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DIRECTOR

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



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GOVERNOR

DATE: November 24, 2015

TO: ALL MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

SUBJECT: **APL 15-016: INCREASED FREQUENCY LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR BENEFICIARIES RESIDING IN SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES AND INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES**

The purpose of this All Plan Letter (APL) is to instruct the Medi-Cal Dental Managed Care (DMC) plans to implement the following policy with regards to preventive services: increase the frequency of prophylaxis and fluoride treatments for residents who reside in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs), as outlined below.

In many cases, residents in SNF and ICF settings may not receive daily oral care and have very poor oral hygiene. In an effort to provide this population with regular treatment, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will be allowing an increased frequency for the provision of prophylaxis and fluoride treatments for residents who reside in SNFs and ICFs. The amount of procedures permitted per beneficiary will be increased to once every four (4) months, rather than once per year as is the current adult benefit. Services provided within the newly specified limitations shall not be subject to prior authorization.

DHCS is instructing the Medi-Cal DMC plans to make the necessary programmatic changes to implement the above mentioned policy effective March 2, 2016. This policy will be available to all providers, and is limited to services rendered to beneficiaries residing in SNF or ICF settings only. For all other beneficiaries, prophylaxis and fluoride (D1110, D1206 and D1208) frequency limitations will remain unchanged.

DHCS expects the Medi-Cal DMC plans to adhere to this policy in accordance with the Denti-Cal Manual of Criteria. DMC plans are permitted to make the necessary programmatic changes to accommodate this policy so long as said changes apply to all billing providers and service office locations, and that applicable administrative and systematic processes are updated accordingly pursuant to Exhibit E, Additional Provisions, Section 5.b, Governing Law of the DMC contract(s).

Please forward this information to your dental plan providers. All materials developed by the DMC plans for the purposes of notifying their contracted providers of their options shall be submitted to DHCS for review and approval prior to distribution. Additional materials regarding this program will be posted on the Denti-Cal website. If you have any questions with respect to this letter, please contact DHCS at dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Kalanie Lipscomb, Chief
Contract Management & Policy Unit
Medi-Cal Dental Services Division