Department of Health Care Services
Medi-Cal Dental Program
Beneficiary Utilization Measurement

I. Background

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) consulted with the stakeholder community throughout the month of April 2015 regarding DHCS' proposal to establish criteria for assessing beneficiary utilization, as recommended by the California State Auditor's (CSA) Office. In response to the stakeholder feedback that was received, DHCS finalized the following beneficiary utilization measurements as reflected below.

II. Beneficiary Utilization Measurement

A. Performance measures:

1. Annual Dental Visit: Percentage of enrolled beneficiaries who had at least one dental visit during the measurement period.
2. Use of Preventive Services: Percentage of enrolled beneficiaries who received any preventive dental service during the measurement period.
3. Use of Sealants: Percentage of enrolled beneficiaries ages 6-9 and 10-14 continuously enrolled in fee-for-service during the measurement period with no more than a one-month gap in eligibility, who received a dental sealant on at least one permanent molar.
4. Exams/Oral Health Evaluations: Percentage of enrolled beneficiaries who received a comprehensive or periodic oral health evaluation or, for Medi-Cal beneficiaries under three years of age, who received an oral evaluation and counseling with the primary care giver, during the measurement period.
5. Usual Source of Care: Percentage of beneficiaries enrolled for two consecutive years who received at least one [dental/oral health] service in both years who visited the same practice or clinical entity in both years.

B. Measure Parameters

- Based on 90 days of continuous enrollment (Exception: Usual Source of Care measure requires two consecutive years enrollment)
- Performance measures will be reported on quarterly (Exception: Usual Source of Care measure will be updated annually due to required two consecutive years of enrollment)
- Measures will be reported in accordance with DHCS requirements, and the measures shall be stratified by:
  - County
  - Age stratification
  - Race/ethnicity

III. Additional Information to Consider Regarding Beneficiary Utilization Measurements

The items below represent the considerations brought to the DHCS' attention that DHCS recognizes as valuable information. Per these recommendations, DHCS needs additional time to further research the feasibility of reporting contingent upon resource or data availability and a greater experience in reporting the specific measures established through this collaborative process.

A. Population specific measures
    1. Developmental Disabilities Services
    2. Pregnancy
B. Risk-based measures
C. Medical Service Study Area (MSSA)