

Managed Care Operations Memorandum
General Operations
MCOPS Memo # 04/2018-006

Date: April 9, 2018

Subject: Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner (PHDHP) Enrollment

To: Physical Health HealthChoices Managed Care Organizations (PH-MCOs) -
Statewide

From: Laurie Rock, Director, Bureau of Managed Care Operations, Office of Medical Assistance

Purpose:

To notify PH-MCOs that PHDHPs must enroll in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program if they wish to provide services to beneficiaries in the MA managed care delivery system and to provide information on how PHDHPs can enroll in the MA Program.

Background:

PHDHPs are licensed dental hygienists who are certified by the Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry and may render certain services without the direct supervision of a dentist. Such services include performing preliminary oral screenings, cleaning teeth, taking x-rays, polishing fillings, taking impressions for athletic appliances, evaluating patients to identify dental hygiene care needs and educating patients about oral health. PHDHPs may render those services in schools, correctional facilities, health care facilities, personal care homes, domiciliary care facilities, older adult daily living centers, continuing care provider facilities, health centers and public or private institutions under the jurisdiction of a Federal, State or local agency.

Additional information on PHDHPs may be obtained from the State Board of Dentistry, Subchapter C. Minimum Standards of Conduct and Practice regulations at 49 Pa. Code § 33.205b, pertaining to practice as a public health dental hygiene practitioner, which may be viewed by accessing the following website link:

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter33/s33.205b.html>.

Discussion:

Federal Medicaid regulations at 42 CFR §§ 438.602(b) and 438.608(b), relating to the state’s responsibilities for screening and enrollment and revalidation of providers, and program integrity requirements under the contract for provider screening and enrollment requirements, respectively, require the Department of Human Services (DHS) to screen and enroll, and periodically revalidate, all network providers of MA managed care organizations (MCOs) in accordance with the requirements of 42 CFR 455, subparts B and E. In compliance with federal requirements, PHDHPs who wish to participate as MA MCO network providers and render services to MA beneficiaries in the MA managed care delivery system, must be enrolled in the MA Program.

In accordance with the PH-MCO HealthChoices Physical Health agreement, Exhibit B (3) II Community Based Care Management (CBCM) (F), the PH-MCO is required to implement a Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner (PHDHP) program or a dental hygienist program under the direct supervision of a dentist using CBCM funding. The hygienist must spend the majority of their time performing direct patient preventive care. All PHDPS used by PH-MCOs to fulfill this requirement must be enrolled in the MA Program.

Procedure:

DHS will enroll licensed PHDHPs to provide services within their scope of practice under the MA managed care delivery system. PHDHP’s will be enrolled as Mid-Level Practitioners with a Public Health Dental Hygienist specialty as follows:

Provider Type	Specialty Code	Specialty Code Description
10	269	Public Health Dental Hygienist

PH-MCO’s please refer to the link provided below for information on how to complete and submit an enrollment application:

Next Steps:

1. The PH-MCOs’ PHDHP’s must be enrolled in the MA program.
2. Educate your network Dental providers on the new provider type 10 specialty 269 PHDHP.
3. PH-MCOs must revise and update their Dental provider information to reflect these new changes for materials and websites as applicable.

Please direct questions to Laurie Rock, Office of Medical Assistance Programs, at (717) 772-6300.

Obsolete:

This MCO Ops Memo will remain in effect until further notice.

Attachment:

N/A