

Denti-Cal Bulletin



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DENTI-CAL TO DISCONTINUE PROCESSING OF COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM (CMSP) DENTAL SERVICES

I. Program Administration by Blue Cross Life & Health Insurance Company

Beginning October 1, 2005, CMSP will be administered by Blue Cross Life & Health Insurance Company (Blue Cross) instead of the California Department of Health Services (DHS). This change will affect all CMSP clients (aid codes 84, 85, 88, 89, 8F, and 50) who live in a participating CMSP county. This change will also affect CMSP clients in Solano County who receive services through the Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC). CMSP clients reside in the following participating CMSP counties with these county codes:

| <u>County</u> | <u>Code Number</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Code Number</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Code Number</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Alpine | (02) | Lake | (17) | Shasta | (45) |
| Amador | (03) | Lassen | (18) | Sierra | (46) |
| Butte | (04) | Madera | (20) | Siskiyou | (47) |
| Calaveras | (05) | Marin | (21) | Solano | (48) |
| Colusa | (06) | Mariposa | (22) | Sonoma | (49) |
| Del Norte | (08) | Mendocino | (23) | Sutter | (51) |
| El Dorado | (09) | Modoc | (25) | Tehama | (52) |
| Glenn | (11) | Mono | (26) | Trinity | (53) |
| Humboldt | (12) | Napa | (28) | Tuolumne | (55) |
| Imperial | (13) | Nevada | (29) | Yuba | (58) |
| Inyo | (14) | Plumas | (32) | | |
| Kings | (16) | San Benito | (35) | | |

Blue Cross or its dental services subcontractor, Doral Dental Services of California, LLC (Doral Dental), will be contacting dental providers to solicit their participation in CMSP through a separate provider agreement. These agreements will contain information on payment levels and services. All dental providers that execute an agreement will be supplied with a Blue Cross/Doral Dental/CMSP operations manual that contains information on CMSP participation, including billing and payment policies and procedures.

CMSP Eligibility Determination

Eligibility for CMSP will continue to be administered by county welfare departments in all participating CMSP counties. Verification of CMSP eligibility, including share-of-cost, will continue to be available through the existing means provided by the Medi-Cal Program.

II. Program Administration of CMSP Through September 30, 2005

Please read the following to assure proper payment for dental services provided to CMSP clients on or before September 30, 2005. These services will be paid through existing payment mechanisms.

Dental Claims Payment

Denti-Cal will continue to pay CMSP claims for services provided through September 30, 2005. These claims must be submitted to Denti-Cal by March 31, 2006, and Denti-Cal will process them through September 30, 2006. Denti-Cal will not adjudicate any CMSP claims after September 30, 2006, and claims not paid after this date shall not be eligible for payment.

Effective October 1, 2005, Denti-Cal will discontinue payment of CMSP claims, Notices of Authorization (NOAs), and Claim Inquiry Forms (CIFs) having dates of service (DOS) on or after October 1, 2005. This change applies to dental services for all CMSP-eligible beneficiaries.

- Claims, NOAs for payment, or CIFs submitted for DOS on or after October 1, 2005, will not be paid by Denti-Cal. All claims with these dates of service shall be denied.
- Providers may submit claims, NOAs for payment, or CIFs for DOS through September 30, 2005, for a period of six months (ending March 31, 2006). Effective April 1, 2006, all claims submitted for CMSP will be denied by Denti-Cal.
- Providers are encouraged to submit CMSP claims as soon as possible. Although the DHS has authorized this service, payment cannot be guaranteed since Doral Dental will be responsible for any dental service with a DOS on or after October 1, 2005.

Treatment Authorization Requests (TARs)

Denti-Cal will process TARs for CMSP for dates of service through September 30, 2005. As provided above, claims for DOS through September 30, 2005, must be submitted to Denti-Cal by March 31, 2006, to be eligible for payment.

Effective October 1, 2005, Denti-Cal will discontinue authorization of TARs for CMSP.

- TARs or re-evaluations of NOAs for CMSP-only beneficiaries will be processed by Denti-Cal through September 30, 2005. Any TAR or re-evaluation received by Denti-Cal on or after October 1, 2005 will not be authorized.

- TARS approved by Denti-Cal will be recognized and accepted by Doral Dental with claim submission by a dental provider that is a part of the CMSP Provider Network with Doral Dental. NOTE: Authorization does not guarantee payment.

You may call Denti-Cal at 1-800-423-0507 for billing questions about CMSP services provided prior to October 1, 2005.

III. CMSP Benefit Changes (Effective October 1, 2005)

The following CMSP benefit changes were approved by the CMSP Governing Board and will take effect on October 1, 2005.

A. Payment for Health Care Services Only when Provider is Part of the CMSP Provider Network with Blue Cross (Excluding Emergency Services)

Beginning October 1, 2005, CMSP will pay for health care services provided to CMSP clients only when those services are provided by a health care provider that is a part of the CMSP Provider Network with Blue Cross in California or in the designated border-state areas of Oregon, Nevada and Arizona. The only exception is payment for emergency services. CMSP will pay for emergency services provided by California or designated border-state area providers, including those that are not a part of the CMSP Provider Network with Blue Cross. Payment rates for all services are determined by the CMSP Governing Board.

B. No Payment for Out-of-State and Out-of-Country Services

Beginning October 1, 2005, CMSP will not pay for any health care services provided to CMSP clients by health care providers outside of California or the designated border-state areas of Oregon, Nevada and Arizona.

Additional information concerning changes to CMSP is available on the CMSP Governing Board's website at www.cmspcounties.org.

If you have questions regarding upcoming changes to CMSP, please call (916) 649-2631.