

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



State Demonstrations Group

FEB 25 2020

Jaycee Cooper
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
California Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Ave, 6th Floor, MS 00000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Cooper:

This letter is to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved the interim evaluation covering the 2016-2019 demonstration period of the Dental Transformation Initiative (DTI) component of California's section 1115 Medicaid demonstration, entitled "Medi-Cal 2020" (Project Number 11-W-00193/9, approved from December 30, 2015 through December 31, 2020). The interim evaluation will be posted to Medicaid.gov shortly.

We note that this interim evaluation deviated substantially from the analysis proposed in the approved evaluation design. As outlined in the evaluation report, the data needed for this analysis were not available as originally proposed and alternative outcome measures could not be constructed in time for this interim evaluation. Despite the difficulties in conducting the quantitative analysis, the interim evaluation report provided detailed qualitative findings on the implementation and operation of the DTI program. These qualitative findings suggest that the DTI has helped encourage provider participation in Medi-Cal and increased the use of preventative dental services.

In approving this report, we acknowledge the efforts the state has made to conduct an extensive qualitative analysis and to detail both the data challenges and the timeframe for conducting the full quantitative analysis. We look forward to receiving the results of this full quantitative analysis that will be included in the summative evaluation report.

If you have any questions, please contact your CMS project officer, Mrs. Heather Ross at 410-786-3666, or by email at Heather.Ross@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Danielle Daly
Director
Division of Demonstration
Monitoring and Evaluation



Angela Garner
Director
Division of System Reform
Demonstrations

cc: Cheryl Young, State Monitoring Lead, CMS Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group