

South Dakota Medicaid PROVIDER NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Preventative Dental Services

Dental caries (cavities) continues to be the most chronic disease of childhood. The US Preventive Services Task Force and the American Academy of Family Physicians recommendations call for primary care clinicians to apply fluoride varnish to the primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends an oral health risk assessment, including a visual screening, anticipatory guidance, preventive strategies, (such as fluoride varnish), and the establishment of a dental home by age 1. The literature supporting the use of fluoride varnish for caries prevention has led to its endorsement by leading professional organizations. A number of systematic reviews affirm its effectiveness.

Physicians and other licensed practitioners may bill South Dakota Medicaid for a fluoride varnish applications using CPT Code 99188. A fluoride varnish may be applied by an individual under a physician or other licensed practitioner's supervision if the individual is trained to apply the fluoride varnish. Medicaid reimbursement is currently \$23.28. The services is limited to three applications per year and to children age five or younger.

The Partners for Prevention program provides a free, one-hour training that covers all of these elements. Delta Dental staff will visit provider offices and provide the training on-site. To schedule a training call 605-494-2552 or email cori.jacobson@deltadentalsd.com.

Urgent Care

Effective July 1, 2019, South Dakota Medicaid exempts up to 4 clinic urgent care visits per state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) from a primary care provider referral. This applies for individuals in the Primary Care Provider (PCP) Program or Health Homes (HH) Program.

This change is being made to reduce administrative burden associated with referrals for providers when a recipient requires urgent care. This change will also help recipients get necessary care while traveling without the need to initiate a referral from their primary care provider. It will also help facilitate care after regular business hours and in situations where recipients are under the joint custody of two parents or guardians living in different locations. South Dakota Medicaid encourages urgent care facilities to share information about services provided to a recipient with the recipient's PCP to facilitate care coordination.

Please refer to our [Bulletin](#) for more information.

Provider Rate Inflation

Inflationary increases appropriated by the legislature in the 2019 legislative session were implement April 1, 2019. Most services received a 1.5 percent increase. For more information please refer to our [Bulletin](#).