



## ORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICE STANDARD ADDENDUM

Approved by the Commission on HIV on 12/8/22.

### ***I. INTRODUCTION***

The purpose of the addendum is to provide specific service delivery guidance to Ryan White Part A-funded agencies regarding the provision of dental implants. The service expectations are aimed at creating a standardized set of service components, specifically for dental implants. Dental implants are an oral health care procedure and not a specialty service. Subrecipients funded by the Los Angeles County Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) must adhere to all service category definitions and service standards for which they are funded.

### ***II. BACKGROUND***

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV convened an Oral Health Care subject matter expert panel to discuss an addendum to the EMA's Oral Health Care service standard specifically to address dental implants. The panel consisted of dental providers and dental program administrators from agencies contracted by the Division on HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) to provide dental and specialty dental services under the Ryan White Program Part A. Among the participating agencies, there were the UCLA School of Dentistry, USC School of Dentistry, Western University, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, and Watts Health.

### ***III. SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT PANEL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS***

Recommendations for improving dental implant services for Ryan White Part A specialty dental providers:

- a. Support and reinforce patient understanding, agreement, and education in the patient's treatment plan.
- b. Ensure patient understanding that dental implants are for medical necessity (as determined by the dental provider through assessments and evaluation) and would lead to improved HIV health outcomes
- c. Reinforce that RW funds cannot be used to provide dental implants for cosmetic purposes.
- d. The treatment plan should be signed by both patient and doctor.
- e. Engage and collaborate with the Consumer Caucus to revisit and strengthen the "Consumer Bill of Rights" document and consider reviewing the client responsibilities section to ensure it addresses the client's service expectations and the service provider's capacity to meet them within the limits of the contractual obligations as prescribed by DHSP.

- f. Review the referral form(s) providers use to refer patients to specialty dental services
- g. Develop a standard form/process referring providers can complete when referring
- h. Train referring dental providers on how to adequately complete referral forms to allow more flexibility in treatment planning for receiving specialty dental providers.
- i. Recommend that dental providers complete training modules and access training resources available on the Pacific AIDS Education and Training (PAETC) website.

**IV. HEALTH RESOURCES SERVICE ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) SERVICE CATEGORY DEFINITION FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES<sup>1</sup>**

Oral Health Care activities include outpatient diagnosis, prevention, and therapy provided by dental health care professionals, including general dental practitioners, dental specialists, dental hygienists, and licensed dental assistants

**V. PROGRAM SERVICE CATEGORY DEFINITION FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

**Service Considerations (as listed on 2015 Oral Healthcare Service Standards)** Oral healthcare services should be an integral part of primary medical care for all people living with HIV. Most HIV-infected patients can receive routine, comprehensive oral healthcare in the same manner as any other person. All treatment will be administered according to published research and available standards of care (for additional information please see: [Oral Health Care Standards of Care](#)).

**VI. ORAL HEALTHCARE SERVICE ADDENDUM REGARDING DENTAL IMPLANTS**

**General Consideration:** There is no justification to deny or modify dental treatment based on the fact that a patient has tested positive for HIV. Further, the magnitude of the viral load is not an indicator to withhold dental treatment for a patient. If, however, a patient’s medical condition is compromised, treatment adjustments, as with any medically compromised patient, may be necessary.

SERVICE COMPONENT	STANDARD	DOCUMENTATION
<b>EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT</b>	Obtain a thorough medical, dental, and psychosocial history to assess the patient’s oral hygiene habits and periodontal stability and determine the patient’s capacity to achieve dental implant success and the possibility of dental implant failure.	Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes

<sup>1</sup> HRSA Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02

	<p>Clinician, after patient assessment, will make necessary referrals to specialty programs including, but not limited to smoking cessation programs; substance use treatment; medical nutritional therapy, thereby increasing patients' success rate for receiving dental implants.</p>	
	<p>The clinicians referring patients to specialty Oral Healthcare services will complete a referral form, educate the patient, and discuss treatment plan alternatives with patient.</p>	
<b>TREATMENT PLANNING AND ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION</b>	<p>The receiving clinician will review the referral, consider the patient's medical, dental, and psychosocial history to determine treatment plan options that offer the patient the most successful outcome based on published literature. The clinician will discuss with patient dental implant options with the goal of achieving optimal health outcomes.</p>	Referral in Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes
	<p>The clinician will consider the patient's perspective in deciding which treatment plan to use.</p>	Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes
	<p>The clinician will discuss treatment plan alternatives with the patient and collaborate with the patient to determine their treatment plan.</p>	Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes
	<p>The clinician and the patient will revisit the treatment plan periodically to determine if any adjustments are necessary to achieve the treatment goal.</p>	Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes
	<p>The clinician will educate patients on how to maintain dental implants and the importance of routine care.</p>	Client Chart/Treatment Plan/Provider Progress Notes

**VII. REFERENCES**

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