



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

DATE: August 19, 2014

TO: ALL MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

SUBJECT: **REVISED APL 14-002: Notice of Changes Regarding Adult Dental Services at Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics and the Restoration of Some Adult Dental Benefits**

The purpose of this All Plan Letter (APL) is to revise instruction previously provided in APL 14-002, which was released on April 15, 2014. This revised APL supersedes the original APL 14-002 released on April 15, 2014.

Assembly Bill X3 5 (Evans, Chapter 20, Statutes of 2009) excluded nine optional Medi-Cal services, effective July 1, 2009, including the exclusion of most optional adult dental benefits. On September 26, 2013, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the case of *California Association of Rural Health Clinics, et al., v. Toby Douglas, Director of the California Department of Health Care Services, et al.*, issued a mandate based on the Court's September 17, 2013, decision, that three previously excluded optional Medi-Cal services (adult dental, chiropractic, and podiatric services), are mandatory benefits of Medicaid programs when provided by Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs).

Beginning May 1, 2014 certain adult dental benefits were restored in accordance with Assembly Bill 82 (Chapter 23, Statutes of 2013). In light of the *California Association of Rural Health Clinics v. Douglas* Ninth Circuit decision for FQHCs and RHCs, the scope of dental benefits provided in FQHCs and/or RHCs remain unchanged.

Please forward this information to your dental providers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at (916) 464-0210.

Sincerely,



Nik Ratliff, Chief
Contract Management & Policy Unit
Medi-Cal Dental Services Division