



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1180

DATE: October 9, 2012

TO: Iowa Medicaid Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Providers

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Dental Services Performed for Meridian Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Members

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

The IME wishes to clarify claim submission requirements for Medicaid members who have elected to participate with an HMO for Managed Care services.

Health Maintenance Organizations, where available, operate as the primary insurance and cover much of the same scope of benefits as are available under the Iowa Medicaid program. Exceptions to coverage under an HMO are:

- Dental
- Pharmacy
- Non-Emergent Medical Transportation
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Behavioral Health Services, including:
 - Mental Health Services
 - Substance Abuse Services
 - Psychiatric Institution Services
- Services by Area Educational Agencies
- Home and Community-Based Waiver Services

Federally Qualified Health Clinics should be contracted with the Medicaid HMO in a service area and must submit medical claims for covered services to the HMO. The payment methodology for the medical service is between the HMO and the FQHC.

Dental services are not covered by HMOs. In those instances where a dental service is provided, the FQHC must submit the claim to the IME for claim adjudication. Encounters that include **both** a medical and a dental service should also be submitted to the IME for reimbursement consideration. The FQHC must submit the claim for the encounter on line one and the dental service codes on subsequent lines with a \$0.00 in the charge field. This follows submission instructions as described in Informational Letter 879, which can be found at:

www.ime.state.ia.us/docs/879_BillingRequirementsRemindeFQHCsRHCs.pdf

The FQHC **should not** submit a separate claim for the medical service to the HMO and the dental service to the IME.

If you have any questions please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally at 515-256-4609 or email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.