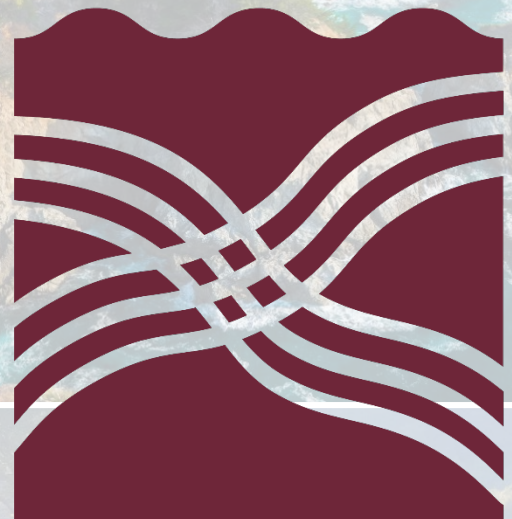


PARTNERSHIP



HEALTHPLAN
of CALIFORNIA
A Public Agency



Partnership HealthPlan of California Presents: Dental/Oral Health Considerations

August 12, 2022

Speakers



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Learning Objectives

By the end of this presentation participants should be able to:

1.	Understanding the importance of oral/dental health for overall health.
2.	Understanding PHC Covered Dental Services – carved out through State of California Medi-Cal Dental Program.
3.	Utilizing PHC Resources for: TAR Requirements, Provider Directory, and Community Resources.
4.	Utilizing the DHCS Dental Website and Smile, California Website for dental services details.

Content

- What is Dental/Oral Health
- Importance of Dental/Oral Health
- Statistical Overview
- PHC Covered Dental Services
 - Medi-Cal Dental Program Dental Services
 - Services for Child and Youth Well Care
 - PHC TAR Requirements
 - PHC Community Resources
- Medi-Cal Dental
 - DHCS State of California Medi-Cal Dental Program
 - Smile, California – Medi-Cal
 - Medi-Cal Dental Benefits
- PHC Care Coordination Department

Oral Health



Prevalence of Poor Oral Health

Children and Adolescents

- Tooth decay affects more than 25% of U.S. children age 2-5.
- Tooth decay affects 50% of U.S. adolescents age 12-15.

Adults

- 1 in 7 adults age 35-44 has gum disease; after age 65, the rate increases to 1 in 4.

Older Adults

- 1 in 4 U.S. adults age 65 or older have lost all of their teeth.
- More than 8,300 people die from oral and pharyngeal cancers each year.

Disparities in Oral Health

Poor oral health affects people of all life stages, from infancy through older adulthood. There is vast unmet dental need and it varies based on individual's social determinants:

- Access
 - Unable to pay out of pocket, do not have dental insurance, unable to take time off from work, transportation, healthy foods
- Community
 - Lack dental providers/clinics, school sealant programs, fluoridated water
- Education
 - Level of education, literacy skills

Disparities in Oral Health

"Socioeconomic status accounts for 71% of the gap in preventative dental care between Black children and white children, and 55% between Hispanic children and white children"

American Journal of Public Health

CDC, 2021

Unmet Dental Needs

Unmet Oral Health Care Needs of Adults Aged 20–64 Years

40%

Low-income adults had
untreated cavities



Among adults who reported an
unmet dental care need:

80%

report they could not
afford care



www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/disparities

Untreated Decay in Adults

Some adults were twice as likely to have untreated tooth decay



Nearly half of adults aged 20–64 years who were:

- non-Hispanic black
- low-income
- had less than a high school education
- currently smoking cigarettes

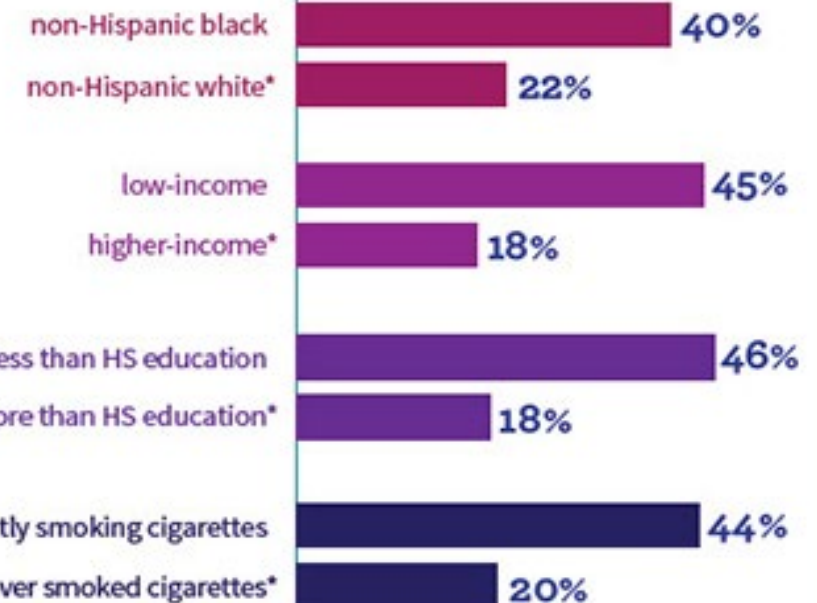
had untreated tooth decay

This is **2x the amount** of untreated decay as the comparison groups.

<http://bit.ly/OralHealthReport>

C5066238

Percentage of adults aged 20–64 with untreated tooth decay, 2011–2016



*comparison groups



Older Adults

Some older adults were more than twice as likely to have untreated tooth decay



About 1 in 3 adults aged 65 or older who were:



- Mexican American
- non-Hispanic black
- low-income
- had less than a high school education
- currently smoking cigarettes

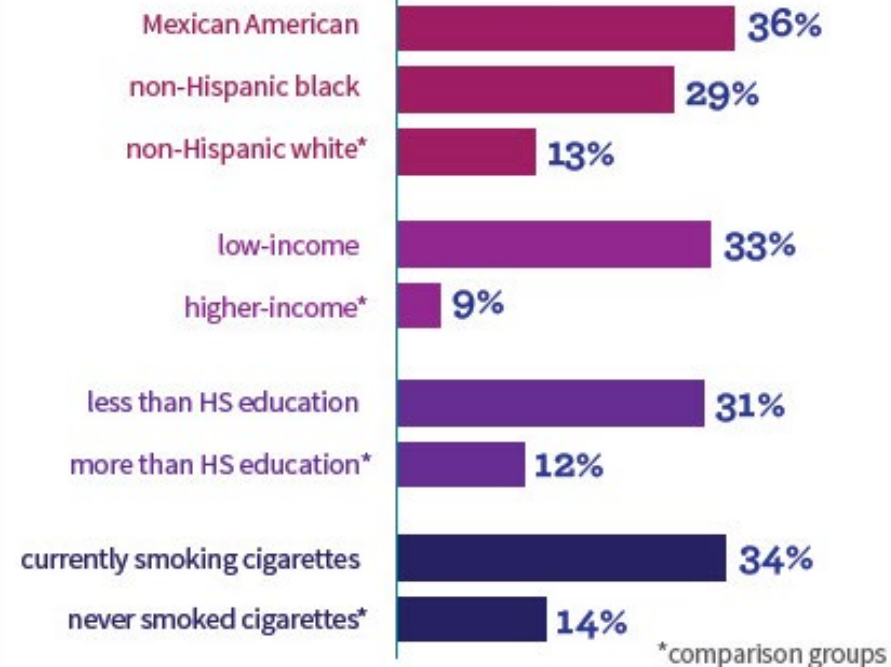
had untreated tooth decay

This is 2x to 3x the amount of untreated decay as comparison groups.

<http://bit.ly/OralHealthReport>

CS306238

Percentage of adults aged 65 or older with untreated tooth decay, 2011–2016



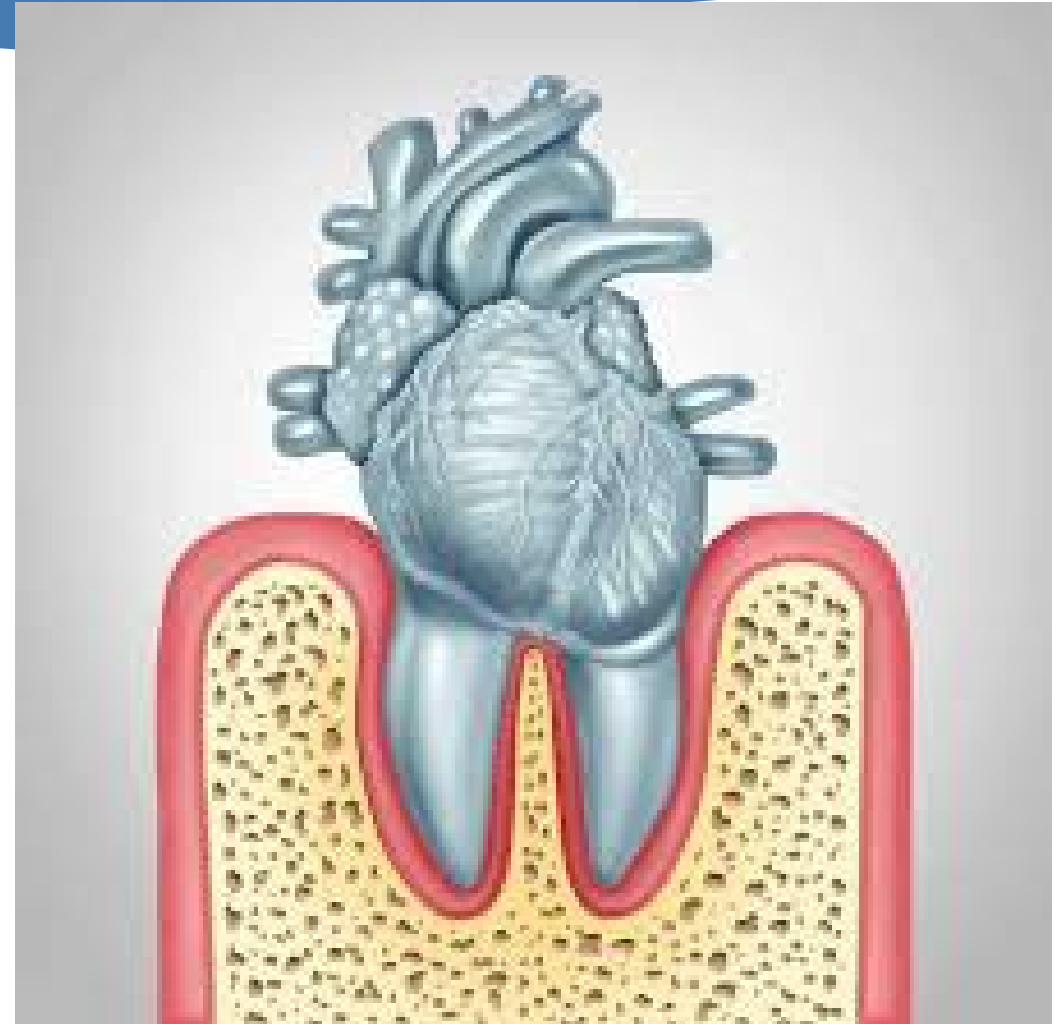
CDPH Statistical Overview

- 50% of California infants (0–2 years) have never been to the dentist, and nearly 1 in 5 were not insured in 2007.
- In California, 28% of kindergarteners and 29% of third graders have untreated tooth decay.
- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) results showed that 24% of adults aged 20–64 and 20% of adults aged 65–74 in the United States have untreated dental caries.
- In 2009-2012, nearly half of U.S. adults age 30 and older, and 70% of adults >65 age had some form of periodontal disease.

COVID

Oral Health ↕ Affects ↕ Overall Health

Poor oral health leads to high level of oral
bacteria



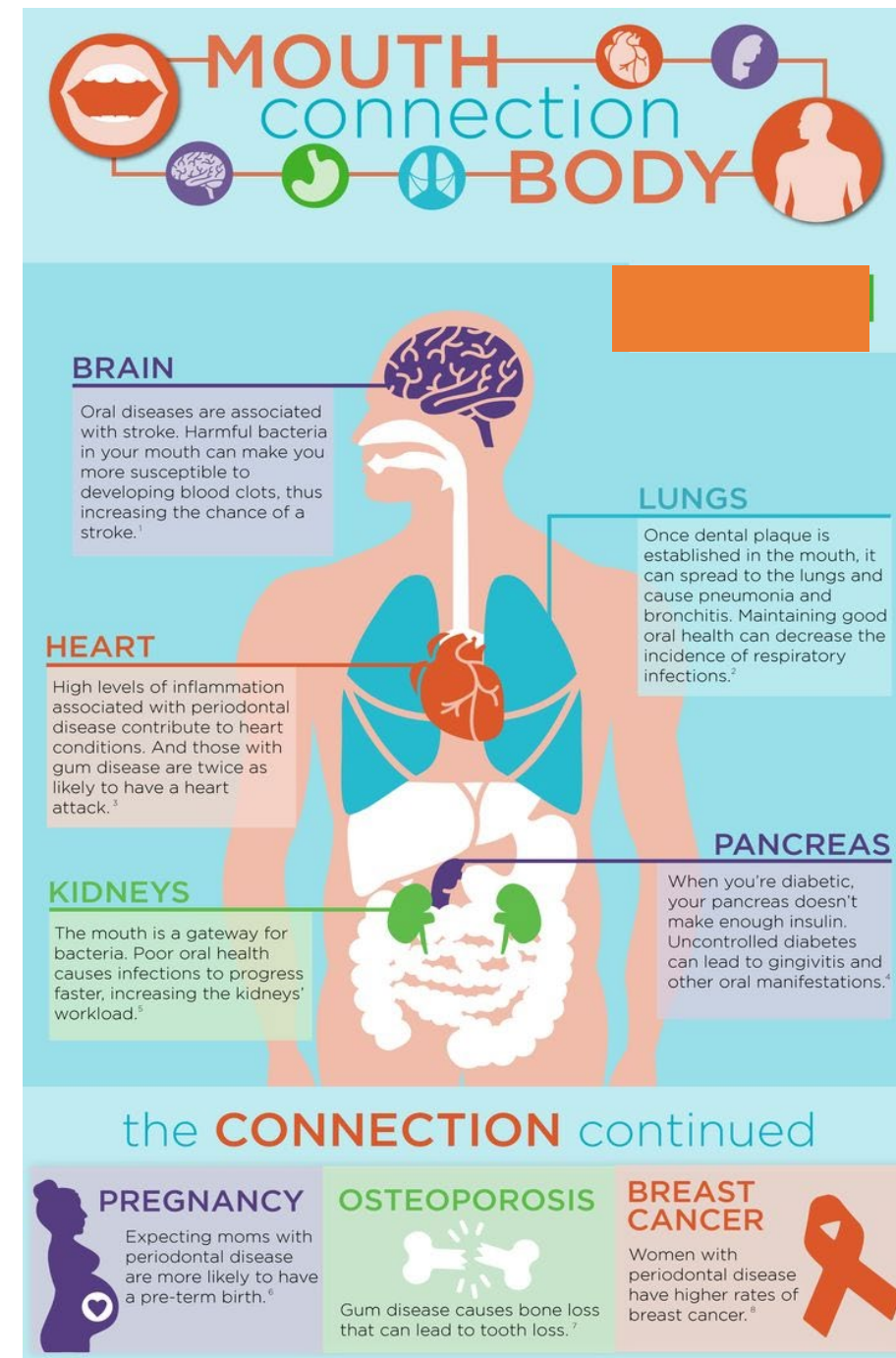
Importance of Oral Health

Research shows, poor oral health is a precursor to chronic diseases:

- Dementia
- Stroke
- Respiratory Illness (Pneumonia & Bronchitis)
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Diabetes
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Chronic Kidney Disease

And linked to higher risk for:

- Pre-term birth and Low-birth weight
- Breast Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer



The Body "Talks" to the Mouth

The Mouth "Talks" to the Body

- Acid Reflux/GERD
 - Tooth Erosion
- Osteoporosis
 - Tooth loss
 - Osteonecrosis of Jaw
- Diabetes/Use of Tobacco
 - Periodontal Disease
- Medication → Reduce Salivary Flow
 - Increased Tooth Decay
- Tobacco & Heavy Alcohol Use
 - Oral Cancer



Pregnant Women

- Hormonal fluctuations leads to bleeding gums, gingival hyperplasia, gingivitis, pyogenic granulomas, and alterations in salivary flow.
- Morning sickness results in increased oral acidity --> dental caries
 - Rinse with 1 teaspoon of baking soda in a glass of water to maintain oral pH and keep tooth enamel safe.
- Adverse pregnancy outcomes - preterm births & low birth weight

ORAL HEALTH NEEDS TO BE PART
OF PRE-NATAL CARE



Pregnant Women

Why?

- 1 in 4 women of childbearing age have untreated cavities.
- Mothers with high levels of untreated cavities or tooth loss have children that are 3 times more likely to have cavities.

How?

- Mother pass bacteria from their mouth to an infant via kissing, sharing spoons/cups/food
- Nursing/bottle feeding to bed
 - Wipe teeth with clean cloth after nursing/bottle feeding

AT WHAT AGE DO I NEED TO SEE A DENTIST ?

First
tooth or
1st Birthday
= first dental visit

- Early Childhood Caries (ECC) is the most prevalent disease in children worldwide.



START WITH ASKING EVERY PATIENT

When was the last time you visited
a Dentist?

PHC Covered Dental Services

Dental services are covered through Medi-Cal Dental Program and includes:

- Diagnostic and preventive dental hygiene (such as examinations, X-rays and teeth cleanings)
- Emergency services for pain control
- Tooth extractions
- Fillings
- Root canal treatments (anterior/posterior)
- Crowns (prefabricated/laboratory)
- Scaling and root planning
- Complete and partial dentures
- Orthodontics for children who qualify
- Topical fluoride
- Anesthesiologist services - This may include anesthesia for dental procedures when provided by a medical anesthesiologist.



PHC Covered Dental Services

The following Medi-Cal Services are free or low-cost services for child and youth well care:

Babies ages 1 to 4

- Baby's first dental visit
- Baby's first dental exam
- Dental exams (every 6 months; every 3 months from birth to age 3)
- X-rays
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Fillings
- Tooth removal
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- Sedation (if medically necessary)

Kids ages 5-12

- Dental exams (every 6 months)
- X-rays
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Molar sealants
- Fillings
- Root canals
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- Sedation (if medically necessary)

Kids ages 13-17

- Dental exams (every 6 months)
- X-rays
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Orthodontics (braces) for those who qualify
- Fillings
- Crowns
- Root canals
- Tooth removal
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- Sedation (if medically necessary)

PHC TAR Requirements

- Dental anesthesia services require prior authorization from PHC. Treatment Authorization Requests (TARs) must be submitted by the following ways:
 - Electronically – PHC’s online service system
 - Fax at 707 863-4118
- Appropriate review of treatment authorization requests for conducting dental procedures under intravenous sedation or general anesthesia requires the following member’s information:
 - Medical Hx, Physical Status, and indications for anesthetic management
 - Documentation (no more than 6 months) pre-operative exam completed by PCP should be submitted with the TAR.
 - The assessment should include a statement that the patient is “cleared for general anesthesia,” or an equivalent statement.
- For more details, please refer to:
<http://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/HealthServices/Documents/MCTARRequirements.pdf#search=DENTAL%20TAR>



PHC Community Resources

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Dental



Dental



Dental

FIND A PROVIDER

Let us help you find a Doctor, Lab, or Pharmacy

Choosing the right doctor or pharmacy for you is important for your health. The PHC provider directory will help you find a doctor in your area. You can also search for other providers, including pharmacies, labs, and hospitals near you.



Doctors



Facilities



Mental Health



Pharmacies



Vision Care

- The PHC Website offers community resources related to dental care for each county:
<http://www.partnershiphp.org/Community/Pages/Community-Resources.aspx>
- The PHC Website also offers the provider directory to look up specialists:
<http://www.partnershiphp.org/Members/Medi-Cal/Pages/Find-a-Primary-Care-Provider.aspx>



PHC Care Coordination Department

The Care Coordination Department offers services to assist coordinating for members. This consists of a team of Nurse Case Managers, Medical Social Workers, and Health Care Guides for any questions or needed assistance. Referrals can be made by calling the Care Coordination Help Desk or completing the Care Coordination Referral Form and faxing it to the contact below.

Contact Information - Redding Office

Phone: (800) 809-1350

Fax: (530) 245-0612

Email: CCHelpDeskNR@partnershiphp.org

Contact Information - Fairfield Office

Phone: (800) 809-1350

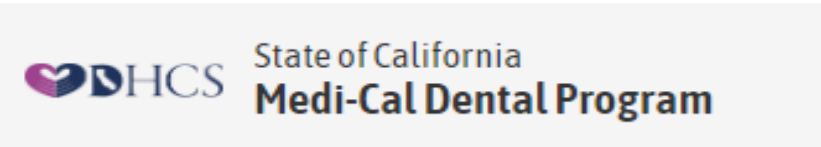
Fax: (707) 863-4502

Email: CCHelpDeskSR@partnershiphp.org





Medi-Cal Dental Program



Find-A-Dentist

Use our Find-A-Dentist provider directory search to locate a Medi-Cal Dental provider near you.



Smile, California

Visit [SmileCalifornia.org](https://smilecalifornia.org) to access member resources and learn more about the importance of oral health.



Provider Web Application

Medi-Cal Dental Providers can view claim activity, patient history, and financial information.



As of May 1, California will give full scope Medi-Cal to adults 50 years of age or older, and immigration status does not matter.

All other Medi-Cal eligibility rules still apply.

- The Medi-Cal Program offers dental services as one of many benefits. Under the guidance of the California Department of Health Services, this program aims to provide Medi-Cal members with access to high-quality dental care.
- If you have questions or want to learn more about dental services, call the Medi-Cal Dental Program at **1-800-322-6384 (TTY 1-800-735-2922 or 711)**.
- You may also visit the Medi-Cal Dental Program website at <https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov> or <https://smilecalifornia.org/>



Medi-Cal Dental Program



State of California
Medi-Cal Dental Program

[Members](#) ▾ [Providers](#) ▾ [Related](#) ▾ [Contact Us](#) ▾

[Home](#) | [Members](#) | [Find-A-Dentist](#)

Find-A-Dentist

- ▶ [Medi-Cal Dental Provider Directory Search](#)
- ▶ [Dental Clinics Serving Medi-Cal Members](#)
- ▶ [Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice](#)
- ▶ [InsureKidsNow Search](#)

Medi-Cal Provider Directory

Search for Medi-Cal Dental Program Providers

Enter the appropriate information below to view a list of Dental Providers who may be accepting new Medi-Cal patients. This is not a guarantee they will be available to accept additional patients at the time you contact them. If you cannot find a dentist in your area who is accepting new patients, please contact the Medi-Cal Telephone Service Center for additional help at 1-800-322-6384.

- The DHCS State of California Medi-Cal Dental Program offers a way to search for the Dental Provider Directory.
- Website:
https://dental.dhcs.ca.gov/Members/Medi-Cal_Dental/Find_A_Dentist/

[Eureka](#) | [Fairfield](#) | [Redding](#) | [Santa Rosa](#)



Medi-Cal Dental Program


- Smile, California – Medi-Cal has Dental Covered has a variety of covered services for each population, including:
 - Babies
 - Kids
 - Teens
 - Pregnancy
 - Adults
 - Seniors
- Check the website for more details for each covered services: <https://smilecalifornia.org/>



Babies

Caring for your baby's smile begins the moment they are born.


COVERED SERVICES



Kids

Regular check-ups help your child establish a lifetime of healthy oral habits.

COVERED SERVICES



Teens

Teenagers who take care of their mouth are more likely to enjoy healthy gums and teeth as an adult.


COVERED SERVICES



Pregnancy

When you are pregnant, your oral health is a big part of making sure your baby is healthy.


COVERED SERVICES



Adults

Regular dental care for adults helps prevent serious and costly health conditions.

COVERED SERVICES



Seniors

No matter your age, you can keep your mouth healthy, strong, and pain-free.

COVERED SERVICES



Caregivers

You play an important role in keeping your loved one's mouth healthy.

LEARN MORE



Medi-Cal Dental Member Handbook (PDF)



Follow us on Social Media



Get to Know a Medi-Cal Dentist



Common Questions



Medi-Cal Dental Benefits

California Department of Health Care Services

Medi-Cal Dental Member Handbook

SERVICES	BABIES	KIDS	TEENS	PREGNANCY	ADULTS	SENIORS
Exam*	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
X-rays	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Teeth cleaning	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Fluoride varnish	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Fillings	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Tooth removal	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Emergency services	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Sedation	☀	☀	☀		☀	☀
Molar sealants**		☀	☀			
Root canals		☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Orthodontics (braces)***			☀			
Crowns****			☀	☀	☀	☀
Partial and full dentures			☀	☀	☀	☀
Denture relines			☀	☀	☀	☀
Scaling and root planing			☀	☀	☀	☀

Exceptions:

*Free or low-cost checkups every six months for members under the age of 21, every 12 months for members over the age of 21.

**Permanent molar sealants are covered for kids and teens up to age 21.

***For those who qualify.

****Crowns on molars or premolars (back teeth) may be covered in some cases.

- Medi-Cal Dental Member Handbook is available for more information at:
https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov/MCD_documents/members/member_handbook_english.pdf
- The website has different guides and FAQs such as:
 - Using dental services under Medi-Cal
 - Medi-Cal Dental Benefits
 - Medi-Cal Dental Providers
 - Getting Dental Care
 - Cost of Dental Services
 - Transportation and other services
 - Case Management

Denti-Cal Case Management

- The DHCS State of California Medi-Cal Dental Program offers Dental Case Management services with special health care needs who needs assistance with coordinating complex treatment plans.
- Referrals for case management services are initiated by the member's medical provider, dental provider, case worker or healthcare care professional and are based on a current, comprehensive evaluation and treatment plan. The website has a online [Case Management Referral Form](#) and for questions, contact: (800) 423-0507.
- Members can call (800) 322-6384 to access care coordination services as well.



Questions



Upcoming Events

- ECM Training Series (Behavioral Health 101, Dental Health, etc.):
 - Long-Term Support Services Care Navigation, September 21 from 11 a.m.- noon
- Provider Relations ECM Roundtable Discussions from 12-1 p.m.
 - August 17
 - September 15
 - September 29

Contact Us

Questions?

Contact us: ECM@partnershipphp.org

Links

- <https://www.cdc.gov/OralHealth/index.html>
- <https://www.riverdentalar.com/blog/the-effects-of-oral-hygiene-on-overall-health/>
- <https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov>
- <https://smilecalifornia.org/>
- https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov/MCD_documents/members/member_handbook_english.pdf
- <http://www.partnershiphp.org/Community/Pages/Community-Resources.aspx>
- <http://www.partnershiphp.org/Providers/HealthServices/Documents/MCTARRequirements.pdf#search=DENTAL%20TAR>
- [Status of Oral Health in California: Oral Disease Burden and Prevention 2017](#)
- [California Oral Health Program 2018-2028](#)
- [Medi-Cal Dental Program - Providers - Medi-Cal Dental - Dental Case Management Program](#)