

Intervention Name

Management of dental caries

Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) is an intervention to treat existing dental decay and prevent further decay. The first step is to treat decayed tooth cavities by removing the decay using hand instruments. This is followed by filling the cavity and any adjacent pits and fissures on biting surfaces of the teeth with an adhesive material containing fluoride, usually glass ionomer. Pain is rare during ART treatment, virtually eliminating the need for an anaesthetic. Although ART is ideally delivered by an oral health professional, an auxiliary, trained primary health personnel will also be able to deliver ART effectively with the appropriate instruments and consumables.

Health programme



Adolescent Health, Child Health, Non-Communicable Disease, School Health

Target population

All

Service type

Curative, Preventative

Name of procedures

Oral health examination, Atraumatic restorative treatment (ART)

Delivery platform

Periodic schedulable delivery of services by skilled health worker in home, schools, workplace, or public/communal space; General outpatient services

Health workforce needs



Dental Assistants and Therapists

Number of contacts: 1

Total contact time: 10 minutes



Nursing Professionals

Number of contacts: 1

Total contact time: 10 minutes



Dentists

Number of contacts: 1

Total contact time: 10 minutes

Average number of contacts

(days per year/per event)

Outpatient visits: 1

Examples of health products

Medicines:

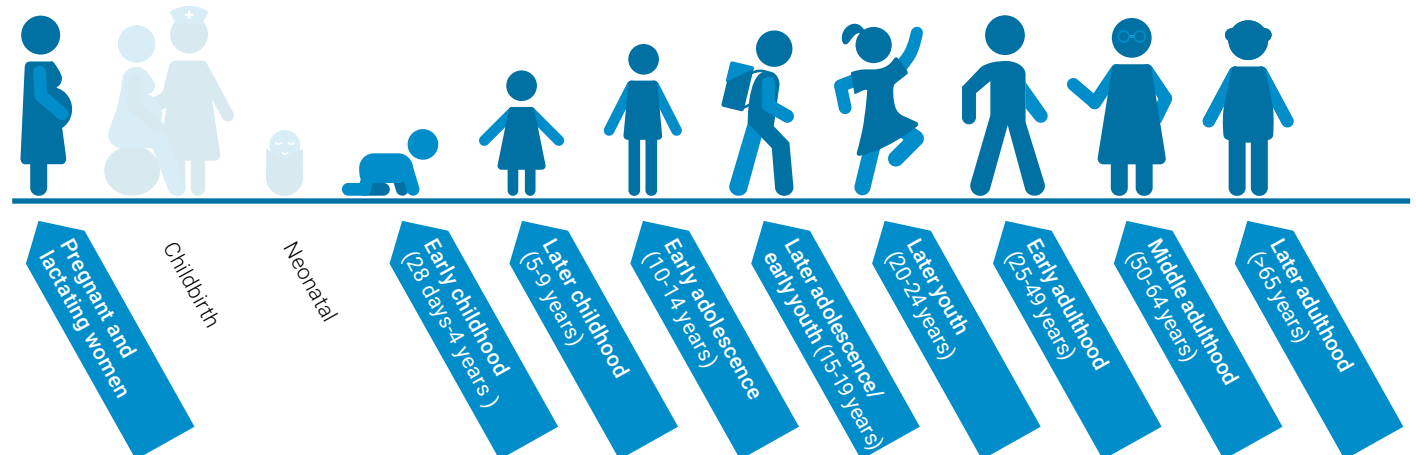
None

Medical devices

Glass ionomer cement & ART Kit: Dentine spoon excavators, forceps, dental hatchets, cement applicators or spatulas, dental chair, light and autoclave

Age/Life course stage

Relevant stages are marked in blue



World Health Organization

SDG context



3.8. Other

Health impact

Burden of disease / ICD classification:

DA08.0 Dental caries

References

WHO GRC-approved guideline

N/A

Other WHO reference documents

WHO (2016) Promoting Oral Health in Africa Prevention and control of oral diseases and noma as part of essential noncommunicable disease interventions:

<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/205886/1/9789290232971.pdf?ua=1&ua=1&ua=>

WHO Implementation Manual: Ending Childhood Dental Caries
Forthcoming

Relevant ICHI codes

(Target, Action and Means)

Dental examination

KAE - Teeth

AE - Inspection

AC - Per Orifice

Restoration of tooth

KAE - Teeth

MK - Repair

AC - Per Orifice