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Title of Research *	Time to first preventive dental visit (FPDV) at Iowa community health centers
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Introduction & Purpose *	To assess demographics and behavioral variables which may be associated with time to first preventive dental visit (FPDV) at the Iowa community health centers.
Experimental Design *	Forty chart reviews were performed per site on randomly selected Medicaid-eligible children at six Iowa community health centers for calendar years 2000–2006. Data regarding initial oral examination and dental preventive and treatment services rendered were entered and analyzed for 240 children, all of whom were less than 6 years of age at entry.
Results *	Mean age for first preventive dental visit was 26.8 months (SD 13.7). Seventy-three percent of the children had their FPDV by 3-years of age. Fifty-three percent were males, 37% were white non-Hispanic and 23% required translation services. Each of these three variables was not statistically associated with time to first dental visit. However, there was a statistically significant association between age at FPDV and the community health center where the child received care initially ($\chi^2=98.64, df=45, p=0.0001$). About 62% received oral prophylaxis, 73% received topical fluoride applications, 14% received dietary counseling and 63% received oral hygiene instructions during their first visit. Of the 98% who had a documented treatment plan, 86% completed this plan. Ninety-seven percent of children saw the same provider throughout the first episode.
Conclusions *	More than 70% Medicaid-eligible children made their first preventive dental visit prior to their third birthday. However, there is variation among community health center for when a child is first seen.

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