

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED POLICY

Public Act 280 of 1939, as amended, and consultation guidelines for Medicaid policy provide an opportunity to review proposed changes in Medicaid policies and procedures.

Please review the policy summary and the attached materials that describe the specific changes being proposed. Let us know why you support the change or oppose the change.

Submit your comments to the analyst by the due date specified. Your comments must be received by the due date to be considered for the final policy bulletin.

Thank you for participating in the consultation process.



Director, Program Policy Division  
Bureau of Medicaid Policy, Operations, and Actuarial Services

**Project Number:** 2237-Dental    **Comments Due:** November 14, 2022    **Proposed Effective Date:** January 1, 2023

**Mail Comments to:** Elizabeth Pitts

**Telephone Number:** 517-284-0842    **Fax Number:**  
**E-mail Address:** [pittse@michigan.gov](mailto:pittse@michigan.gov)

**Policy Subject:** Changes to Dental Sealant Coverage

**Affected Programs:** Medicaid, MICHild, Healthy Michigan Plan, Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

**Distribution:** Dentists, Dental Clinics, Dental Health Plans, Medicaid Health Plans, Integrated Care Organizations, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Tribal Health Centers, Local Health Departments

**Policy Summary:** The purpose of this bulletin is to align dental policy with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) periodicity schedule and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) policy by expanding dental sealant coverage for beneficiaries under age 21.

**Purpose:** Medicaid coverage of dental sealants is not in alignment with current EPSDT recommendations. Current policy is more restrictive than EPSDT guidelines in both age parameters and teeth eligible for sealant coverage.

# Proposed Policy Draft

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
Behavioral & Physical Health and Aging Services Administration

**Distribution:** Dentists, Dental Clinics, Dental Health Plans, Medicaid Health Plans, Integrated Care Organizations, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Tribal Health Centers, Local Health Departments

**Issued:** December 1, 2022 (Proposed)

**Subject:** Changes to Dental Sealant Coverage

**Effective:** January 1, 2023 (Proposed)

**Programs Affected:** Medicaid, MICHild, Healthy Michigan Plan, Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

**Note: Implementation of this policy is contingent upon approval of a State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).**

The purpose of this bulletin is to align dental policy with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) periodicity schedule and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) policy by expanding dental sealant coverage for beneficiaries under age 21.

## **Dental Periodicity Schedule**

The Dental Periodicity Schedule follows the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recommendations for Pediatric Oral Health Assessment, Preventive Services, and Anticipatory Guidance/Counseling Schedule. The AAPD periodicity schedule recommends dental sealant coverage of first and second primary molars and for first and second permanent bicuspids for any beneficiary under 21 years of age to prevent and reduce the likelihood of dental caries.

## **Expansion of Dental Sealant Coverage**

Effective January 1, 2023, MDHHS will expand dental sealant coverage for beneficiaries under age 21 for the prevention of pit and fissure caries. In addition to fully erupted first and second permanent molars (2, 3, 14, 15, 18, 19, 30, 31), the expanded coverage includes fully erupted primary first and second molars (A, B, I, J, K, L, S, T) and fully erupted permanent first and second premolars (4, 5, 12, 13, 20, 21, 28, 29).

Sealants are covered once every three years. Medicaid reimbursement includes repair and replacement of the sealant for three years.

Conditions required for coverage include the following:

- Surfaces must be free from caries.
- Surfaces to be sealed must be free of any restorations.

Medicaid does not cover sealants applied on beneficiaries with any of the following conditions:

- moderate decay;
- advanced decay;
- severe decay; or
- previous restoration on identified tooth.