

June 9, 2020

Dear TennCare Dental Provider,

Thank you for continuing to provide high-quality dental care to TennCare members during the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand this period has presented unique challenges for dental providers across the state and we deeply value the dental services you provide to our TennCare members.

To support the continued delivery of dental services to TennCare members, TennCare has approved a temporary rate increase for all dentists participating in the TennCare dental network. The rate increase aims to alleviate some of the financial pressures many dentists are facing due to new safety recommendations around Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and to account for lower patient utilization occurring during the pandemic.

The temporary rate increase will be for a 12-month period, beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. The rate increase will be, on average, a 3% increase across all dental procedure codes. Rates for certain preventive codes, including Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF), dental sealants, and fluoride varnish will be increased by 10%. TennCare has placed a greater emphasis on preventive codes in an effort to promote greater utilization of these codes and also to minimize aerosolization in the dental office.

TennCare will be working directly with DentaQuest to process this rate change. The new reimbursement rates will be reflected on dental services with dates of service beginning July 1. The final updated fee schedule will be posted to the DentaQuest provider portal by July 1 as well. If you have questions or concerns, please contact DentaQuest Provider Services at 855-418-1623.

Again, we are grateful for your continued partnership and thank you for the continuity of care you are offering to our members. For additional information regarding TennCare's response during this emergency period, please visit: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-information-about-coronavirus>.

Sincerely,



James Gillcrist, D.D.S.
Chief Dental Officer
TN Division of TennCare



Sarah Goodin, M.S.
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