

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Caries Risk Assessment Tool (CAT*)

	Low risk	Moderate risk	High risk
Clinical Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No caries ▪ No enamel demineralization ▪ No visible plaque ▪ No gingivitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carious teeth in past 24 months ▪ 1 area of enamel demineralization (enamel) ▪ Caries “white spots lesions” ▪ Gingivitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carious teeth in the past 12 months ▪ More than 1 area of enamel demineralization ▪ (enamel caries, “white spot lesions”) ▪ 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 topical fluoride exposure ▪ Consumption of simple sugars or foods strongly associated with caries initiation primarily at mealtimes ▪ 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 (1-2) between-meal exposures to simple sugars or foods strongly associated with caries ▪ Mid-level 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