

**DENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAC) MEETING**  
**August 8, 2019**

**DAC Members Present via Conference Call:**

Nick Pfannenstiel, DDS, Jordan Valley, Springfield, MO (Chairman)  
Alan Stoll, DDS, Oral Surgeon, Hannibal, MO  
Linda Wells, DDS, UMKC School of Dentistry  
Nicole White, DDS, Magical Smiles, Jefferson City, MO  
Vicki Wilbers, Missouri Dental Association  
Matthew Tinnel, DDS, Truman Medical Center  
Ron Wilkerson, DMD, St. James Dental Center  
Robert Waxler, DMD, Manchester, MO

**MO HealthNet Division (MHD) Staff Present:**

John Dane, DDS, State Dental Director  
Julie Phillips  
Karen Pendleton

**Guests Present**

Mark Couch, Liberty Dental

**Guests Present via Conference Call:**

Dr. DePorter, National Dental Director, Envolve Health Plan  
Kaitlyn O'Neal, United HealthCare  
Julie Grant, Truman Medical Center

**WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Pfannenstiel welcomed all to the meeting. Karen Pendleton was introduced as the new Program Development Specialist and Julie Phillips was introduced as the new Social Services Manager position which was recently vacated by De'Nel Holliday.

**REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES**

Dr. White made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2019 meeting. The motion received a second and was approved by all members.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Provider Credentialing**

Dr. Dane advised the committee that the provider credentialing issue and the amount of time it requires for providers to get credentialed with MO HealthNet and the health plans was discussed at a meeting that the MDA held in July with Todd Richardson, MO HealthNet Director. It was noted that this is a barrier for providers enrolling when it takes up to 120 days to get through the process. Dr. Dane advised that Director Richardson stated in that meeting that part of the issue has to do with the contracts with the health plans, but he stated he would reach out to see if there is anything that can be done to make the process better. At the time of this DAC meeting, Dr.

Dane had not heard anything back from Director Richardson on this issue but Director Richardson had indicated he would spend some time looking into the issue.

Dr. Dane also talked with Director Richardson about the inconsistency in coverages and making sure that all health plans are covering the same services. MO HealthNet staff are currently looking at this issue to see if there are any services that are not being covered by the health plans that should be. They also spoke about the low reimbursement rates and the difficulties of raising the rates. Discussion also included the lack of dental providers and how approximately two-thirds of dentists are providing services in FQHCs. MHD would like to see an increase in individual dentists providing services in a private practice setting, however MHD recognizes there are barriers to that. One of the ways that could help improve this situation may be if FQHC's consider contracting with private dental providers.

Dr. Dane also addressed the issue of missed appointments with Director Richardson and how there needs to be more accountability for MO HealthNet participants that miss appointments. There was discussion regarding how part of a solution to that issue may be including management codes to allow dental office staff to get paid a small fee to help arrange transportation and improve patient compliance.

#### Prior Authorizations (Nitrous Oxide)

Dr. Dane reported that he, along with Shantel Smith and the Adhoc Medicaid committee prepared a document regarding dental procedure codes that currently require prior authorization to be presented to Director Richardson for his review. The document outlines ten dental codes and the recommendation to ask the health plans to consider removing the prior authorization restriction on the codes. Julie Phillips advised that MHD's Managed Care unit is scheduling individual meetings with each health plan to discuss the codes.

#### Transition from Dentaquest to Liberty Dental

Dr. Pfannenstiel advised there is no update to provide on this issue.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Use of Chemotherapy for Periodontal Disease

Dr. Dane presented the committee with a report provided to him by Dr. DePorter, with Envolve Health Plan, from the American Academy of Periodontology that includes a statement opposing the use of sustained-release antimicrobial agents. The DAC was given a copy of this report for their review prior to the meeting. Dr. Dane suggested that there needs to be some discussion as to whether or not MO HealthNet should cover this service. Dr. Dane stated that he has not done a claims study on this procedure, but said he can before the next meeting. It was also suggested that it should be determined if this is being used at the same time as the scaling and root planing procedure (D4341 and D4342). MHD will also need to review how many providers this may affect. It was also recommended that the MCOs look in to this as well to determine the impact on their providers.

#### Appropriate Use of CDT Codes D0140 and D0150

Dr. Dane advised the committee that there was some misinformation given to providers regarding the use of codes D0140 and D0120 for adults. D0140 is a limited exam that is payable once every two years. Julie Phillips advised there was a bulletin that went out last fall that was a clarification bulletin for some other procedure codes and the code D0140 was added to the bulletin and the restrictions on the code were stated incorrectly. The bulletin stated that D0140 is payable twice a year instead of once every two years. In light of this, Julie met with Nanci Nikodym to discuss the possibility of allowing the frequency of 2 times a year. A fiscal impact analysis will need to be completed to determine the impact this change would bring. D0120 is not covered under the adult limited benefits package. D0150 is covered for adults and can be billed every 3 years, per exam, per provider, per location.

#### Sedation Evaluation Tool

Dr. Dane advised the DAC that Envolve Health Plan has developed a sedation evaluation tool to be used when evaluating patients for sedation procedures. Dr. Dane will send this out to the committee for review and comments.

#### PA Removal on Scaling and Root Planing Codes (D4341 and D4342)

Each member of the DAC was provided a copy of the bulletin that was sent out to providers July 26, 2019 regarding removal of the prior authorization restriction from CDT codes D4341 and D4342 for the fee for service side. MHD made the decision to remove the prior authorization restriction on these two codes due to the high pass rate and the administrative time involved to review the prior authorizations. The committee was advised that MHD will monitor utilization of these codes on a routine basis to ensure that utilization does not increase due to the removal of the restriction.

#### Oral Surgery in Outpatient Hospital Bulletin

Each member of the DAC was provided with a copy of the May 13, 2019 Oral Surgery in Outpatient Hospital Bulletin for informational purposes.

#### July 1, 2019 Rate Increase for Dental Services

Each member of the DAC was provided a copy of the July 22, 2019 Rate Update for Dental Services Bulletin for informational purposes.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2019.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and all approved.