



Provider Bulletin

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THIS ISSUE

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Sacramento County
Dental Managed Care
Plan Parity

Special Bulletin Sacramento County Dental Managed Care Plan Parity

As part of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) 1915(b) waiver Special Terms and Conditions (STC), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) conducted a parity evaluation to assess the performance (utilization) of Sacramento County dental managed care (DMC) plans compared to the statewide dental fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system. The evaluation was based on utilization measures for calendar year 2022 in the following categories: Annual Dental Visits, Preventive Dental Services, and Use of Sealants for children and adults.

Based on the evaluations, DHCS has determined that none of the three DMC plans operating in Sacramento County - Access Dental Plan, Health Net Dental, and Liberty Dental Plan - met parity with statewide FFS utilization averages in all required measures. As a result, members currently enrolled in DMC plans will have the option to enroll in FFS.

Beginning in November 2023, DHCS will send notices to approximately 614,000 members currently enrolled in DMC plans in Sacramento County. The notices will inform affected DMC members of their option to either stay with their current
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SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL LIST

Learn the latest Medi-Cal Dental news and information by signing up for our Medi-Cal Dental Fee-For-Service Provider email distribution list [here](#).

TRAINING SEMINARS

To reserve a spot online or view a complete list of training seminars, go to the [Provider Training Seminar Schedule](#).

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT

To enroll in the Medi-Cal Dental Program, or check the status of an existing enrollment application, click [here](#) or email PAVE@dhcs.ca.gov.



plan or disenroll and join FFS because their current DMC plan did not ensure adequate quality of services. This disenrollment will be effective on December 1, 2023. The notice will provide information on how members can access dental services if they choose FFS or their option to choose an alternate DMC plan only if the member is able to establish an access to care issue in FFS. This notice will be sent only once to currently enrolled DMC plan members in Sacramento County.

Additionally, effective December 1, 2023, newly eligible Medi-Cal members will be enrolled by default into dental FFS. Starting in November 2023, newly eligible Medi-Cal members in Sacramento County will no longer receive a Medi-Cal Choice Packet for DMC enrollment. Newly eligible individuals will instead receive a dental FFS welcome packet containing an insert informing the member of their option to select a DMC plan if the member is able to establish access to care issues within the dental FFS delivery system. The notice will direct members to contact Medi-Cal Dental to determine if an access to care issue exists, and if an access to care issue does exist, a choice packet to enroll in a DMC plan will be sent. The insert will continue to be mailed to newly enrolled members in Sacramento County until DHCS procures for new DMC plans in this county.

To review dental FFS and DMC performance reports, visit the [Dental Data Reports webpage](#).

Members will still get the same dental coverage whether they are in FFS or in a DMC plan. Additional information regarding the change including member questions and answers are available on the website at: <https://smilecalifornia.org/sacramento/>.

What does this mean for Medi-Cal DMC providers?

- If you are already enrolled as a Medi-Cal dental FFS provider, you can continue to see Medi-Cal members.
- If you are a Medi-Cal DMC provider and **NOT** currently enrolled as a Medi-Cal dental FFS provider, you will need to enroll in the dental FFS program to continue seeing members who elect to switch to FFS.
- If you are interested in becoming a Medi-Cal dental FFS provider, you can apply by visiting the Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE) portal at: www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/PED.aspx or contact the Medi-Cal Dental Program at **1-800-423-0507** for assistance.