



Guidance for Resuming Deferred & Preventive Dental Care Webinar

Questions and Answers

Q: Since you stated that addressing all of a patient's concerns in one visit, vs. having them return for multiple visits, is the best option going forward, will Medical Dental pay for multiple procedures that are performed at the same visit?

A: For most procedures there are no limits as to other procedures that can be performed on the same day. A provider could do a prophylaxis and several fillings, etc all on the same day. If there is a limit, then it is stated in the Manual of Criteria (MOC). For example, SRP cannot be performed on the same day as a prophylaxis. Likewise, a prophylaxis cannot be performed on the same day as Periodontal Maintenance. Osseous surgery or gingivectomy cannot be performed on the same DOS as a prophylaxis, etc. The various limitations are clearly stated in the MOC and it is the responsibility of the Provider who has signed up with the Program to be aware of any limitations.

In general, the providers should be able to do the bulk, if not all, of the procedures on the same day. The limitation would be more of a patient limitation versus a criteria limitation. However, there are some limitations, so the provider should make sure to check the various procedures to ensure there is not some kind of criteria limitation.

[Dental, Medical Dental Providers Handbook](#)

Q: Who should the LOHPs recommend for N95 Fit Tests?

A: List of trainers for FIT testing – [AIHA Consultant Directory](#), [NES COVID-10 Services](#)

Q: Can LOHP's provide funds from their budgets to cover PPE equipment?

A: Purchases Using Prop 56 Funds for Dental Providers

The Office of Oral Health (OOH) acknowledges these are unprecedented times due to the impact of COVID-19, as a result purchasing guidance has been updated for Prop 56 funds* which may be used to support providers who serve underserved populations. This guidance is provisional due to the uncertainty of the pandemic.

Please see this list for what LOHPs can and cannot purchase with Prop 56 funds for dental providers in their county. This list cannot cover every item that may be asked for, but it should provide some general direction. Please ask your Grant Manager if an item(s) are not listed here:

- Allowed (*Note: funds from approved 19/20 Budget only)
 - N95 Fit Testing Sessions - [NES COVID-10 Services](#)
 - List of trainers for FIT testing - [AIHA Consultant Directory](#)

- PPE Materials – N95 Respirators, Face Shields, Goggles, Surgical Masks and other infection control equipment.
- Sanitation Supplies
- Patient Facemasks
- Touchless Thermometers
- Printing of COVID & Dentistry related materials to include brochures, posters, flyers, banners and handouts
- Not Allowed
 - Dental employee assistance programs
 - Installation or maintenance of HEPA type ventilation systems
 - Hiring of a COVID related office cleaning/sanitizing company
 - Hiring consultants around sanitation practices
 - Standard disinfecting costs
 - COVID 19 tests for staff or patients
 - The management and disposal of medical waste

Q: Can the LOHP's use their budget for COVID activities?

A: Given that the LOHPs can't work the activities in their SOW's with the schools being closed, please spend your budgets supporting your dental work force. We want to maintain this group and do whatever we can to stop the spread of COVID through a dental office.

Q: Please define toothbrush prophylaxis. Is it covered by insurance and when is it appropriate?

A: A toothbrush prophylaxis is the manual chemical biofilm removal of soft deposits and plaque that can be removed safely and thoroughly in conjunction with an oral cancer screening, periodontal measurements, oral hygiene instructions, and hand scaling to remove calculus and stain. It is covered by insurance as the clinician is removing all hard and soft deposits from the teeth which is the definition of a prophylaxis. With a toothbrush prophylaxis, the clinician is using a toothbrush to remove plaque and other soft deposits in place of rubber cup polishing which creates splatter and aerosols and is abrasive to enamel, removing the fluoride rich layer of enamel.

Q: Are dental labs considered essential business and can they be open and working?

A: Yes

Q: Can providers bill PPE to Medical Dental or other insurance?

A: No, there are no codes for these items.

Q: If a dentist wears a surgical mask with a face shield, is that appropriate?

A: Please see Dr. Kumar's guidance document for details [here](#).

Q: How do you support dental staff, that are being asked to come back to work and don't feel safe?

A: The employee and employer are in a contract, and the employer must provide their staff/employee with the necessary equipment to provide a safe environment. The dental hygiene board has stated that the CDPH guidance must be followed to ensure safety.

Q: Is the state worried about the patients that come in and are asymptomatic?

A: Yes, and that is why we are having dental offices take these precautions.

