

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

*AAPD, Council on Clinical Affairs, www.aapd.org