Provider Bulletin

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MEDI-CAL HAS DENTAL COVERED

THIS ISSUE

TRAINING SEMINARS

To reserve a spot online or to view a complete list of training seminars, to go the Provider Training Seminar Schedule.

Please note: Due to the COVID-19 situation, all seminars will be held as webinars.

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE LINE

Speak with an Enrollment Specialist. Go here for more information.

Available every Wednesday 8am - 4pm

Dental Transformation Initiative Extended through 2021 and Updated Adjudication Reason Code 002A

On December 29, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) request for a one-year extension of the Medi-Cal 2020 Section 1115 demonstration, which includes Domains 1-3 of the Dental Transformation Initiative, through **December 31, 2021**. CMS authorizes what is predominantly an as-is extension of the demonstration's Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) as a first step, with negotiations to continue with respect to certain demonstration programs extended under this approval.

Domain 1 - Increase Preventive Services Utilization

This domain aims to increase the statewide utilization of preventive services by at least 10 percentage points over the 6 year Waiver 2020 period for Medi-Cal members ages 1 through 20, as aligned with the CMS Oral Health Initiative.

Domain 2 - Caries Risk Assessment and Disease Management Pilot

This domain aims to formally assess and manage caries risk by diagnosing early childhood caries via utilization of the Caries Risk Assessment (CRA) to treat it as a chronic disease. Domain 2 also aims to introduce a model that proactively prevents and mitigates oral disease through the provision of preventive services in lieu of more invasive and costly procedures for Medi-Cal children ages six and under enrolled in the Medi-Cal Dental Program.

To participate in Domain 2, providers must complete the DHCS approved CRA Training, Treating Young Kids Everyday (TYKE). The TYKE training is offered by the California Dental Association and providers will receive Continuing Education credits for completion. Please note, providers must complete the following prior to submitting claims for payment:

- TYKE training
- Domain 2 Provider Opt-In Attestation

As part of the Domain 2 extension, Adjudication Reason Code (ARC) 002A was updated. The updated description for ARC 002A is as follows:

ARC 002A: *An evaluation is not a benefit within six months of a previous evaluation, to the same provider, for patients under age 21; or does not meet DTI Domain 2 CRA criteria.*

Domain 3 - Continuity of Care

This domain aims to improve the continuity of dental care for children in Medi-Cal through incentive payments awarded to dental providers in select counties who have maintained continuity of care through providing examinations for their enrolled children ages 20 and under. The goal is to Increase continuity of care for beneficiaries ages 20 and under for 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 continuous years.

Information about each domain's criteria, payments, methodology, and opt-in forms can be found on the Department of Health Care Services' DTI page. Providers can also subscribe to the DTI stakeholder email distribution to receive electronic updates and notifications regarding DTI. Please send any comments, questions, or suggestions regarding DTI to DTI@dhcs.ca.gov.

Reminder: $1,800 Dental Cap Clarification

The annual $1,800 per member dental soft cap does not apply to procedures the Medi-Cal Dental Program deems medically necessary.

Medi-Cal dental providers do not need to take any action as a result of this change and are not responsible for checking a Medi-Cal member's dental cap prior to rendering medically necessary services. All previously authorized services on Treatment Authorization Requests or medically necessary procedures billed on claims will not be subject to the $1,800 member dental cap as long as the procedures have met the criteria requirements outlined in the draft CDT-19 Manual of Criteria.

Please note: The member dental cap balance displayed on the Notice of Authorization is informational only.

For details about the soft dental cap, please refer to Provider Handbook Section 4 – Treating Members. For questions regarding this notice, please contact the Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507.

Corrected: 2021 Medi-Cal Dental Payment Schedule Changes

The Medi-Cal Dental payment schedule will be adjusted at various times throughout the 2021 calendar year. Below is a complete list of the 2021 payment schedule changes.

2021 Medi-Cal Dental Payment Schedule Changes		
Holiday Adjusted For	**Week Of**	**Payment Issue Date**
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	January 18, 2021	January 22, 2021
President's Day	February 15, 2021	February 19, 2021
Cesar Chavez Day	March 29, 2021	April 2, 2021
Memorial Day	May 31, 2021	June 4, 2021
Independence Day	July 5, 2021	July 9, 2021
Labor Day	September 6, 2021	September 10, 2021
Columbus Day	October 11, 2021	October 15, 2021
Veterans Day	November 8, 2021	November 12, 2021
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 22, 2021	November 26, 2021

Please check the Medi-Cal Dental website for future notifications. For questions regarding scheduled payment schedule changes, please call the Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507.

Reporting Missed Appointments

Has a Medi-Cal patient missed an appointment with your dental office? If so, you are encouraged to record the absentee member's name and missed appointment date in the Provider Website Application. Once information about the missed appointment is entered into the Missed Appointment Notification form on the Provider Website Application, Medi-Cal Dental will follow up with the member to assist in rescheduling their appointment with your office. **<u>Reminder</u>: Providers cannot bill Medi-Cal members for missed appointments under the Medi-Cal Dental Program**.

The Provider Website Application also allows secure login for providers and their staff to access their claim status and history, Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) status and history, weekly check amounts, and monthly payment totals and year-to-date payments. For instructions on how to create an account, please review the Provider Website Application User Guide.

For more information about missed appointments and Medi-Cal Dental billing practices, please refer to the Provider Handbook. If you have questions or want to report a missed appointment by phone, please contact the Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507.