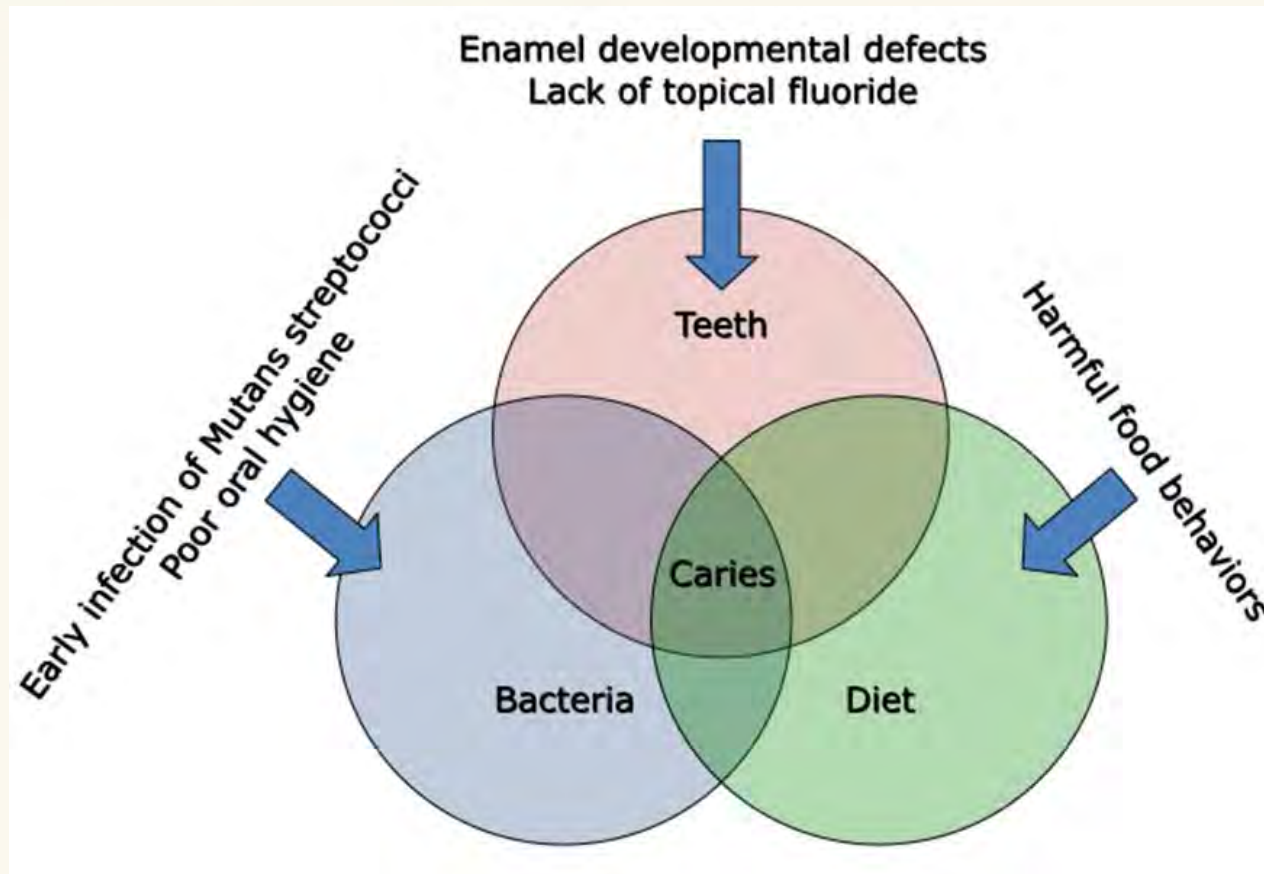


MCH & Immunization Conference 2012

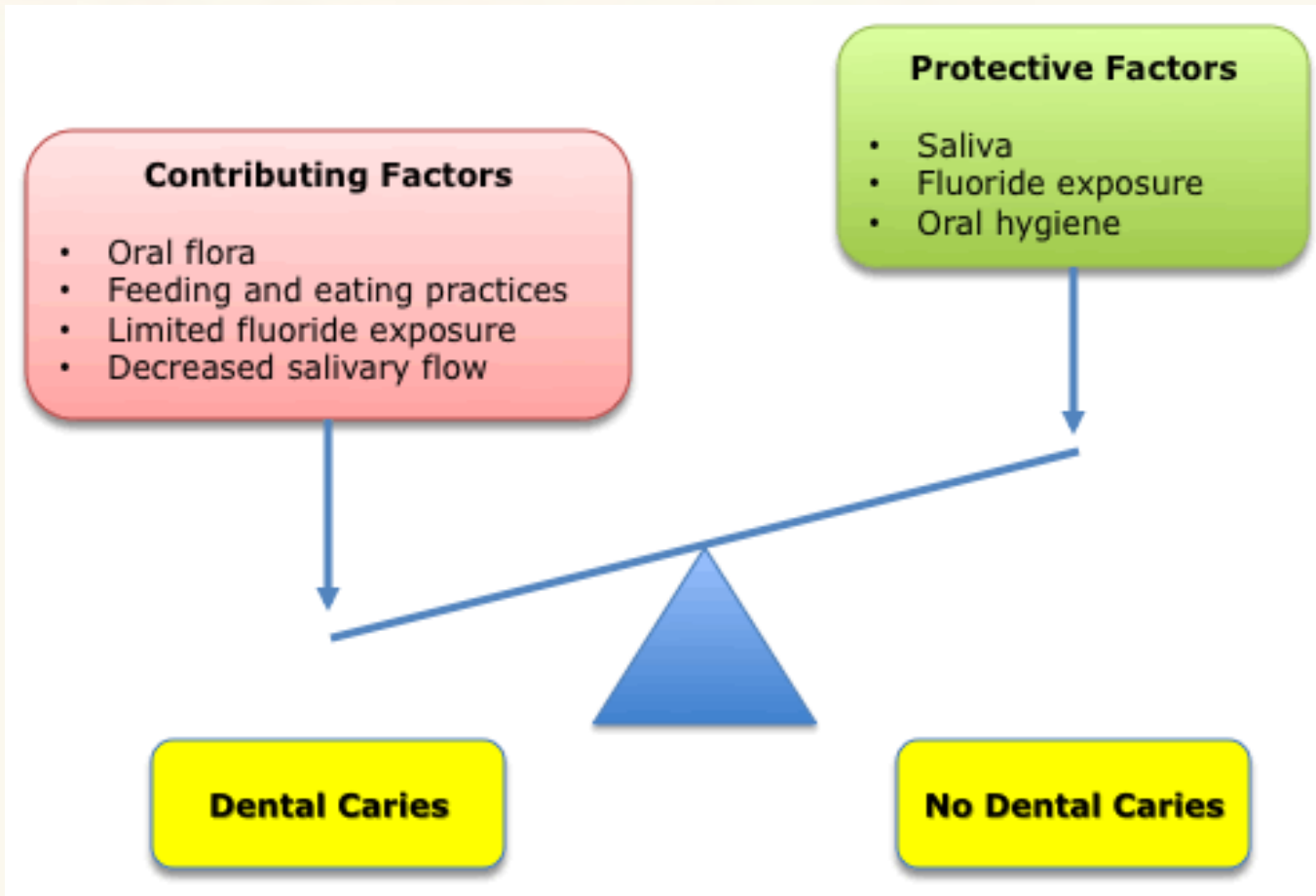
Sarah Shoffstall-Cone, DDS, MPH
DENTEX Clinical Site Director
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium



Dental Caries as an Infectious Disease



Caries Balance



Caries Risk Assessment

AAPD Caries-Risk Assessment Tool (CAT)*

Caries-risk Indicators	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Clinical conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No carious teeth in past 24 mos. ■ No enamel demineralization ■ No visible plaque; no gingivitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Carious teeth in past 24 mos. ■ 1 area of enamel demineralization ■ Gingivitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Carious teeth in past 12 mos. ■ More than 1 area enamel demineralization (enamel caries "white-spot lesion") ■ Visible plaque on anterior (front) teeth ■ Radiographic enamel caries ■ High titers of mutans Streptococci ■ Wearing dental or orthodontic appliances ■ Enamel hypoplasia
Environmental characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Optimal systemic and topical fluoride exposure ■ Consumption of simple sugars or foods strongly associated with caries initiation primarily at meal times. ■ High caregiver socioeconomic status ■ Regular use of dental care in an established dental home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Suboptimal systemic fluoride exposure with optimal topical exposure ■ Occasional (i.e., 1-2) between-meal exposures to simple sugars or foods strongly associated with caries ■ Midlevel caregiver socioeconomic status (i.e. eligible for school lunch program or SCHIP) ■ Irregular use of dental services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Suboptimal topical fluoride exposure ■ Frequent (i.e., 3 or more) between meal exposures to simple sugars or foods strongly associated with caries. ■ Low-level caregiver socioeconomic status (i.e., eligible for Medicaid) ■ No usual source of dental care ■ Active caries present in the mother
General health conditions			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Children with special health care needs ■ Conditions impairing saliva composition / flow

Risk Category

■ **High Risk:** The presence of a single risk indicator in any area of the "high-risk" category is sufficient to classify a child as being at "high risk".

■ **Moderate Risk:** The presence of at least 1 "moderate risk" indicator and no "high risk" indicators present results in a "moderate risk" classification.

■ **Low Risk:** The child does not have "moderate risk" or "high risk" indicators.



Working Towards Behavioral Change

Motivational Interviewing

- Counseling approach
- 1st used with alcohol and drug addictions
- Emphasis on listening to patient
- Focuses on patients needs and wants

“This means, at times, more attention to the person than the tooth”

Philip Weinstein, PhD
University of Washington
Dental Fears Clinic



Motivational Interviewing

- Evidence Based
- Sustained behavior changes over time
- Requires multiple interactions
- Culturally competent



The Child Menu

- Clean baby's teeth daily as soon as they appear. Cleaning can be done with a small soft toothbrush or a washcloth.
- Use very small amount (smaller than a pea) of fluoride toothpaste.
- Bring your baby in to have your DHAT paint baby's teeth with protective fluoride.
- Do not let anyone add anything sugary to your child's bottle.
- Limit time sipping and snacking. The longer your child takes sipping or snacking, the greater the chance of developing cavities.
- Use a cup.
- Have members of your household schedule a dental visit.



Fluoride Varnish

1. Slows development of decay
2. Makes the enamel more resistant to decay by speeding up remineralization
1. Stops bacterial metabolism resulting in the production of less acid



Advantages of Fluoride Varnish

- Multiple flavors available
- Easy and fast to apply
- Okay to use in a wet mouth
- Can be applied outside the dental office
- Not associated with dental fluorosis













Interim Therapeutic Restorations

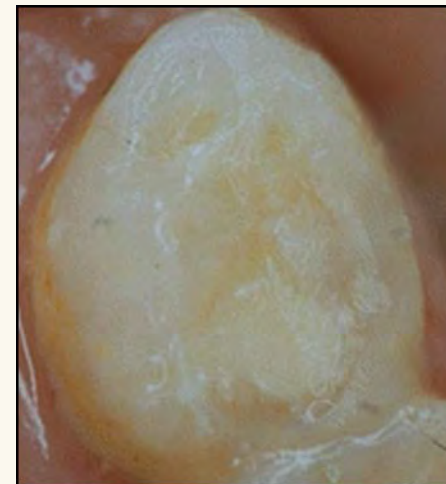
A restoration used in infants, children and adolescents to prevent the progression of caries



Interim Therapeutic Restorations

Benefits:

- No need for local anesthetic
- Minimal preparation
- Restorations release fluoride
- Bond to tooth
- Esthetic



Facts about ITR

- 1. The use of ITR has been shown to reduce the levels of cariogenic oral bacteria.**
- 2. Follow-up care including oral hygiene instructions and the use of fluoride varnishes and fluoride toothpaste may improve the treatment outcome.**
- 3. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recognizes ITR as a “beneficial provisional technique” in pediatric dental restorations.**

