Dear Health Plan Representative,

Please see attached All Plan Letter (APL) 21-007 regarding Dental Plan reporting of PPE and related supports to providers.

Thank you.
DATE:  January 26, 2021

TO:  All Specialized Health Care Service Plans That Cover Dental Services¹

FROM:  Sarah Ream  
        Chief Counsel

SUBJECT:  APL 21-007 – DENTAL PLAN REPORTING REGARDING PPE AND RELATED SUPPORT TO PROVIDERS

Given the ongoing state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) is concerned dental plan networks may be adversely and significantly affected if providers are unable to provide services due to: a lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); the expense of acquiring PPE; or, the expense of acquiring other COVID-19-related supplies. Such supplies include, but are not limited to, PPE, PCR test kits, and rapid antigen tests. In this APL, PPE and other COVID-19-related supplies are referred to collectively as “COVID-19 Supplies.”

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority granted by the Executive Order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 23, 2020, dental plans (including Medi-Cal managed care dental plans) must report to the DMHC information regarding the support they (or their delegated entities on behalf of the plan) have provided to their contracted providers to ensure the providers have sufficient COVID-19 Supplies to safely deliver services to the plan’s enrollees.

I.  Dental Plan Support Regarding COVID-19 Supplies

Dental plans shall report the following information to the DMHC on a monthly basis. The plan shall address each of the following questions separately (as opposed to in a combined narrative).

1.  Did the plan provide PPE or other COVID-19-related supplies to any of its contracted or subcontracted providers during the applicable reporting period? If yes, please provide:

¹ This APL does not apply to specialized health care service plans that do not offer dental coverage.
a. The names of the contracted/subcontracted providers to whom the plan provided COVID-19 Supplies. [If the plan provided COVID-19 Supplies to a provider group, clinic, etc., the plan does not need to list the names of the individual providers working at the facility; the name of the group, clinic, etc., is sufficient.]

b. The type and approximate amount of COVID-19 Supplies provided. E.g., 300 n95 masks.

c. The date(s) the plan provided COVID-19 Supplies to each of the providers. If the plan provided COVID-19 Supplies to a provider on multiple dates during the reporting period, the plan may state “multiple” rather than listing each date.

2. Did the plan provide any of its contracted/subcontracted providers with money or other consideration (including increased reimbursement payments generally or for particular services) to allow the provider to more easily purchase COVID-19 Supplies during the reporting period? If yes, please provide:

a. The names of the contracted/subcontracted providers to whom the plan provided money or other consideration for the purchase of COVID-19 Supplies. [The plan does not need to list the names of the individual providers working in a group, clinical or facility; the name of the group, clinic, etc., is sufficient.]

b. The amount of money or consideration the plan gave to each provider.

c. The date(s) the plan gave money or other consideration to provider. If the plan provided money or other consideration to a provider on multiple dates during the reporting period, the plan may state “multiple” rather than listing each date.

II. Submitting The Monthly Reports

A. Initial report

By March 1, 2021, plans shall submit to the DMHC a report regarding COVID-19 Supplies and/or support the plan gave to providers between February 1, 2020, and January 31, 2021.
B. Subsequent reports

Plans shall submit the reports for subsequent months as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report filed by…</th>
<th>COVID-19 Supplies and/or Support Provided during…</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1, 2021</td>
<td>February 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1, 2021</td>
<td>March 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1, 2021</td>
<td>April 2021</td>
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<td>July 1, 2021</td>
<td>May 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1, 2021</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
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C. Confidentiality and Submission of the Monthly Reports

The DMHC shall treat information regarding the identity of the providers to whom plans provided COVID-19 Supplies and support as confidential. Accordingly, plans shall submit two versions of their monthly reports:

1. A confidential version identifying the providers to whom the plan provided COVID-19 Supplies and support during the reporting period; and

2. A non-confidential version with the providers’ identities either not included or redacted.

Plans shall submit the monthly reports through the DMHC’s eFiling portal. Submit the reports as “Exhibit E-1s,” with the filing type as “Report/Other.” Plans should title the filings as “COVID-19 Supplies Report for [Month Year ]” (e.g., “COVID-19 Supplies Report for February 2021”).

If you have questions regarding this APL, please contact your plan’s assigned reviewer in the DMHC’s Office of Plan Licensing.