

Council on Dental Benefit Programs  
REFERENCE COMMITTEE

Report No.	8	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Substitute <input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/>
Submitted By:	Council on Dental Benefit Programs			
Date Submitted:	April 11, 2025	Reference Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Direct to House <input type="checkbox"/>	
Total Financial Implication:	\$ none			
Amount One-time	\$ none	Amount On-going	\$ none	

**Report Council on Dental Benefit Programs**

1 The Council on Dental Benefit Programs met on September 20, 2024, by Zoom and on  
 2 March 7, 2025, at NYSDA headquarters. Minutes of these meetings are on file in the  
 3 NYSDA office and have been distributed to the Board of Trustees and to component  
 4 presidents, presidents-elect, component executive directors and council chairs.

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 6 **Advocacy Efforts/Legislative Update:** Ms. Briana McNamee, director, NYSDA  
 7 Government Affairs, reported on legislation that has been introduced this year. She  
 8 described the current dental loss ratio bill in New York State and different strategies to  
 9 achieve the Association's policy. One strategy is to keep the bill as written; the second  
 10 would be to separate it into components – one bill addressing reporting requirements  
 11 and the other addressing the ratio component. The Council agreed with the strategy to  
 12 separate the bill into two components.

13  
 14 Ms. McNamee spoke of meetings held with the governor's office and the Department of  
 15 Financial Services (DFS) as a result of NYSDA's noncovered services bill being vetoed.  
 16 She and Mr. Herrmann were told it was vetoed because DFS believed it was anti-  
 17 consumer. Ms. McNamee and the Council discussed making amendments to the  
 18 language of the bill to make it more amenable to DFS and the governor's office.

19  
 20 **ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs (CDBP):** Dr. Alyson Buchalter, ADA  
 21 Second Trustee Caucus Representative, reported on the ADA Council's meeting held in  
 22 November 2024. Dr. Buchalter provided an update on new Medicare policy, which will  
 23 allow payment for dental services as part of a comprehensive workup to treat an oral  
 24 infection before or during dialysis for patients who have end-stage renal disease. The  
 25 new policy will also include the use of ICD-10 diagnosis codes and KX and GY  
 26 administrative modifiers for Medicare claim submissions beginning July 1, 2025. The  
 27 ADA has a tutorial on its website showing how to bill for Medicare services:  
 28 [www.ADA.org/Medicare](http://www.ADA.org/Medicare).

29  
 30 Dr. Buchalter has been appointed to a CDBP Medicaid Subcommittee and reported on  
 31 how proposed changes to the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) will  
 32 affect Medicaid in New York State. She has also been appointed to an ERISA Task  
 33 Force and reported on related activities and advocacy efforts.

**Special Committee on Dental Medicaid:** Dr. Patricia Hanlon reported on the Committee's meeting held on February 4, 2025. She has become a member of the Department of Health's Medicaid Provider Stakeholder Workgroup.

**NYS Workers' Compensation Program:** The NYS Workers' Compensation program and changes being made to the claims submission process that will take effect on August 1, 2025, were discussed.

**NYS of Health (NYSoH) Standalone Dental Plan:** Information was provided to the Council regarding NYSoH's initiative to develop a standalone dental plan (SADP) for New York's health plan marketplace. NYSDA was included as a stakeholder in the state's discussions to develop a SADP for the marketplace beginning in 2026.

**Nomination of Council Chair:** The Council voted unanimously to recommend Dr. Joseph Craddock of the Eighth District Dental Society to incoming NYSDA President Dr. Maurice L. Edwards for consideration for appointment to the position of Council Chair from June 2025 to June 2026. If approved, this will be Dr. Craddock's second and final year as Chair.

**Assignment of Benefits:** The Council discussed assignment of benefits and a related bill that was introduced in the Assembly in 2017 but never gained sponsorship in the Senate. The Council agreed that carriers not honoring the patient's assignment of benefits designation on the claim form was problematic. The Council voted in favor of submitting an assignment of benefits resolution to the House. A related resolution is appended to this report.

## **Resolution**

### **Resolution 14 (335)**