



DRAFT  
 Minutes from the Dental Advisory Committee (DAC)  
 DMAS 11AM – 1PM  
 April 11, 2008

DAC Members Present	DAC Members Absent
Dr. Lynn Browder	Dr. Ann McDonald
Dr. Carl Atkins	Dr. John Unkel
Dr. Kristine Drummond	Dr. Karen Day
Dr. Terry Dickinson	Ms. Linda S. Bohanon
Dr. David Strange	
Dr. Ivan Schiff	
Dr. Girish Banaji	
Dr. Cynthia Southern	
Dr. Tegwyn Brickhouse	
Dr. Bhavna Shroff	
Mr. Chuck Duvall	
Dr. David Hamer	
Dr. Randy Adams	
Dr. Frank Farrington	
Dr. Joe Paget, Jr.	
Dr. Neil Morrison	
Mr. Neal Graham	
Dr. Zachary Hairston	
Dr. John Ashby	

DMAS Attendees	Doral Attendees
Patrick Finnerty	Lori Howley
Bryan Tomlinson	Cheryl Harris
Dr. Marjorie Chema	Bridget Hengle
Sandra Brown	Kristen Gilliam
Lisa Bilik	<b>Other</b>
Donna Garrett	Dr. Marlene Navedo, Kool Smiles
	Laura Givens (VDA)
	Richard Grossman, The Vectre Corporation
	Todd Cruse, Small Smiles

**Welcome**

Mr. Finnerty opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Introductions were made.

Minutes from the 10/26/07 meeting were voted on and approved as written.

### **Program Updates**

Mr. Finnerty recognized this was the first meeting for Dr. David Hamer who is replacing his father Dr. Fred Hamer on the committee. Dr. Fred Hamer served the agency for many years and passed away last December. Mr. Finnerty recognized the loss of Dr. Fred Hamer and all that he contributed to the new dental program through his genuine love and concern for the Medicaid children in Virginia.

Mr. Finnerty provided the following program updates:

- He announced the plan to invite a parent/member to join the committee and requested that the committee forward any recommended patient names to Sandy Brown. Patient representatives who live in the Richmond area were requested as they would potentially be more likely to attend the meetings.
- He reported that Dr. Brickhouse will be presenting at the National Oral Health Conference in Florida in two weeks. During the meeting today, she will be presenting a condensed version of her presentation. The program continues to get national exposure through Dr. Brickhouse's presentation.
- He referenced the 2007 General Assembly Dental Report in the attendee packets. This is a required status report on the program submitted annually to the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. This report includes the successes of the program and can be used as a reference for attendees. Positive comments continue from Legislators about the program.
- He reported CMS, the federal agency that oversees Medicaid has established a Technical Advisory Group, TAG. The group is made up of 6-12 representatives from different Medicaid programs across the country to give states an opportunity to provide input to CMS. Topics vary but currently, there is a movement to create an Oral Health Technical Advisory Group to address dental issues in Medicaid programs. Mr. Finnerty has accepted a request to chair the oral health TAG which will help promote dental health in national health reform.
- He announced along with Dr. Dickinson and referenced a copy of an issue brief entitled "Increasing Access to Dental Care in Medicaid". The National Academy of State Health Policy did a study for the California Health Care Foundation, similar to the Virginia Health Care Foundation, on dental access issues in California. The report includes information from six states that have made improvements in their dental programs. Virginia was one of the six states. Research concluded that reimbursement rate increases alone were not sufficient to promote successful reform. Administrative changes and good working relationships with the dental community

were also noted as critical elements to success. Mr. Finnerty acknowledged the Committee's contribution to the success of Virginia's program.

### **Media Coverage of Medicaid Dental Clinics**

Mr. Finnerty introduced Todd Cruse, Sr. Vice President of Small Smiles who addressed the Committee about the recent negative press events around the clinical treatment provided at the Small Smiles Clinics. Mr. Cruse referenced several news stories that ran on local and national television stations on the operations in several of his clinics around the country. He reported that some of the televised reports were false and misconstrued the facts. Claims of misconduct by clinic dentists were investigated. Audit results were positive and Small Smiles has been reinstated by affected managed care organizations. Free care was provided to children during the period of network suspensions. Small Smiles has a new Chief Dental Officer, Dr. Steven Adair, who will work to ensure quality dental services in the clinics. The use of protective stabilization occurs in approximately 4% of the children treated in the clinics. A hotline has been established for parents to call if they have any concerns about the dental treatment provided in any of the clinics. Dr. Chema reported DMAS had performed site visits and determined that the clinical operations in the three Virginia clinics appeared to be within acceptable standards of practice.

### **Oral Health Disparities in Publicly Insured Children**

Dr. Tegwyn Brickhouse, VCU School of Dentistry Faculty, provided an overview of her research activities under a NIH grant she received through a career transitional award. The research is related to oral health disparities in publicly insured children under Medicaid and FAMIS programs. She is examining the dental care process and clinical outcomes in the VA and NC dental programs. By examining claim summaries of utilization, summaries of provider-level activities and enrollment patterns of program enrollees, Dr. Brickhouse plans a project that will examine outcomes for case management of infant oral health in a medical setting. She is also investigating the impact of state program reform. The Power Point presentation can be accessed in its entirety at [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov) under the *Smiles For Children* link.

### **Smiles For Children Program Review**

Cheryl Harris, Doral Virginia Project Director, presented a Power Point presentation which can be accessed in its entirety at [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov) under the *Smiles For Children* link.

- Distribution of Dental Services and Claims – Of the \$103,447,016.04 paid in SFY 2007, 34% of the claims was paid on preventive and diagnostic services totaling \$34,816,835. The balance of \$68,630,231.04 was paid on treatment services. Of the 1,872,649 service types, 68% of services rendered were for preventive and diagnostic services, totaling 1,276,578 services. The balance of 596,071 was for treatment services.

- Broken Appointments – Results of the Doral telephonic best practices questionnaire were presented.
- Network Status – As of March 31, 2008, there are 1065 providers in the *Smiles For Children* network. There have been 455 additional dentists who have joined the network and this represents a 72% increase in the network since 7/1/05.
- Ms. Harris also reported that the CMS 416 report for FFY 07 reflects a utilization rate of 45% for ages 3-20. When comparing the utilization for ages 3-20, there was a 14% increase between FFY 06 and 07 and a 48% increase since the FFY 05.
- Stabilization Policy – Lori Howley introduced a proposed policy by Doral to require participating providers to confirm completion of training in the use of protective stabilization techniques. The committee voiced concerns about implementing the policy for VA providers. Further discussion will be required to determine if this policy will apply to *Smiles For Children* providers. Mr. Finnerty requested the committee review the language presented on the Doral slide and provide feedback to Sandra Brown.

### **Tamper Resistant Prescription Pads**

Bryan Tomlinson, DMAS Health Care Services, provided an update on tamper-resistant prescription pads. This initiative is a federal requirement that all Fee-For-Service Medicaid prescriptions that are not electronic must be on a tamper-resistant pad or paper to prevent fraud and abuse. The federal law was passed and became effective April 1, 2008. The mandate applies to non-electronic claims only. It does not apply to telephonic prescriptions, faxed prescriptions or computerized ones. If prescriptions are printed from a computer, the prescription must print on tamper-resistant printer paper sold commercially. The mandate applies to dentists who write prescriptions in the *Smiles For Children* program.

### **Interpreter Services**

Sandra Brown reported the new procedure for paying for interpreter services proposed at the last DAC meeting has been implemented. The procedure will allow providers to be reimbursed for expenses incurred for onsite interpreter services when requested by a patient. An update on the new procedure will be provided at the next DAC meeting.

### **Questions & Answers**

Several questions were raised about providers who no longer have access to the Medicaid eligibility system. Sandra Brown acknowledged the problem that resulted from moving the grandfathered *Smiles For Children* provider files to Doral. A solution is being developed but Ms. Brown encouraged providers to call Doral to verify patient eligibility when needed. She also requested that they contact her directly if they could not get the information they needed from Doral.

Mr. Finnerty acknowledged the conviction by a federal jury (Medicaid fraud and other charges) of Dr. Shelburne, a *Smiles For Children* provider in southwest Virginia. Several committee members reported receiving a letter from Dr. Shelburne. The Committee agreed that not all facts were known about the particular case. Discussion occurred on whether DMAS should send some type of communication about this case to dentists or focus on training as a means to minimize the likelihood of other dentists facing audit problems. The Committee recommended the training approach. Doral will be educating providers about common billing errors.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The date for the next DAC meeting is to be determined. Sandy Brown will poll DAC members regarding their availability and potential dates to schedule the next meeting.

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