STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
14/744 P STREET
.O. BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

April 8, 1991
Letter No.: 91-35

SUBJECT: DENTAL COST AVOIDANCE

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has required the Department of Health Services (DHS) to implement an Other Health Coverage (OHC) identification/cost avoidance feature in its Denti-Cal (dental) program. In order to meet this requirement, the Department has assigned a new cost avoidance code for dental only coverage. This new code is "L".

The purpose of this letter is to instruct counties to begin coding dental only coverage. System changes have already been completed to allow MEDS to accept "L", so counties may now submit this new code on MEDS transactions. All counties must be assigning "L" for dental only health insurance by May 1, 1991.

When the information on a Health Insurance Questionnaire (DHS 6155) indicates the beneficiary has dental insurance only, code the other health coverage with an "L". If the beneficiary has both medical and dental coverage, code the other health coverage with the appropriate medical code. All completed DHS 6155's should be sent to the Other Coverage Section in accordance with established procedures.

We have enclosed an updated list of other coverage codes for your information. If you have any questions regarding MEDS input, please contact your MEDS liaison. All other questions should be directed to Mr. Mike Foley of the Dental Contract Section at (916) 739-5421.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosure

cc: Medi-Cal Liaison
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

OTHER COVERAGE CODES

Cost Avoidance (full coverage)

B	Blue Cross
C	CHAMPUS
D	Prudential
E	Aetna
F	First Farwest
G	American General
H	Mutual of Omaha
I	Metropolitan Life
J	John Hancock Mutual Life
K	Kaiser
L	Dental Only
P	PHP/HMO
Q	Equicor/Equitable
R	Ross Loos
S	Blue Shield
T	Travelers
U	Connecticut General
V	Variable - any other carrier
W	Great West Life
2	Provident Life and Accident
3	Principal Financial Group
4	Pacific Mutual Life
5	Alta Health Strategies
6	AARP
7	Allstate Life
8	New York Life
9	Crown Life

Non-Cost Avoidance Codes (partial coverage)

A	Any carrier other than Blue Shield or Blue Cross
M	Two or more carriers (if the beneficiary has one or more policies that are full coverage, do not use M: use one of the cost avoidance codes)
X	Blue Shield
Z	Blue Cross

No Other Health Coverage

N	None