



# **Preventing Dental Related Opioid Misuse and Abuse Opportunities for Influence at the Dental Benefit Manager Level**

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Improvement

# Dental Benefits Manager (DBM) – Opportunity to Influence

- Call to action – the “aha” moments
- Looking back...
- Building a Foundation
- Collaboration with Providers
- Member Strategy
- Stakeholder Alignment

# Call to Action – the “AHA” Moments

- June 2019 - MSDA 2019 National Medicaid Symposium – Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H., Keynote Speaker
  - Highlights of the Surgeon General’s Priorities
    - Opioid Addiction and his five-point strategy
      - Improve access to prevention, treatment, and recovery support services
      - **Target the availability and distribution of overdose-reversing drugs**
      - Strengthen public health data reporting and collection
      - Support cutting-edge research on addiction and pain
      - Advance the practice of pain management
    - Oral Health
      - 2020 Surgeon General’s Report on Oral Health in America

# Call to Action – the “AHA” Moments

- November 2019 – MSDA Fall Meeting, Dr. Pedro Franco, DDS, presents on the topic of post surgical dental pain management
  - In 2017, 29% of opioid prescriptions were written by dental providers
  - 85% of oral surgeons almost always post-surgically prescribed opioids
  - One in seven patients receiving opioids after dental surgery experience at least one opioid-related adverse event
  - 89% of opioid-related adverse events in adolescents are from legitimate prescription use
  - Young adults and adolescent patients prescribed opioids are highly susceptible to future misuse

# Looking Back...

- Contractual absence
  - MCNA's current Medicaid and CHIP contracts do not require or encourage reduction in opioid prescribing
- Lack of data sharing, integration, and analysis
- Contracts and quality improvement focus remain on access and services received versus oral health outcomes
  - Sealant application versus efficacy
  - Oral surgery completed versus post surgical complications and adverse events

# Building a Foundation

- Executive Awareness
- Stakeholder discussions
  - Medicaid agencies
  - Health plans
- All staff communication
  - Engaging every member of the health plan

# Collaboration with Providers

- Engage participating providers in the adoption of clinical practice guidelines
- Educate providers on clinical practice guidelines and showcase real-life practice success such as Dr. Franco's results
- Evaluate performance against guidelines
  - Expand dental record audits to include opioid prescribing patterns
  - Profile providers and share results

# Member Strategy

- Target members for education
  - Utilize prior-authorization data to identify and target members with diagnosis or treatment that is at risk for opioid prescribing
- Empower members to have two-way discussions with providers regarding alternatives prior to accepting opioid prescriptions
  - Provide members with a tool kit inclusive of national recommendations and specific questions they should have with their provider
- Conduct post-surgical outreach to assess pain management treatment plan

# Stakeholder Alignment

- Stakeholder alignment a must to maximum outcomes in the Nation's health priorities
  - Medicaid agencies, health plans, dental plans, pharmacy benefit managers, must be on the same page regarding priorities
  - Absence of alignment delays change in policy and practice patterns
- Data integration is critical for success in agreed upon strategies
  - Prescription data for oral health providers and ER physicians prescribing for oral health related diagnosis are critical to timely and effectively profile provider and member behavior
  - Eliminates administratively burdensome activities at the plan and provider level such as dental record review