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In reply, please refer to:

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Governor's Referral No.:

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MEMORANDUM

ACS M04-06

TO: General Dentists, Pedodontists, Endodontists, Oral Surgeons and ICF-MR Facilities

FROM: Steven S. Kawada, Med-QUEST Division Assistant Administrator

SUBJECT: DENTAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF ICF-MR FACILITIES

Under federal Medicaid regulations, the Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF-MR) benefit includes full dental services. Thus, all Medicaid eligible adults and children residing in ICF-MRs should be provided with comprehensive dental diagnostic, treatment and emergency services.

Specifically, the ICF-MRs are responsible for:

- Providing or arranging for comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services and emergency dental treatment for each client from qualified and licensed dental providers.
- Ensuring that dental professionals participate in the development of an individual's program plan when appropriate.
- Providing education and training for the maintenance of oral health.
- Keeping or obtaining a dental summary of dental visits in the client's living unit.

Upon review of its prospective payment system (PPS) methodology for ICF-MRs, the Med-QUEST Division (MQD) learned that the payment methodology did not include the facilities' costs related to dental services. Until the PPS payments are adjusted to include these costs, the MQD will reimburse Medicaid dental providers directly for comprehensive dental services for residents of ICF-MRs.

Although the MQD will temporarily reimburse dental providers for specific dental services, the ICF-MRs remain responsible for the overall dental care of their residents as stated in the four (4) bullets above.

The following are general guidelines for dental providers:

- Dental providers must participate in the fee-for-service Medicaid program.
- The dental benefit for all residents of ICF-MRs will be the full dental benefit allowed for Medicaid and QUEST recipients under 21 years of age.
- Dental coverage, authorization requirements, limits, reimbursement, and claims submittal will be unchanged. However, the ICD-9 diagnosis code 525.9 should not be entered on the claim form for adults in ICF-MRs receiving non-emergency dental care.
- To ensure the correct processing of non-emergency dental claims for ICF-MR residents, the dental provider must verify that the patient is a resident of an ICF-MR.

For questions or clarification, please contact Lynette Honbo, M.D., MQD Medical Director at 692-8106 or Christopher Dung, DDS, MQD Dental Consultant at 692-8128.