



Our first care is your health care
ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

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DATE: October 2009

TO: Holders of AHCCCS Medical Policy Manuals

FROM: Maureen Sharp, Medical Policy Manager
Office of Medical Policy and Programs, AHCCCS

SUBJECT: **AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)**
Second Update, October 2009

There are multiple changes for the month of October 2009. All policy changes described below are effective 10/1/2009.

Policy 320-A, Affiliated Practice Dental Hygienist Policy

Per Laws 2009, First Regular Session, Chapter 188, AHCCCS has revised the Policy related to Affiliated Practice Dental Hygienists (APDH). Consistent with the change in law, AHCCCS has removed the requirement that a member must be 18 years of age or younger to receive services from an APDH. However, Policy 430 still governs the circumstances that dental services are covered. The law also clarified that an APDH may not be reimbursed for performing a dental examination. Based on this change in law, AHCCCS has closed the codes related to dental examinations and dental radiographs to the APDH provider type. To clarify the AHCCCS position related to dental radiographs, the following statement has been added to policy: "AHCCCS reimbursement for dental radiographs is restricted to providers who are qualified to perform both the exposure and the interpretation of dental radiographs."

Since the APDH provider type was recognized by AHCCCS (4/01/07), AHCCCS has required that the APDH register with AHCCCS and bill under his/her individual AHCCCS ID. To clarify the intent of this requirement, the Policy has been revised to include the following statement: "When practicing under the scope of an affiliated practice dental hygienist, the affiliated practice dental hygienist must register with AHCCCS and must be identified as the treating provider under his or her individual AHCCCS provider identification number / NPI number. In addition, if the services are to be billed to an AHCCCS Contractor the affiliated practice dental hygienist and the dentist with whom s/he is affiliated must be a credentialed network provider of the Contractor."

The modifications to Policy 320-A are substantive and effective 10/1/09. Individuals with questions related to this policy should contact Dr. Robert Birdwell at 602-417-4198.

Policy 430, EPSDT Services

Policy 430 has been revised to correct a typographical error. This is a technical correction and not substantive.

Policy 720-C, Nursing and Personal Care Services

Policy has been modified related to School Based Health Aides. The services that may be provided by School Based Health Aides have been clarified. In addition, the supervision requirement related to School Based Health Aides has been modified.

Modifications to Policy 720-C are substantive and have a 10/1/09 effective date. Individuals with questions related to these changes may contact Tricia Krotenberg at 602-417-4149 or Mindy Hollingshead at 602-417-4746.

TO UPDATE YOUR AMPM:

Chapter 300

Replace Chapter Table of Contents with the revised TOC.

Replace pages 320-1 through 320-36 with the revised pages 320-1 through 320-37.

Chapter 400

Replace pages 430-13 through 430-14 with the revised pages 430-13 through 430-14.

Chapter 700

Replace Chapter Table of Contents with the revised TOC.

Replace pages 720-1 through 720-6 with the revised pages 720-1 through 720-6.