



## Dental Wellness Plan

### Background and Plan Rationale

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan includes coverage for comprehensive dental benefits, equivalent to the Medicaid dental benefit for adults ages 19 through 64. The current Medicaid dental program has several deficiencies that, without changes, would not provide sufficient access to dental care to this new population.

- Studies have shown a high need for dental care amongst the population, linking oral health to overall health.
- Low access to care with the current Medicaid program due to a variety of reimbursement rates, administrative and other challenges.
- Adding additional members to a limited network would not provide access to needed care.

### Key Points of the Dental Wellness Plan:

1. Provides adequate reimbursement rates for dental providers, including incentives.
2. Includes contract with a commercial dental plan.
3. Takes population health approach, with emphasis on care coordination.
4. Offers member incentives aligned with preventive services and good oral health.

### Dental Wellness Plan Design and Goals

1. **Contract with a commercial dental plan** to provide competitive reimbursement rates and reduce administrative barriers.
2. **Use covered benefits and earned benefits model** which offers coverage for basic services, and allows members to complete specific incentives in order to gain access to other enhanced services (see page two for additional details).
3. Take a **population health management** approach to improve the overall oral health of Iowa Health and Wellness Plan members by designing care plans to meet specific needs of each member.
4. Focus on **care coordination and member engagement** by linking oral health care to physical health care through medical homes and Accountable Care Organizations.
5. **Increase dental provider reimbursement** and offer pay for performance components if providers meet specific quality measurements linked to plan goals.
6. Include an **accountable care approach to contracting** with dental providers that focus on performance measures that hold providers accountable for high quality care.

# Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Dental Wellness Plan Fact Sheet



**Benefits Structure Overview:** The Iowa Department of Human Services, in partnership with key stakeholders, has designed the proposed Dental Wellness Plan. Below are proposed details on the dental program that begins on May 1, 2014.

<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iowa Health and Wellness Plan members ages 19-64</li> <li>• Income between 0-133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level</li> <li>• Not otherwise eligible for Medicaid or Medicare</li> </ul>
<b>Benefits Covered</b>	<p>Comprehensive dental services with benefits equivalent to the current Medicaid dental program. Benefits fall into the following three categories:</p> <p><b>Core:</b> Members are eligible for core benefits upon enrollment in the Dental Wellness Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic and preventive services - exams, cleanings, x-rays.</li> <li>• Emergency Services - problem focused exams, extractions/oral surgery and anesthesia.</li> <li>• Stabilization Services - restorations for large cavities, gum disease treatment for acute problems, and dentures for those without teeth or to restore function and denture adjustments and repairs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Enhanced:</b> Members are eligible by completing a recall exam within 6-12 months of initial exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Core benefits plus restorative services, root canals and other endodontic care, non-surgical gum treatment, denture adjustments and repairs, certain oral surgery services, and other designated adjunctive services.</li> </ul> <p><b>Enhanced Plus:</b> Members are eligible by completing a second recall exam within 6-12 months of first recall exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Core and Enhanced Benefits plus crowns, tooth replacements and gum surgery. Enhanced Plus benefits will be subject to prior authorization.</li> <li>• Benefits are maintained by adhering to a recall exam every 6 to 12 months.</li> </ul>
<b>Provider Network Innovations</b>	<p>Delta Dental is establishing a new provider network for the Dental Wellness Plan. The program includes the following innovative features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Addresses low reimbursement</b> concerns with an increased reimbursement for providers and incentives for increased participation.</li> <li>• <b>Addresses Medicaid administrative burden concerns</b> by contracting with a commercial dental carrier that has experience working with Iowa dentists.</li> <li>• <b>Focuses on a population health and earned benefits</b> which provides incentives for additional dental care services and improves member awareness about the importance of oral health and compliance with treatment plans.</li> <li>• <b>Uses a risk-assessment tool</b> to facilitate data collection and improve understanding of the oral health care status of the Dental Wellness Plan population.</li> <li>• <b>Provides outreach and referral services</b> to promote the importance of preventive care, coordinate access and address concerns about missed appointments.</li> </ul>