



# Oral Health Resource for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

## ORAL HYGIENE:

Proper oral hygiene is one of the most important elements of dental health. While regular dental check-ups and professional cleaning are important, routine oral hygiene has been shown to be one of the most effective ways to prevent dental health problems that can be very expensive to treat. With a grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health, a simple, easy to access and easy to understand oral health training video for caregivers was produced in 2011. The video can be accessed from this DD website: <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/health/> Look under Oral Health, and click the link entitled “Oral Hygiene Video Training Available” to reach the training on YouTube.

The training is designed for anyone who supports someone who cannot perform oral hygiene tasks themselves, including family caregivers as well as paid support staff. This training may be downloaded to DVD and duplicated for families, providers, and support staff who may not have access to high speed or wireless internet.

The training was evaluated by Dr. John Dane, Director of the Elks Mobile Dental Program, and showed that not only did people show improvement in oral health when they had their check-up, but they were easier for the dentist to treat because they had become accustomed to having someone else work inside of their mouth. A copy of the evaluation is posted on the division’s website under Oral Health at <http://dmh.mo.gov/docs/dd/oralhealth.pdf>

## DENTAL INSURANCE:

Support coordinators should provide assistance to individuals and families to explore purchasing individual dental insurance. There are several companies providing dental insurance in Missouri. Rates and coverage will vary widely among dental plans. There are several options to finding an affordable dental plan:

1. Contact the local dentist(s) and ask what dental plans they accept.
2. Contact an independent insurance agent using your local Yellow Pages.
3. Insurance companies that offer dental insurance are licensed by the Missouri Department of Insurance.

Companies are located at this website. Click on the link below, then follow these steps:

- a. Click the blue box labeled “License and Contact Info”. This will bring up a screen entitled “SBS License Services”
- b. Select “active” from the drop down box in the “company status” field
- c. Select “pre-paid dental” from the drop down list in “company type” field, then hit “submit”

A list of dental plans licensed to offer product in Missouri will be listed on the screen. A contact with each company will be necessary to find out if they are actively selling dental insurance in Missouri, the geographic locations where coverage is available, the rates, and whom are the dental providers.

<http://insurance.mo.gov/CompanyAgentSearch/search/search-companies.php>

4. Another listing of insurance companies that may sell dental insurance in Missouri is found at this link:

<http://insurance.mo.gov/reports/suppdata/>

- a. In the field “accident and health” select “individual dental.”
- b. Check to make sure most recent year shows “year” field, and submit.  
The companies listed are those that reported earnings from dental products during that year.

*Note:* This list includes companies that sell new coverage currently, as well as companies that DON'T sell new coverage, but are still collecting premium on closed blocks of in-force business. Therefore a contact with each company will be necessary to find out if they are actively selling dental insurance in Missouri, the geographic locations where coverage is available, the rates, and whom are the dental providers.

5. Another option to locate private dental insurance is to use a web-tool at [www.ehealthinsurance.com/](http://www.ehealthinsurance.com/) E- health insurance is a private marketing tool, and features insurance companies that have paid to market their product on this site. Once you use this web-tool, you are likely to begin receiving solicitations (marketing spam) from a wide variety of related companies.

**RESOURCES FOR DENTAL CARE:**

Program	Services	Requirements, Accessing services, additional information
<p><b>MO HealthNet for Kids (MO HealthNet is Missouri’s name for Medicaid)</b></p>	<p>Low-income children who qualify for MO HealthNet have full access to a wide range of medical services and health care benefits, including dental services and orthodontics.</p> <p>Eligibility for MO HealthNet is based on family income and service eligibility is based on medical necessity.</p> <p>Orthodontics and some dental services for children require prior authorization.</p>	<p>For more information, how to apply for MO HealthNet, information for families and providers, and information about services, click on these links:</p> <p><a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/</a>  <a href="http://dss.mo.gov/pr_health.htm">http://dss.mo.gov/pr_health.htm</a>  <a href="http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/provider/s/pdf/puzzledterm.pdf">http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/provider/s/pdf/puzzledterm.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Medicare Part C Advantage Health Plans</b></p>	<p>Medicare Part C is a managed care benefit that is available to individuals who are eligible for both Medicare Part A and B. Nearly half of all people served by the Division of DD are eligible for Medicare Part A and B. Medicare Part C plans, also called Medicare Advantage Plans, are available in some parts of Missouri.</p> <p>Some Medicare Advantage Plans may offer coverage of ancillary services, including dental care, as an incentive to Medicare beneficiaries to select that plan.</p>	<p>CLAIM is the Missouri State Health Insurance Assistance Program. Trained counselors provide free, unbiased advocacy, education and assistance to people with Medicare and those who help them to make informed decisions about Medicare and related health insurance needs. Click on this link for more information</p> <p><a href="http://www.missouriclaim.org/">http://www.missouriclaim.org/</a></p> <p>Or call CLAIM toll-free at (800)390-3330</p>

Program	Services	Requirements, Accessing services, additional information
<b>Partnership for Hope</b>	<p>This home and community-based waiver was implemented in October, 2010. In addition to covering a wide variety of community supports and services, this waiver also covers dental treatment that is not covered under the MO HealthNet dental benefit for adults.</p> <p>Dental services in this waiver include Preventive dental treatment - topical fluoride applications, and therapeutic dental treatment which includes, but is not limited to, pulp therapy for permanent teeth; and limited provision of removable prostheses when masticatory function is impaired, when an existing prosthesis is unserviceable.</p>	<p>Waiver participants must be determined to require the level of care for an intermediate care facility for people with developmental disabilities. Access to this waiver is determined by local County Boards for Developmental Disabilities, also known as “Senate Bill 40” or SB 40 Boards.</p> <p>This program is available in 103 of Missouri’s 114 counties, and in the City of St. Louis. For a current map of where this program is available, check the Division of Developmental Disabilities’ website: <a href="http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/progs/waiver/docs/pfhmap.pdf">http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/progs/waiver/docs/pfhmap.pdf</a></p>

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<p><b>MO HealthNet State Plan for Adults (MO HealthNet is Missouri's name for Medicaid)</b></p>	<p>The MO HealthNet dental benefit for adults (individuals age 21 and over) includes preventive services, restorative services, periodontal treatment, oral surgery, extractions, X rays, pain evaluation and relief, infection control, and general anesthesia.</p> <p>MO HealthNet also considers additional dental services for adults with certain pre-existing medical conditions, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transplants</li> <li>• Chemo/radiation therapy</li> <li>• Heart Valves</li> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• AIDS</li> <li>• Seizure Disorder treated with Dilantin</li> <li>• Any other medical condition where if the dental condition is left untreated, the dental problems would adversely affect the health of the participant resulting in a higher level of care.</li> </ul> <p>Coverage for pre-existing conditions requires a written referral from the individual's physician.</p> <p>Services that may be covered, with prior authorization, include treatment for trauma of the mouth, jaw, teeth, or other contiguous sites as a result of an injury. Treatment of a disease/medical condition without which the health of the individual would be adversely affected and would result in a higher level of care.</p>	<p>Participant Services</p> <p>1-800-392-2161 (573) 751-6527</p> <p>To locate a provider (for individuals who are not enrolled in a managed care plan) go to this link:</p> <p><a href="https://apps.dss.mo.gov/fms/MedicaidProviderSearch/">https://apps.dss.mo.gov/fms/MedicaidProviderSearch/</a></p>

<p><b>Missouri Statute 376.1225</b>  <b>Mandated coverage for general anesthesia and hospital charges for dental care</b></p>	<p>This statute provides for general anesthesia and hospital charges for dental care, as follows:  376.1225. 1. All individual and group health insurance policies providing coverage on an expense-incurred basis, individual and group service or indemnity type contracts issued by a nonprofit corporation, individual and group service contracts issued by a health maintenance organization, all self-insured group arrangements to the extent not preempted by federal law and all managed health care delivery entities of any type or description, that are delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed on or after August 28, 1998, shall provide coverage for administration of general anesthesia and hospital charges for dental care provided to the following covered persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A child under the age of five;</li> <li>(2) A person who is severely disabled; or</li> <li>(3) A person who has a medical or behavioral condition which requires hospitalization or general anesthesia when dental care is provided.</li> </ul> <p>2. Each plan as described in this section must provide coverage for administration of general anesthesia and hospital or office charges for treatment rendered by a dentist, regardless of whether the services are provided in a participating hospital or surgical center or office.</p> <p>3. Nothing in this section shall prevent a health carrier from requiring prior authorization for hospitalization for dental care procedures in the same manner that prior authorization is required for hospitalization for other covered diseases or conditions.</p> <p>4. Nothing in this section shall apply to accident-only, dental-only plans or other specified disease, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement or long-term care policies, or short-term major medical policies of six months or less in duration.</p>	<p>This provision does not apply to MO HealthNet but may apply to private insurance plans, even if the dental procedure is not covered.</p> <p>Even though a private insurance plan may not cover the dental procedure being provided such as a filling or cleaning, if the person requires general anesthesia and related hospital services, the plan should cover such charges.</p> <p>Anesthesia and hospital charges <i>may</i> be covered by Medicare even if the dental service itself is not covered.</p> <p><a href="http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/c300-399/3760001225.htm">http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/c300-399/3760001225.htm</a></p>
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<p><b>Donated Dental Services</b></p> <p><b>Teena Jo Dodd</b> Missouri Donated Dental Services (DDS) Program Coordinator <a href="mailto:tdodd@DentalLifeline.org">tdodd@DentalLifeline.org</a> <a href="#">Dental Lifeline Network</a></p> <p>PO Box 105919 Jefferson City, MO 65110</p> <p>573.636.4440 direct 866.792.9988 toll free 573.635.0764 fax</p>	<p>Free, comprehensive dental care for elderly, disabled, and medically compromised adults. Volunteer dentists treat patients in their offices where they can work more efficiently with their own equipment, supplies, and staff. Applicants approved for service are usually referred to nearby offices. Missouri has one program coordinator responsible for determining that applicants are either disabled, elderly, or medically compromised and have no other way of paying for dental care – thus establishing that applicants are truly needy. Communicating between offices and patients is also a major responsibility. The coordinators verify patients have reliable transportation, remind them of appointments, and resolve problems that may arise. Coordinators also arrange for specialists and laboratory services when necessary.</p>	<p>Please check the website for current information on service availability and locations.</p> <p><a href="http://www.dentallifeline.org">www.dentallifeline.org</a></p>
<p><b>Community Health Centers</b></p>	<p>Community Health Centers (also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers, offer dental services. All Federally Qualified Health Centers accept MO HealthNet. Sliding fees may be applied to the cost of care for individuals who are not eligible for MO HealthNet.</p>	<p>To find a community health center dental clinic near you, go to this website: <a href="http://www.mo-pca.org/">http://www.mo-pca.org/</a></p>

Program	Services	Requirements, Accessing services, additional information
<p><b>Midwest Special Needs Trust</b></p>	<p>Midwest Special Needs Trust administers trusts for families in Missouri and the surrounding states. Midwest Special Needs Trust also makes charitable grants of up to \$1500 for individuals with disabilities for medical and dental care and equipment, rehabilitation training services or devices, personal goods and services, educational assistance and transportation. The Midwest Special Needs Trust cannot assist with rent, utilities, food and vehicles.</p>	<p>Grants are awarded by the Board of Trustees on a quarterly basis. The deadlines for these applications are: March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31. Completed applications must be received by 4:30 pm on or before the deadline date. <a href="http://www.midwestspecialneedstrust.org/charProgGrants/default.htm">http://www.midwestspecialneedstrust.org/charProgGrants/default.htm</a></p>
<p><b>Elks Mobile Dental Clinic</b> <b>Matthew Tinnel, DDS, JD,</b> <b>Director</b></p> <p>816-404-6904</p>	<p>This program, the major philanthropic project of the Missouri Elks, provides for the dental needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities throughout the state of Missouri.</p> <p><b>Patient Eligibility for the Elks Mobile Program</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children and adults who have developmental disabilities or intellectual disabilities (DD/ID) as identified by the Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities.</li> <li>2. Individuals in extreme financial distress who have found it impossible to receive dental care anywhere else. These individuals must be referred by the local Elk's Lodge. A letter of referral must come from the Lodge. (Limited number of appointments available).</li> </ol> <p>To contact the mobile unit directly phone: (573) 690-6003</p>	<p>Schedule can be obtained from the web-site or by calling this number: 816-404-6904</p> <p><a href="http://www.lakewoodhospitalkc.org/services/dental">http://www.lakewoodhospitalkc.org/services/dental</a></p>

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<b>Dental Hygienist Schools</b>	As of June, 2017 seven Missouri universities and community colleges have programs for dental hygienists. Schools may provide exams, teeth cleaning, x-rays, fluoride treatments, and sealants. Schools may have a nominal charge for services.	To find a dental hygiene program and contact information, click on this link:  <a href="http://www.adha.org/resources-docs/71617_Entry_Level_Schools_By_States.pdf">http://www.adha.org/resources-docs/71617_Entry_Level_Schools_By_States.pdf</a>
<b>Missouri Emergency Dentist Directory</b>	Missouri Emergency Dentist Directory: Dentists providing emergency treatment for abscess, pain, root canals, extractions, broken teeth, denture tissue swelling, broken dentures, and other conditions.	Limited list. <b><u>For emergency services only.</u></b>  <a href="http://www.emergency-dentists.com/missouri.html">http://www.emergency-dentists.com/missouri.html</a>

**OTHER ORAL HEALTH RESOURCES:**

<b>Department of Health and Senior Services Office of Dental Health</b>  Phone: 573-751-6219 Toll-free: 800-891-7415  Email: <a href="mailto:oralhealth@health.mo.gov">oralhealth@health.mo.gov</a>	The DHSS Office of Dental Health is committed to improving the oral health of all Missourians through education, prevention and leadership.  The DHSS Office of Dental Health does not offer direct dental services, nor does it provide financial assistance for dental care, however does have a low cost dental service locator on their website.	The DHSS Office of Dental Health webpage:  <a href="http://health.mo.gov/living/families/oralhealth/index.php#">http://health.mo.gov/living/families/oralhealth/index.php#</a>
<b>NIH National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research</b>	Resources for health professionals and caregivers	<a href="http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/OralHealth/Topics/DevelopmentalDisabilities">http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/OralHealth/Topics/DevelopmentalDisabilities</a>

<p><b>Missouri Coalition for Oral Health</b></p> <p>Gary Harbison, MA  Executive Director  Missouri Coalition for Oral Health  213 Adams Street  Jefferson City,  Missouri 65101</p>	<p>The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health does not provide dental services or funding for dental services, but is a grass-roots advocacy organization whose mission is to improve oral health for all Missourians through sound public policy and public awareness.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/">https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/</a></p> <p>Contact the Coalition by phone:  573-638-3816  or by E-mail:  <a href="mailto:info@oralhealthmissouri.org">info@oralhealthmissouri.org</a></p>
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