



MICHELLE BAASS
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

DATE: June 2, 2022

TO: ALL MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

SUBJECT: **APL 22-004: CURRENT DENTAL TERMINOLOGY 22**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Dental All Plan Letter (APL) is for the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to instruct the Medi-Cal Dental Managed Care (DMC) Plans to implement the Current Dental Terminology (CDT) 22 and comply with the requirements set forth in this letter.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to Exhibit A, Attachment 12, of DMC contract, Plans are responsible for providing or arranging all medically necessary dental covered services for members. Covered services are those services set forth in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14132(h), Title 22 California Code of Regulations sections 51059, 51307, and 51003, and the Medi-Cal Dental Manual of Criteria (MOC) located in the Medi-Cal Dental Provider Handbook,¹ unless otherwise specifically excluded under the terms of the contract.

REQUIREMENTS:

Each Plan must comply with Exhibit A, Attachment 10 (H). Practice Guidelines, Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations §438.236 which requires the Plan to publish a Provider Manual that is inclusive of reliable clinical evidence or consensus of providers in the particular field, considers the needs of the Plan's members, are adopted in consultation with contracting health care professionals and reviewed and periodically updated, as appropriate.

The Plan and network providers may access the draft CDT 22 MOC information on the Medi-Cal Dental website² and in the Dental Fee-for-Service Provider Bulletin, Volume 38, Number 12.³

¹ Medi-Cal Dental Provider Handbook:

https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov/Dental_Providers/Medi-Cal_Dental/Provider_Handbook/

² Medi-Cal Dental Program website:

https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov/Dental_Providers/Medi-Cal_Dental/MOC_SMA_Versions/

³ Medi-Cal Dental Fee-For-Service: [Provider Bulletin, Volume 38, Number 12](#)

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The plan shall immediately:

1. Review, create, and implement systems updates to align with the draft CDT-22 MOC.
2. Distribute the draft CDT-22 MOC to network providers.
3. Update the Plan's provider manual and submit for DHCS review within 30 calendar days from the date of this APL.

If you have any questions regarding this APL, please send inquiries to dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Carolyn Brookins
Assistant Chief
Medi-Cal Dental Services Division
Department of Health Care Services