Adult Medicaid Dental Benefit

Background

Historically, Medicaid has not covered dental services for adults. Lack of preventive dental coverage can contribute to a range of serious health complications and drives Medicaid costs for both emergency and medical services.

In 2013, the state legislature passed Senate Bill 242 which authorized the Department to create a new limited dental benefit in Medicaid for adults age 21 and over. The new dental benefit provides eligible Medicaid members up to $1,000 in dental services per state fiscal year which runs from July 1 – June 30.

What the new adult dental benefit covers

The adult dental benefit is available to eligible adult Medicaid members (age 21 and over) and covers:
- Basic preventive dental exams
- Diagnostic and restorative dental services (such as x-rays and fillings)
- Extractions (tooth pulling)
- Root canals
- Crowns
- Partial dentures*
- Complete dentures*
- Periodontal scaling
- Root planing
- Other procedures requiring prior authorization will also be available.

* Partial and complete dentures are not subject to the $1,000 cap per state fiscal year.

Colorado Medicaid partners with DentaQuest

Colorado Medicaid has partnered with DentaQuest to help our members find a dentist and help us manage our members' dental benefits. All Colorado Medicaid dental program members will receive a welcome packet from DentaQuest with information about your dental benefit coverage, how to use your dental benefits and where to get information if you have questions.

DentaQuest will operate a customer service center to specifically answer your dental questions. You can reach DentaQuest's Member Services at: 1- 855-225-1729, TTY: 711, Monday – Friday between 7:30am – 5:00pm Mountain Time or visit their website at www.DentaQuest.com.

Help finding a dentist

Part of DentaQuest's role is to help Colorado Medicaid increase the number of dentists who accept Medicaid. If you don't already have a dentist or need help finding one, contact DentaQuest customer service at the number above, or visit their website at www.DentaQuest.com to find a dentist near you.