



Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH)

May 10, 2024

Dear Division of Health Care Financing and Policy,

The Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH), appointed by Governor Joe Lombardo, was formed to support the State of Nevada's Department of Health and Human Services Oral Health Program with a mission to advocate for optimum oral health for all Nevadans.

Tooth decay is the most common early childhood disease in the United States. Underserved and financially disadvantaged children are most likely to need profound dental rehabilitation. These numbers may steadily worsen in Nevada, due to the amount of provider shortage areas within our state.

Recently, members of AC4OH were presented with an urgent matter from our dental community that may disrupt future access to care in Nevada for thousands of underserved children and adults with special needs. In order to provide quality dental health services within our State to those who need it most, we ask for assistance to help align Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement rates for dentistry performed in ambulatory surgery centers (ASC's).

This is not the first time this topic has been raised to members of the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy. In 2019, letters from Dina Titus, Jacky Rosen, the Nevada Academy of Pediatric Dentistry along with testimony from Dr. Mark Rosenberg are on record to argue this reimbursement disparity. Ultimately, an increase to the reimbursement rate for ambulatory surgery centers was awarded.

As members of a state Advisory Committee, we are not experts on financial reimbursement from CMS. However, we do agree that increased reimbursement will lead to increased participation and access to care. The underserved population in Nevada deserves a comprehensive assessment of the current reimbursement rates for ASC's to assure these services will continue unabated, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health

Board Members

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