



Support Medicaid Adult Dental Coverage

Date:

Dear:

We are reaching out on behalf of the Michigan Oral Health Coalition (MOHC), Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA) and Michigan Dental Association (MDA). We are asking for your continued support for Medicaid adult dental coverage in both the current fiscal year 20 budget and the FY 21 budget. This coverage provides critical access to dental care for **nearly 1 million adults enrolled in the Fee for Service Medicaid** program.

Oral health affects overall health. Left untreated, dental disease exacerbates other medical conditions and can even cause death. In years past due to a loss in dental coverage for Medicaid adults of routine and preventive dental care, we know it resulted in the reliance of hospital emergency departments to treat non-emergent dental conditions.

- Pain from toothaches represent a significant public health problem
- Considering our COVID -19 pandemic, the emergency department is the last place we want to see persons seeking dental care
- We know it is much more costly to treat dental needs in the emergency department than in a dental office. Often only antibiotics are prescribed, and the underlying condition goes untreated
- Poor oral health impacts one's ability to get a job and increases the likelihood of more days lost from work
- The availability of dental care for adults' affects access to oral health for children

Again, we are asking for your support for Medicaid adult dental coverage. We would like to schedule a time to meet and discuss this with you and can provide additional information. Please contact Kimberly Singh at ksingh@mydental.org or 231-437-4769 so we can schedule a visit.

Thank you,

