




*Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)*

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Medicaid/SCHIP Dental in Arizona  
April 2008



*AHCCCS*

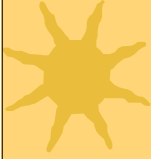
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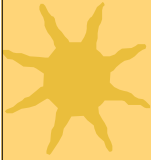
- ★ Agency administers Medicaid and SCHIP
- ★ Managed Care Model
- ★ Over 1 million individuals enrolled
- ★ 95%+ Enrolled in Contracted Health Plans
  - 18 Health Plans, No dental carve-out
- ★ Two major Medicaid programs
  - Acute Care
  - ALTCS



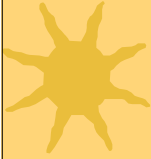
## *Dental Benefits*



- ★ Comprehensive dental benefits for children



- ★ Limited (emergency) dental benefits for adults



- ★ New Adult *ALTCS* Dental Benefit

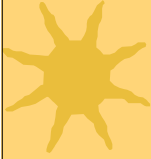
- Primarily DD and EPD adults
- Effective October, 2007 (session law)
- \$1000 annually for basic services in addition to existing benefits



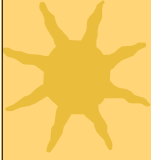
## *Strategy Overview*



- ★ Fee Schedule Revisions



- ★ Update and Clarify Policies



- ★ Reduce Administrative Barriers

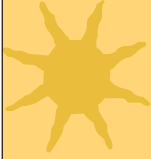
- ★ Engage Dental Association

- ★ Develop Community Partnerships

- ★ Educate Others About Oral Health



## *Fee Schedule Revisions*

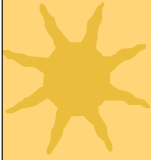


- ★ Competitive Fee Schedule

- Updated 2006, 2007 (FFS)

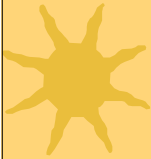
- first time since 1999

- HPs able to negotiate rates individually

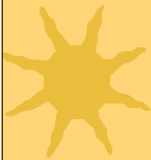


- ★ Drives Desired Behavior & Outcomes

- ★ Does Not Provide Inappropriate Incentives



## *Update & Improve Policy Consistency*



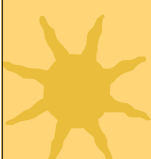
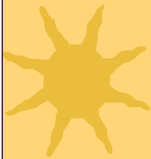
- ★ Clarify ambiguous wording

- ★ Update policies to reflect current recommendations

- ★ Use scientific evidence to support policy

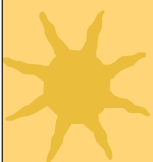
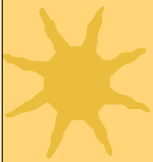
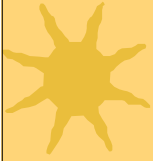
- ★ Ensure consistent application of benefit

- ★ Update legislation if necessary





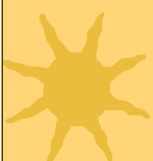
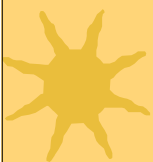
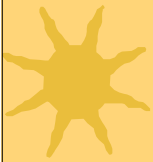
## *Reduce Administrative Barriers*



- ★ Streamline credentialing of providers
- ★ Reduce prior authorization requirements
- ★ Use commercial plan administration model
- ★ Encourage electronic claims submission
- ★ Utilize electronic eligibility verification
- ★ Ensure health plan consistency



## *Engage Dental Association*

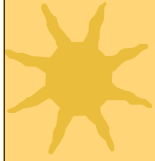


- ★ Work with the Association to improve the Medicaid program – (policy review, recruitment, provider concerns) and engage them to lobby for changes

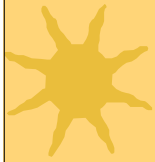




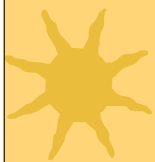
## *Develop Community Partnerships*



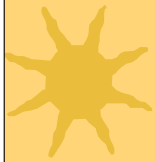
- ★ Public Health Dept
- ★ Dental School(s)
- ★ Federally Qualified Health Centers
- ★ Oral Health Coalitions



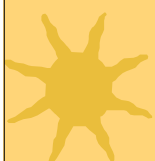
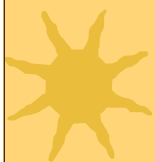
They can serve as resources, advocates and supporters for oral health programs



## *Educate Others About Oral Health*

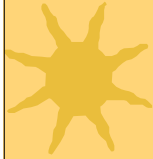


- ★ Educate people within your own agency
- ★ Discuss links between oral and physical health and integrate oral health into disease management processes
- ★ Identify cost saving opportunities and demonstrate how prevention can be less costly than treatment





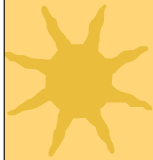
## Challenges



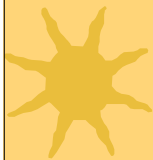
★ Rural provider shortages

★ Administrative barriers – Multiple plans

★ Inadequate budgets (always)



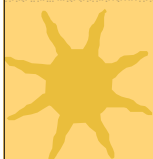
★ Perceived lack of importance of oral health by policy makers, legislators, physicians, consumers, etc.



★ Lack of scientific data to support return on investment



## Arizona Successes



★ **ALTCS Adult Dental**

★ **Fluoride varnish\***  
(when funding is available)

★ **Dental Participation Rate (PIP)**

-51.3% overall (CYE 2002 HEDIS)

-**59.6%** CYE 2006

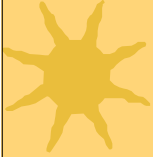
-71.0% (Title XXI)



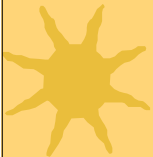


## *Performance Measure*

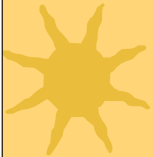
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★ Managed care: If you measure “it” ,  
“it” will improve

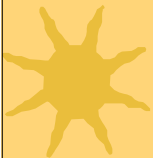


★ <http://azahcccs.gov/Studies/>



## *Contact Us*

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