

## **NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES (DHCS) PROPOSES TO SUBMIT TWO STATE PLAN AMENDMENTS (SPA) TO RESTORE COMPREHENSIVE ADULT DENTAL SERVICES AS A COVERED BENEFIT UNDER THE MEDI-CAL PROGRAM.

DHCS will submit SPAs 17-027 and 17-041 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to seek necessary approvals to restore comprehensive adult dental services as a covered benefit for Medi-Cal beneficiaries ages 21 and older with full-scope coverage under the Medi-Cal program, pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 97 (Committee on Health, Chapter 52, Statutes of 2017). The restored benefits will be available under the dental fee-for-service and managed care delivery systems.

Additionally, this notice provides information of public interest with respect to Section 440.386 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), which requires Medicaid states to publish a public notice to solicit public input regarding the amendment to the Medi-Cal Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP). DHCS assures full access to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services for people under 21 years of age, as described by 42 CFR 440.345. DHCS will submit SPA 17-041 to CMS to seek the necessary approval to restore comprehensive optional adult dental services under the Medi-Cal program in the ABP, as defined pursuant to SB 97. DHCS complied with the provisions of section 5006(e) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 by publishing the Tribal Notice for SPAs 17-027 and 17-041 on October 6, 2017.

### **Restoring Adult Dental Services**

In accordance with SB 97, which amended Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 14131.10, DHCS shall restore comprehensive adult dental services, subject to utilization controls, for beneficiaries ages 21 and older. The restoration will become effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2018, subject to federal approval. The comprehensive adult dental benefit package will include, for example, laboratory processed crowns, periodontal services, posterior root canal therapy, and partial dentures, including relines adjustments and repairs. All restored adult dental benefits are subject to medical necessity, utilization controls, and requirements in Section 5 – Manual of Criteria and Schedule of Maximum Allowances, in the Medi-Cal Dental Program Provider Handbook. Adult dental services provided under the Medi-Cal ABP will be the same schedule of adult dental services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, as when required by the WIC section 14131.10.

### **Public Review and Comment**

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of proposed SPAs 17-027 and 17-041 will be published at: [http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pro\\_SPA.aspx](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pro_SPA.aspx). The California statute discussed above is available at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. Interested parties may submit written comments, request copies of the statute or draft SPA pages, or copies of submitted public comments. Comments may be sent by email to [Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov) or to the address below. Please indicate either SPA 17-027 or 17-041 in the subject line of the message.

For SPA 17-027:

Department of Health Care Services  
Medi-Cal Dental Services Division  
Attention: Alani Jackson  
P.O. Box 997413  
Sacramento, California 95899-7413

For SPA 17-041:

Department of Health Care Services  
Benefits Division  
Attention: Cynthia Smiley  
P.O. Box 997417, MS 4601  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7417.

All written comments must be received by November 6, 2017.