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Editor's Note:

New guidelines have recently been published in the Australian Dental Journal clarifying the use fluoride toothpaste for children under 2 years of age. These guidelines state: "For children aged 18 months to five years (inclusive), the teeth should be cleaned twice a day with toothpaste containing 0.4–0.55mg/g of fluoride. Toothpaste should always be used under supervision of a responsible adult, a small pea-sized amount should be applied to a child-sized soft toothbrush and children should spit out. not swallow, and not rinse." The guidelines also state "From the time that teeth first erupt ... to the age of 17 months, children's teeth should be cleaned by a responsible adult, but not with toothpaste". To read the complete article click here.