



Virtual Dental Day at the State Capitol

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Dental Medicaid Rates

CSDA supports the Governor's proposal that increases adult dental Medicaid rates by 25% and further increases adult endodontic rates to align with the child rate. The changes are included in the proposed State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2023.

- **Connecticut is the only state in the country that has a compensation disparity in fee schedules for adults and children.**

According to the latest data from Health Policy Institute, Connecticut has a Medicaid reimbursement rate of 67.2% of private insurance reimbursement for child dental services but only a 37.5% comparable reimbursement rate for adult dental services.

- **Dentist participation in the Medicaid program is an important aspect of the dental care safety net.**

While the cost of running a dental office has significantly increased, adult dental rates have remained unchanged since 2008. In order to retain a robust dental care safety net, dental Medicaid rates need to be significantly increased.

- **Oral healthcare is essential to overall health and well-being.**

Untreated dental diseases such as gingivitis, periodontal disease, and other oral infections may lead to complications associated with heart disease and diabetes.

It is important that dental care be made readily available to those who qualify for Medicaid and that adequate funding for those programs continue.

Without adequate access to dental care through the Medicaid program, many Connecticut citizens will seek emergency care for oral conditions in local hospitals.

It is far more cost effective, and better for the patient, to treat these issues before they become an emergency.



The adults who rely on Medicaid are the least likely to access dental care (including basic preventative services), face the biggest cost barriers to dental care, and are more likely than their higher income counterparts to experience dental pain, report poor mouth health, and find their lives less satisfying due to their poor oral health.

The Connecticut State Dental Association is a statewide, professional membership organization representing Connecticut-licensed dentists. The CSDA supports legislation that protects the high quality of dental care that Connecticut residents receive, and sponsors statewide public outreach programs that highlight the importance of good dental health for people of all ages.

Learn more at www.csdacom

