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**EXPERIENCE OF USING THE CARIES-RISK ASSESSMENT FORM
IN CHILDREN**

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Content. The basic goal of every pediatric dentist is to save the dental health of children patients. It is impossible to create an optimal treatment and prevention plan without taking into account the individual characteristics of the patient, in particular the risk of caries. There are a number of protocols for assessing the risk of caries in people of different ages. One of the most popular protocols currently in the world is the application of Caries-Risk Assessment Forms. The use of this method requires a clinical examination of the patient and a conversation with the patient (parents) to identify social/biological risk factors and protective factors.

Objective: to assess the possibility of using the Caries-Risk Assessment Forms at a pediatric dental appointment and assess with their help the risk of caries in children receiving dental care at the Republican Dental Clinic, Minsk.

Materials and methods. The Caries-Risk Assessment Form for 0-5 years old children was adopted from The Reference Manual of Pediatric Dentistry, AAPD (American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry), 2019 and translated into Russian. A risk assessment of caries development was carried out using this Form in 20 children under the age of 6 years who applied for dental care at the Republican Dental Clinic.

Results. Identification of risk factors, in particular, the level of sanitary literacy of parents, the socio-economic status of the family and the nature of the child's snacking, presented the greatest difficulty in applying the Caries-Risk Assessment Form for 0-5 years old children. According to the results of applying the Caries-Risk Assessment Form for 0-5 years old children, the risk level of caries development in most children 14 (70.0%) was rated as high, 4 (20,0%) children had medium caries risk and 1 (10,0%) low.

Conclusion. According to the results of this study, the Caries-Risk Assessment Form for 0-5 years old children can be used during pediatric dental visit as one of the methods for assessing the risk of caries in children of the appropriate age.