



# 274 Expansion Project Dental Managed Care Plans

## Frequently Asked Questions

Last Update: 11/8/18

### Document History (FAQ Change Control Log)

Date	Brief Description of Modifications
11/08/18	Updated Appendix A – Implementation Timelines
10/12/18	Updated Appendix A – Implementation Timelines
09/14/18	Updated Q6; Added Q9
08/10/18	Initial FAQ release to DMC plans

**1) Q: What is the 274 Expansion Project?**

**A:** The purpose of the 274 Expansion Project is to implement a comprehensive and standardized file layout and protocol for DHCS health plans to submit provider network data to DHCS. The data will be used by DHCS for network assessments, data analytics, and other federal and state reporting requirements. The X12 274 transaction standard should make it easier and more efficient for plans to transmit provider network data to DHCS.

**2) Q: What is the 274 replacing?**

**A:** One of the reasons DHCS is implementing this new format is to consolidate the multiple managed care provider files currently being sent to DHCS. Initially, this transaction standard will replace the monthly Excel based Network Adequacy files sent to DHCS.

**3) Q: What version of the Implementation Guide do I need to Purchase?**

**A:** Plans will need to purchase the 274 Health Care Provider Directory Implementation Guide (IG), Group ID: 109, Version: 4050, Published: 6/1/2003. ASC X12N 274 (004050X109).

**4) Q: Where can the Implementation Guide be purchased?**

**A:** It can be purchased through the Washington Publishing Company, ASC X12 Store. The link to the ASC X12 store is: <http://store.x12.org/store/insurance-4050-original-guides>.



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**5) Q: When will the DHCS 274 Companion Guide be available?**

**A:** DHCS anticipates completion of the 274 Companion Guide by October 2018. Time will be allocated with the plans to conduct a thorough walk-thru of the Companion Guide and transmission requirements.

**6) Q: What is the high level timeline for this project? (Updated: 9/14/18)**

**A:** DHCS plans to begin testing with the plans in January 2019 and the system in production by April 2019. **A more detailed list of implementation activities are included in Appendix A of this document.**

**7) Q: How will DHCS communicate details about this project?**

**A:** Project planning information and status will be provided in the monthly All-Plan meetings. A workgroup will be established to review the 274 Companion Guide and discuss transition planning activities. In addition, responses to frequently asked questions (FAQs) will be published periodically.

**8) Q: Where can questions be sent concerning the MC 274 Provider Data project?**

**A:** Questions can be sent to [dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov). Please ensure the subject line includes the following: "274 Provider Network Data". The FAQs will be updated periodically based on plan submitted questions.

**9) Q: What can plans start doing now to prepare for this transition?  
(Added: 9/14/18)**

**A:** Plans can start by informing your Information Technology (IT) and provider network data analytics departments about this transition in order to ensure staff is allocated and/or procured for this work effort.

**Forward the name and email address of each staff member designated to participate in the 274 workgroups to the DMC mailbox ([dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:dmcdeliverables@dhcs.ca.gov)) no later than Friday, September 28, 2018.**

Finally, ensure to purchase the 274 Implementation Guide as referenced in Questions #3 and #4.

# Appendix A

## 274 Provider Network Implementation Timelines

High-level activities and timelines are described in the following table. The timeframes are subject to change based on plan and DHCS readiness.

Activity	Timeframes	Status/Updates
1. Release <u>Draft</u> Companion Guide (CG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DHCS will conduct a walk-thru and plans will have an opportunity to submit public comments</li> </ul>	By 10/12/18	Draft sent to 274 Workgroup members on 10/11/18.  <b>Initial edits/comments due COB Friday 10/19.</b>
2. Release Transition Plan (TP) The TP Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transmission protocols</li> <li>- Testing procedures and timeframes</li> <li>- Production readiness activities</li> </ul>	By 10/12/18	Draft sent to plans on 10/11/18.  <b>Initial edits/comments due COB Friday 10/19.</b>
3. Commence workgroups with DMC plans to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review CG</li> <li>- Review Transition Plan</li> <li>- Address common questions/issues</li> <li>- Provide overall status of transition activities</li> </ul>	Kick-off Workgroup: Tue 10/23/18 (10:30-12)  <b>Every two-weeks on Tuesdays from 10:30-12pm after until further notice.</b>	<b>Final CG and TP edits/comments due NLT than Friday 11/23.</b>
4. Release Final CG based on plan feedback	By 12/14/18	
5. Phase 1 – Implementation Guide (IG) Testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allows plans to transmit IG compliant transactions and test connectivity with DHCS</li> <li>- An IG testing schedule for each plan will be developed based on plan and DHCS readiness</li> </ul>	<b>12/14/18 – 1/31/19</b>	
6. Phase 2 – CG Testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensures plans can transmit CG compliant transactions</li> <li>- A CG testing schedule for each plan will be developed based on plan and DHCS readiness.</li> </ul> <p>Note: this phase may be divided into multiple phases to test the various types of provider and data scenarios</p>	<b>01/15/19 – 3/28/19</b>	

# Appendix A

## 274 Provider Network Implementation Timelines

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Activity	Timeframes	Status/Updates
7. Phase 3 – Production Parallel Testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ensure 274 production data compares to data from existing production environment</li><li>- A production testing schedule for each plan will be developed based on plan readiness.</li></ul>	<b>2/15/19 – 5/30/19</b>	
8. Begin production data submissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- All plans should be ready to submit production data by this date</li><li>- A production submission schedule will be developed for each plan based on plan and DHCS readiness.</li></ul>	<b>Start on or after 4/1/19 upon certification by DHCS</b>	