



JENNIFER KENT
DIRECTOR

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

DATE: September 2, 2015

TO: ALL MEDI-CAL DENTAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

SUBJECT: **APL 15-015: UPDATE REGARDING VIRTUAL DENTAL HOME IMPLEMENTATION IN THE DENTAL MANAGED CARE PROGRAM**

The purpose of this All Plan Letter (APL) is to update instruction to the Medi-Cal Dental Managed Care (DMC) plans on the policy change that outlines the Virtual Dental Home (VDH) implementation in the DMC program.

On June 1, 2015, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) issued APL 15-006: "Virtual Dental Home Implementation in the Dental Managed Care," instructing the Medi-Cal DMC plans to make the necessary programmatic changes to permit program enrolled billing providers to render services through a VDH modality, which would be implemented in a two (2) phased approach. In accordance with APL15-006, the Medi-Cal DMC plans were given the following instructions for Phase I:

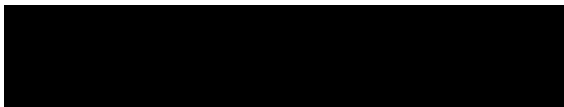
Current Dental Terminology (CDT) code D0999, unspecified diagnostic procedure, by report, with a \$0.00 reimbursement fee shall be utilized to identify VDH documents. As a result of Phase I implementation, the following CDT codes may be billed by billing dentists for services rendered through a VDH in conjunction with D0999: D0120, D0150, D0210, D0220, D0230, D0240, D0270, D0272, D0274, D0330, D0350, and D9999. If applicable, please be sure to add procedure code D0999 to the California Children's Services and Genetically Handicapped Persons Program for diagnostic and preventive procedures only. The implementation date for Phase I is July 1, 2015.

DHCS is updating the previously provided instruction in regards to Phase I via APL 15-015 to include CDT code D0240 (Intraoral Occlusal Radiographic Image) as a billable procedure code for services rendered via a VDH in conjunction with D0999. DHCS expects that the Medi-Cal DMC plans will adhere to this policy update in accordance with the Denti-Cal Manual of Criteria. Please note that providers who offer services through a VDH are held to the same departmental policies and regulations as currently

enrolled Medi-Cal dental providers, including but not limited to, Exhibit A, Amendment 8, Provider Network, Time and Distance Standard in the DMC contract(s). DMC plans are permitted to make the necessary programmatic changes to accommodate this updated policy so long as said changes apply to all billing providers and applicable administrative and systematic processes are updated accordingly pursuant to Exhibit E, Additional Provisions, Section 5.b, Governing Law of the DMC contract(s).

DMC plans shall make this option available to providers and inform them of their options once approved materials are shared by DHCS and posted to the Denti-Cal website. 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. 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