



MEDICAID & CHIP ORAL HEALTH: NEBRASKA'S STORY

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By

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Kids Connection

- Nebraska's CHIP program
- Medicaid expansion program
- Medicaid Managed Care in 10 counties and Kids Connection is part of Managed Care

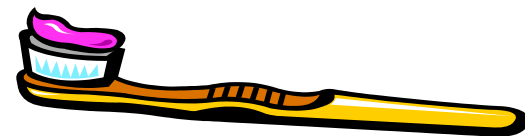
Dental Background

- Dental services through traditional Medicaid/ Fee-for-Service Medicaid.
- Carve out of the Medicaid Managed Care plans in Nebraska.
- Covers children from ages 0-20.



Dental Benefits

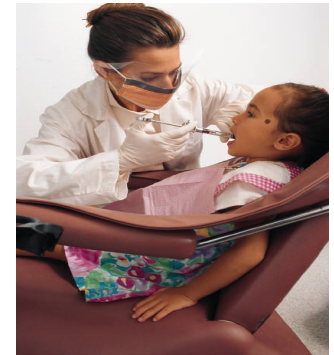
- Preventive dental services recorded on the CMS-416 Annual EPSDT Report.
- Periodic evaluations are covered every 6 months for children, prophylaxis is covered every 6 months for children, fluoride is covered as determined by dentist, and sealants are covered on permanent and primary teeth.
- No prior authorization is required for preventive services.



Oral Health Accomplishments

- Draft October 2010 CMS report on *Innovative State Practices for Improving The Provision of Medicaid Dental Services: Summary of Eight States Reports* includes Nebraska
- Nebraska average utilization in 2008 as reported on CMS-416:
 - Any dental service - 46% (national average 39%)
 - Preventive care - 42% (national average 34%)
 - Dental treatment - 22% (national average 19%)

Utilization Rates



- Nebraska's 2009 Medicaid/CHIP program reported utilization rate of:
 - Any dental service – 48%
 - Preventive dental service - 44%
 - Dental treatment service was 22%
- Dental utilization and preventive services increased by 2% over the last FY.

PHONE Contract

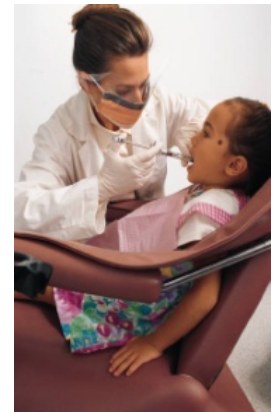
- Contracts with 15 local Public Health Departments in rural Nebraska.
- “PHONE” - Public Health Outreach Nursing Education.
- Public Health Departments have to provide a match and take ownership in the program. The Public Health Departments have a governing board and a dentist is part of that board.
- Purpose is to provide services, effective outreach to all Medicaid and CHIP eligible children and youth under age 21 and/or their families regarding the availability and benefits of the EPSDT Program.

PHONE Contract

- Link eligible individuals and families to health care; assure health care is accessed; promote responsible utilization of health care; promote early and regular preventive care for eligible children; and increase provider community participation in the Medicaid/CHIP program.
- Public Health Nurses present at professional and community forums.
- Help providers with problems and educate clients on missed appointments, etc.

Relationship with Dental College

- Relationship with the University of Nebraska Dental College,
 - Provides dentists and students to rural parts of Nebraska
 - Operate dental clinics
- Enhanced payment to College for their clinic that serves the rural parts of the State and the Medicaid population.



Dental College

- Dental College has helped the program tremendously in rural Nebraska. Very few Dentists who will be Medicaid providers and/or accept new Medicaid patients.
- The Dental College provides students to work with the low-income population.
 - Exposes dental students to the oral health needs of the lower-income, rural populations
 - Increases the likelihood that they will serve the needs of this population upon graduation.
- Dental College has seen an increase in the number of dental students who graduate and establish practices outside the urban areas of Nebraska.



Pediatric Dentists/Dental Consultants

- Active pediatric dentists who are involved with the children enrolled in Nebraska Medicaid.
- Three dental consultants who review services that require prior authorization and advise the Department on dental issues, concerns, and policy.



CONCLUSION

- Accomplishments due to many factors.
- Public Health Nurses in the rural parts of Nebraska.
- Pediatric Dentist and General Dentist dedicated to helping children.
- Ongoing help of communities by coming together to educate children about good dental practices.
- Dental College in Omaha doing free screenings and cleanings to children in one of our poorest areas in Omaha. Most of these children will also be on Nebraska Medicaid/CHIP. This effort will get children in on a routine basis.



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