http://www.aapd.org/media/Policies\\_Guidelines/G\\_Periodicity.pdf](http://www.aapd.org/media/Policies_Guidelines/G_Periodicity.pdf)

\*\*\* Caries Risk Factors for Early Childhood Caries: [http://www.aap.org/commpeps/dochs/oralhealth/pact/ch4\\_sect7.cfm](http://www.aap.org/commpeps/dochs/oralhealth/pact/ch4_sect7.cfm)

**References**

California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Subchapter 13, CHDP, Section 6843; Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Section 440.40 (b), Part 441, Subpart B. CHDP Program Letter, 04-13. Denti-Cal Bulletin Volume 26, Number 7, March 2010.