

## AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY CARIES-RISK ASSESSMENT\*

RISK FACTORS TO CONSIDER (For each item below, circle the most accurate response found to the right under "Risk Indicators".)	RISK INDICATORS		
	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW
<b>Part 1 - History</b> (determined by interviewing the parent/primary caregiver)			
Child has special health care needs.	Yes		No
Child has condition that impairs salivary flow/composition.	Yes		No
Child's use of dental home	None	Irregular	Regular
Time lapsed since child's last cavity	<12 months	12 to 24 months	>24 months
Child wears braces or orthodontic/oral appliances.	Yes		No
Child's mother has active decay present.	Yes		No
Socioeconomic status of child's caregiver	Low	Mid-level	High
Daily between-meal exposure to sugars/carriogenic foods (include ad lib use of bottle/sippy cup containing juice or carbonated beverage)	≥3	1 to 2	Mealtime only
Child's exposure to fluoride	Does not use fluoridated toothpaste; drinking water is not fluoridated; not taking fluoride supplements	Uses fluoridated toothpaste; usually does not drink fluoridated water; does not take fluoride supplements	Uses fluoridated toothpaste; drinks fluoridated water or takes fluoride supplements
<b>Part 2 - Clinical evaluation</b> (determined by examining the child's mouth)			
Visible plaque on anterior teeth	Present		Absent
Gingivitis		Present	Absent
Areas of demineralization (white-spot lesions)	More than 1	1	None
Enamel characteristics: hypoplasia, defects, retentive pits/fissures	Present		Absent
<b>Part 3 - Supplemental assessment (Optional)</b>			
Radiographic enamel caries	Present		Absent
Levels of mutans streptococci	High	Moderate	Low

\*Based on AAPD Policy on Use of a Caries-risk Assessment Tool (CAT) for Infants, Children, and Adolescents. *Pediatr Dent* 2004;26(suppl):25-27.  
 Each child's overall assessed risk for developing decay is based on the highest level of risk indicator circled above (ie, a single risk indicator in any area of the "high risk" category classifies a child as being "high risk").