

Dental Policy Review Committee Members Present

James Thommes, Dental Director DentaQuest of Illinois
Henry Lotsof, Avesis
Mary Margaret Looker, Central Counties Health Centers
Mary Pat Burgess, Chicago Department of Public Health
Mona VanKanegan, Illinois Department of Public Health
Kathy J. Shafer, Southern Illinois University (SIU)
Jorelle R. Alexander, Cook County Health & Hospitals System
Jason Grinter, Onsite Dental
Danny Hanna, University of Illinois (UIC)
Cyrus Oates, Oates Dental
Bill Simon, Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS)

Dental Policy Review Committee Members Not Present

Randall Markarian, Markarian Orthodontics
Gregory Dietz, Children's Center for Dentistry

HFS Staff Present

Christina McCutchan (BPAS)
Shelly Defrates (BPAS)
Jose Jimenez (BPAS)
Mary Richey (OIG)

DentaQuest Staff Present

Aaron Washburn
Kelly Pulliam

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Mrs. Christina McCutchan, Dental Manager for Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Mrs. Christina McCutchan explained the procedure for the meeting due to being done through Web Ex.

Mrs. Christina McCutchan reminded attendees that the committee is comprised of selected committee members that are committed to share their expertise, review policy and procedures, express challenges they are experiencing and make recommendations to the Department to positively impact the health of our dental members. She reminded attendees that this committee is not a managed care committee and will only deal with fee-for-service issues.

II. Introductions

Mrs. Christina McCutchan did roll call of committee members, HFS staff and DentaQuest staff.

III. OLD BUSINESS

July 15, 2020, Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Christina McCutchan asked if any committee members had any comments or opposition to posting the July 15, 2020 meeting minutes. There were no objections so Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated the minutes would be posted.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

New Committee Member

Mrs. Christina McCutchan introduced Dr. Bill Simon from the Illinois State Dental Society as the newest Dental Policy Review Committee member.

2021 Committee Meeting Dates

The committee agreed to the following 2021 meeting dates:

January 20, 2021

April 14, 2021

July 14, 2021

October 27, 2021

Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated that she will get the 2021 meeting dates posted.

Mandatory Committee Trainings

Mrs. Christina McCutchan thanked all committee members that completed the 2019 Ethics Training and 2019 Sexual Harassment Trainings and asked that if any member hadn't completed to do so immediately as the 2020 Ethics Training and the 2020 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training are now due.

CDT Dental Codes

Dr. James Thommes announced the 18 new and 4 deleted CDT dental code updates for 2021.

The committee recommended adding the following 2021 codes:

D1355 - caries preventive medicament application – per tooth, that would be edited against and paid at \$14.85 the same rate as D1354. Dr. Thommes did explain that D1355 is for primary prevention or remineralization. Medicaments applied do not include topical fluorides and no drilling is required with this code.

D2928 - prefabricated porcelain/ceramic crown – permanent tooth, that would be edit against all D27xx codes same tooth and paid at \$73.40 which is the stainless-steel crown rate.

D7961 - buccal / labial frenectomy (frenulectomy), that would be edited against and paid at \$77.15 the same rate as D7963. This code replaces D7960.

D7962 - lingual frenectomy (frenulectomy), that would be edited against and paid at \$77.15 the same rate as D7963. This code replaces D7960.

Mrs. Christina McCutchan informed the committee that she would have the fiscal impact put together for these codes and make recommendations to Administration. She also stated that the fiscal impact had been completed for the CDT dental codes presented at the previous meeting and will be forwarding on for review by Administration.

Dr. Kathy Schafer stated that Southern Illinois University (SIU) Dental School faculty had asked if the committee would discuss and possibly recommend the following CDT dental codes:

D9120 - the sectioning of bridge code D9120. Dr. James Thommes stated that recommendation of D9120 is a valid request and would obtain other state information on price and edits to discuss at future meeting.

D0330 - The ability to take a full mouth x-ray and a D0330 Panoramic Film at the initial screening appointment and receive payment for both when the member has been referred to them and dentist needs the detailed information from the D0330 that can't be retrieved from the full mouth x-ray. Dr. James Thommes stated that he had never seen a state program that allows payment for both full mouth x-ray and D0330 and doesn't support. Dr. Danny Hanna informed the committee that University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Dental School has the same problem with removal of 3rd molars when the patient has been referred from another dentist giving an example that a member goes to a community dentist, gets a full mouth x-ray, then goes to the dental school and needs a D0330 when getting 3rd molar removed. UIC isn't able to bill for D0330 because it edits against full mouth x-ray but they need the detail from the D0330 because it isn't provided in full mouth x-ray. Dr. Bill Simon suggested making an exception for dental schools. Committee members were in agreement with recommendation. Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated that she would complete fiscal impact and send recommendation to Administration.

Dr. Henry Lotsof brought up the issue of high abuse potential for CDT dental code D4341 Scaling and Root Planing. Dr. Henry Lotsof recommended requiring offices that use D4341 for the performance of a full mouth scaling and root planning to submit the amount of time they spent treating the member along with the amount of local anesthetic used for the procedure. Dr. James Thommes agreed with the documentation requirements. Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated that she would send recommendation to Administration for review.

Dr. Mona VanKanegan asked the committee for comments on allowing non-dental providers to provide fluoride varnish for pregnant women and for children 3 to 6 years of age. During discussion it was determined that for children 3 to 6 years of age would require an extension of the Bright Smiles from Birth program. Dr. Danny Hanna asked if this service would edit against the dental benefit. It was confirmed that this service would not edit against the dental benefit. Dr. Jason Grinter stated he felt that the committee could support fluoride varnish for pregnant women and children 3 to 6 years of age. Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated she would look into this as this would not be on the dental side but the medical side.

All Kids School Program Update

Mrs. Christina McCutchan reminded the committee that the Department released a provider notice in August for the temporary postponement of the All Kids School Program, stating that the Department has agreed to look at the program after the first of the year. But, as of right now, program is closed until the end of the current school year – June 2021.

Mrs. Christina McCutchan confirmed that Head Start and Day Care Centers and are included in this suspension, with the only exception being the School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) that have an external door for the public, so they do not have access to the school, and dental vans.

Dr. Mona VanKanegan also stated that HFS and DPH composed a letter to be sent to the schools by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) – Division of Oral Health (DOH) Updates

Dr. Mona VanKanegan provided an update on the Oral Health Plan, working on getting oral health providers to be able to provide vaccines.

IDPH is also working on a new web site. On the website, is the new school exam form that dental providers should be using.

IDPH has also requested a data request from HFS.

Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS) Update

Dr. Bill Simon stated there is no update at this time on the outstanding ISDS legislation but will be working to add teledentistry language and updating COVID and Flu vaccine language to the Dental Practice Act for dentists.

CARES Act Provider Relief Funding

Mr. Jose Jimenez spoke on the CARES Act and let the committee know that there are several provider notices on our website regarding CARES act funding.

Mr. Jose Jimenez stated that the Department had a discussion a couple weeks ago and the result was that funds appropriated by Illinois General Assembly for State Fiscal Year 2021 would include dental providers. These CARES payments are intended to provide support to Medicaid providers as the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency continues to unfold. They may be used to offset COVID-19 related costs from March 1 through December 30, 2020.

All providers must enroll in Portal by October 31, 2020 but are still trying to find out if Dental Providers will be using the Portal since none of the dental providers currently receive payments from the Comptroller but by DentaQuest.

Mr. Jose Jimenez stated that the funding is available to reimburse on addition CAREs Act expenditures. Funding will be retroactive to April 2020 through December 31, 2020 and is being provided by a grant to the state. There will be a provider notice done specifically for dental providers explaining how they can get funding.

Mr. Jose Jimenez made a recommendation to the committee to create a COVID subcommittee. Mrs. Christina McCutchan stated that any committee members that would like to participate in the COVID subcommittee can contact her and any other dental providers attending the meeting who wishes to participate can email HFS.Dental@illinois.gov.

V. Open Discussion

Before opening the floor up to open discussion, Mrs. Christina McCutchan asked if any of the committee members had anything else to discuss. Nothing else was brought up.

VI. Adjournment

Mrs. Christina McCutchan adjourned at 2:26 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2021 at 1 pm.