Registration Information on MCH Community Conversations

We shared some information earlier this month about the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Maternal and Child Health Program regional meetings that will be held throughout the state starting in August. Most meetings will be held from 10 am to 3:30 pm with lunch provided. Space is limited and registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Register.

Perceptions of Oral Health, Preventive Care and Care-Seeking Behaviors Among Rural Adolescents

This draft Journal of School Health research paper describes the asymmetrical oral disease burden faced by certain population subgroups, particularly children and adolescents. This qualitative study conducted by the University of Florida explores oral health perceptions and dental care behaviors among rural adolescents.

Dental and Orthodontia Updates from HCPF

On July 1, 2014 adult Medicaid clients age 21 years and over gained access to a more comprehensive dental benefit that includes restorative services such as root canals, crowns, dentures and periodontal scaling and root planning. In addition, DentaQuest began administration of all dental and orthodontia benefits, claims, and Prior Authorization Requests (PARs) for the Colorado Medical Assistance Program. To learn more about this transition, please refer to the June Provider Bulletin.

Implementation of a new adult dental benefit, coupled with the administrative transition of the Colorado Medicaid Dental Program to DentaQuest has understandably generated a lot of questions. Please take a moment to read through the various updates below.

Administrative Transition to DentaQuest

- The DentaQuest Provider Portal was populated with data DentaQuest had available at the time of the program's beginning on July 1. This may have caused some providers to not be able to register and begin to use the Provider Portal. Any corrections that need to be made are being completed in the fastest, most accurate way possible. If you feel you need to have your information validated or need assistance using the portal, you can contact DentaQuest’s provider services at 1-855-225-1731 (TTY: 711).
- An updated Provider Office Reference Manual (ORM) will be published out on the Provider Web Portal. There will be more clarity and more specific coverage information in this latest version of the ORM. We...
Adult Dental

- You may view the final version of the Adult Dental rule, which outlines the more comprehensive adult dental benefit that became available as of July 1, 2014, on the [Code of Colorado Regulations website](#). Scroll to section 8.201 of the rule.
- The final version of the corresponding Adult Dental Benefit Coverage Standard has been submitted for Medicaid Director’s signature and will be posted, once signed.
- An up-to-date Adult Dental Fee Schedule is located under DentaQuest Resources.

Children’s Dental

- As previously mentioned, the Department has rescheduled the first reading of the revised children’s dental benefit rule. The rule will now be presented to the Medical Services Board (MSB) on August 8th. The public rule review meeting prior to the MSB presentation will take place Monday, July 21st at 9am in the first floor conference room of the 225 E 16th Ave. building, Denver. The rule will be posted to the Department website prior to the public rule review meeting (once finalized).
- Like the rule, the Children’s Dental Benefit Coverage Standard is undergoing further revisions based on continued stakeholder feedback. We hope to post the revised draft to the Department website this week and the link to the revised version of the Children’s Dental Benefit Coverage Standard will be sent to you, once posted.
- The Department has also finished authoring responses to the Children’s portion of the Dental Benefits Collaborative Listening Log. We hope to post the log, in full, soon and will provide a link to the log.

Children’s Orthodontia

- The Children’s Orthodontia Benefits Collaborative (begun as part of the Dental Collaborative) will likely resume later this year. At that time, the Department will discuss the independent review conducted by The Medicaid Evidenced Based Decisions Project of stakeholder feedback previously provided, and will present a revised children’s orthodontia policy proposal, including a revised proposal regarding the scoring of the draft Colorado Modified Handicapping Labio-Lingual (HLD) Index.
- Until a Colorado HLD form can be finalized and implemented, the Department has asked DentaQuest to evaluate prior authorization requests for orthodontia in the same manner as previously determined by APS. To accomplish this, DentaQuest has created the Colorado Orthodontic Criteria Index - Comprehensive D8080 Form. If you would like to obtain this form or if you have questions regarding how to fill out this form, please contact DentaQuest’s provider services at 1-855-225-1731 (TTY: 711).
- The updated DentaQuest Provider Office Reference Manual will include clear reference to this form (not the IAF).

**Important Note:** The Department has not and will not be changing children’s dental or orthodontia policy prior to MSB approval of the revisions we have discussed collaboratively. We recognize that a recent version of the DentaQuest manual sent to dental providers contained certain coverage information that differed from that of our current policy. We also recognize that, with system transitions, there is the possibility for coding error. Please be assured, no codes have been intentionally closed in the system, nor additional prior authorization requirements put in place. DentaQuest is working diligently to update erroneous information in the manual and the Department is working with DentaQuest this week to make sure all covered services are showing as such in the new system.