

## Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Information for Medi-Cal Dental Providers:

In accordance with the requirements in Section 1905(r) of the Social Security Act (SSA) and Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 441.50 *et seq*, and specifically *CFR 441.56(b)(1)(vi)*, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is responsible for providing full-scope Medi-Cal beneficiaries under the age of 21 with a comprehensive, high-quality array of preventive (such as screening), diagnostic, and treatment services under EPSDT. Further, consistent with state and federal law and regulations for EPSDT, the Medi-Cal Dental Program covers all services that are medically necessary under EPSDT, including those to “correct or ameliorate” defects and physical and mental illnesses or conditions. These services are without cost for the member.

Using both written materials and in person or over the phone dialogue, dental providers should inform Medi-Cal members under age 21, or their parents, about EPSDT benefits and services and how to access them. Providers should tell eligible patients and their families about all of the following:

- The value of preventive services and screenings.
- The services available under EPSDT.
- Where and how to obtain EPSDT services.
- EPSDT services are free to eligible individuals under age 21.
- Transportation and scheduling assistance is available upon request.

Providers should reference state guidance letters and the [Medi-Cal Dental Provider Handbook](#) for more information about coverage and billing policy guidance regarding covered benefits and services, including EPSDT. Please call the Provider Customer Service line at (800) 423-0507 for any questions or to obtain more information regarding EPSDT services.