



MEDICAID ADULT DENTAL REFORM

2019 State Policy Statement

CALL TO ACTION

A staggering number of Michiganders face significant health risks because they can't get the preventive dental care they need. We can help to change that by transitioning the Medicaid Adult Dental Program to managed care — similar to Healthy Kids Dental and the Healthy Michigan Plan.

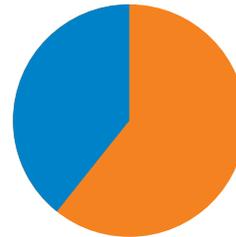
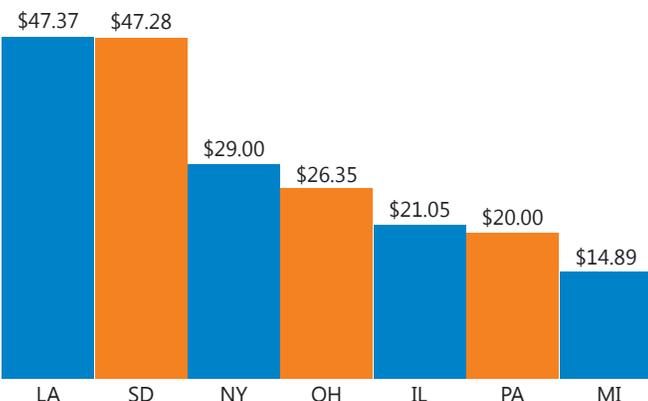
Transitioning to Managed Care

Establishing a standard dental administrative structure for all adults enrolled in Medicaid Health Plans will decrease the administrative burden for providers, broaden quality improvement opportunities, increase payment rates and improve access to dental services.

A standard, managed care model for Medicaid Adult Dental also moves Michigan toward a value-based payment system, which rewards preventive, high-quality, lower-cost care.

Strategies to encourage Medicaid beneficiaries to seek preventive care range from assigning beneficiaries to specific dental providers, involving their medical providers in dental referrals, or targeting education campaigns based on age or health condition. By reducing confusion and rewarding providers who encourage preventive care, more Michigan residents will begin to establish patterns of preventive dental care and reduce the likelihood of painful, costly dental problems.

Comprehensive Oral Evaluation (D0150) Medicaid Payment Rate



60%
of adult Medicaid enrollees are working in Michigan¹

Looking Through an Equity Lens

Individuals enrolled in Medicaid — whether they qualify based on income or health needs — have an increased likelihood of health disparities. Low-income populations have less access to a number of things that others take for granted, such as health care, transportation, employment, and healthy foods. Medicaid beneficiaries are also disproportionately members of racial and ethnic minority groups, who represent 58% of non-elderly Medicaid beneficiaries in the U.S., but only 39% of the overall non-elderly population. The prevalence of dental disease and tooth loss is disproportionately high among low-income populations; and racial and ethnic disparities are further pronounced. Utilizing a health equity lens is essential to eliminating these disparities.²

In Michigan, Medicaid Covers¹



1 in 5 adults, ages 19-64



3 in 5 nursing home residents



1 in 2 individuals with disabilities



1 in 7 Medicare beneficiaries

Sources

¹ Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation, *Medicaid in Michigan*, November 2018

² OPEN Network, *Report on Progress Towards the 2018 Milestones*, November 2018