



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Office of Medicaid  
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DANIEL TSAI  
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DATE

Chairman Karen Spilka  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State House, Room 212  
Boston, MA 02133

Chairman Brian S. Dempsey  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
State House, Room 243  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairwoman Spilka and Chairman Dempsey,

Line item 4000-0700 of the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget (Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2015) requires that we to report to you not later than March 1, 2016 “on the dental coverage available to MassHealth recipients as of January 1, 2016 as it compares to dental coverage available to MassHealth recipients on January 1, 2010.”

As you know, MassHealth dental benefits were restructured during FY11 to discontinue coverage of various services for members aged 21 and older. Coverage for preventative services such as cleanings and extractions were maintained, while restorative services such as fillings, root canals, deep scalings, and dentures were discontinued. In subsequent years, some of these covered services were reinstated. Coverage for adult front teeth filings was restored in January 2013 and coverage of all other adult fillings was restored on March 1, 2014, and coverage of adult dentures was restored on May 15, 2015.

Attached is a chart that shows MassHealth coverage for both children and adults as of January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2016. Because adults enrolled through the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) were exempt from the benefit restructuring implemented in FY11, a separate column shows their coverage as of January 1, 2016. We have also attached the regulations effective on these two dates. Within these regulations are descriptions of each code listed on the coverage comparison chart.

In addition, MassHealth maintains provider manuals which include, in Subchapter 6 of each manual, information about covered service codes. We have attached Subchapter 6 of each MassHealth Dental Manual that was effective as of these two dates, which show in more detail the covered service codes and any limitations or authorization requirements applicable to these codes. While the comparison chart provided does not include



descriptions of the codes, the Subchapter 6 effective as of January 1, 2010 includes a brief description of each covered service for your reference.

I hope you find this report useful and informative. Please feel free to contact John May at 617-573-1763 with any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

Daniel Tsai  
Assistant Secretary, MassHealth

cc: Marylou Sudders, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services