

# Maternity Oral Health Program

Oral Health Integration Toolkit



CareOregon

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# **Maternity Oral Health Program**

Oral health services in physical health settings for pregnant members

Updated as of April 2025

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## **Chapter 1 Program Background**

#### Summary

Maternity oral health supports improved health outcomes for both the patient and developing child. Periodontal therapy can reduce oral inflammation and bacterial levels, and is associated with a decreased incidence of spontaneous preterm birth during pregnancy. Maternity oral health is also an upstream approach in reducing early childhood caries. Decreasing the oral bacterial burden lowers the bacterial transmission rate from pregnant person to infant, helping to lower the child's caries risk.

Prenatal care health professionals may be the "first line" in assessing pregnant patients' oral health, reinforcing preventive messages, and referring to dental professionals.

## Oral Health Integration Checklist for Prenatal Care

#### ✓ Site readiness assessment:

- Leadership buy-in/support
- Understanding of services/codes/documentation requirements
- o Identified team roles that support this work
- Oral health champions
- Data review
  - Oral health integration readiness assessment tool



#### ✓ Implementation process:

- Workflow development:
  - Oral health screening tools
  - Key oral health messaging
  - Dental referral pathways/mechanisms
  - Billing/coding
- Oral Health Screening tool example



## ✓ Post-Implementation sustainability:

o Data reports/review to understand and support integration efforts

#### ✓ Available resources:

- CareOregon's portfolio of resources includes provider tools for oral health education and messaging, dental referral mechanisms, staff trainings
- Patient resources include dental benefit, navigation and oral health printed and virtual materials



# **Chapter 2 Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs)**

## Billing and Coding

CareOregon has enhanced the D0190 Oral Screening code beyond the OAR requirements for non-dental providers. We allow reimbursement for completing oral health screenings for members of any age without the use of an endorsed risk assessment tool. Our intention is to expand the population of members who are eligible for this screening service.

CareOregon has removed frequency limitations for oral screenings (D0190) for any member under the age of 21. Oral assessments and screenings are covered once every 12 months for members 21+.

Associated diagnostic ICD-10 Z codes representing reasons for encounters are required for claims approval. Commonly used ICD-10 Z codes: Z13.84 Encounter for screening for Dental Disorders.

Per the OARs, the FQHC screening encounter rate is inclusive of this service when performed during the medical visit.

Current DMAP rates as of January 2024: D0190 Oral Screening: \$13.01



# **Chapter 3 Two Bright Smiles Curriculum**

## CareOregon Resources

CareOregon's evidence based **Two Bright Smiles** program supports the importance, safety, and ease of receiving oral health services during pregnancy.

- We offer a 30-minute provider team training on the importance of oral health services as part of prenatal
  care. This training provides teams with oral health educational and navigational tools to support pregnant
  patients and their families.
- The Provider guidance and support resource is available on the <u>Quality Metrics Toolkit page</u>, under More Resources, or click the image:



• The following patient-resources are available in print or e-versions, at no cost to partners. Double-click the images below to open CareOregon's resources:

Two Bright Smiles patient brochure



Patient-facing dental benefit navigation brochure



Patient-facing dental benefits overview



# **Technical Assistance and Support**

CareOregon's Oral Health Innovation Team (OHIT) is available for technical assistance pre, during, and post implementation. This support includes, and is not limited to:

- Workflow development, including screening tools and oral health messaging
- Sharing of best practices and lessons learned



- Dental referral pathway development and/or implementation of care coordination mechanisms
  - Establishing Secure File Transport Process (SFTP) for maternity list sharing
  - Provider portal dental care request training
- Claims and dental care request data analysis

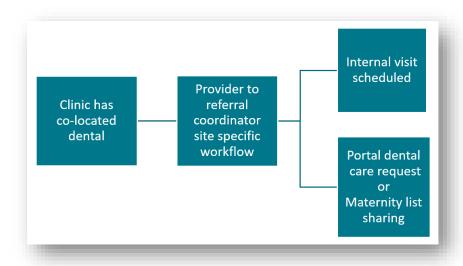
If you would like support or further information, please contact oralhealth@careoregon.org.

# **Chapter 4 Dental Navigation**

## Summary

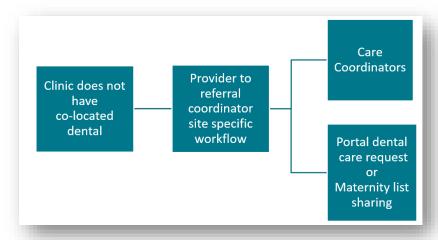
Due to the encountering structure for bundled prenatal service claims, CareOregon is often notified of a patient's pregnancy status after delivery. This results in a gap for providing timely access to key prenatal benefits that may help improve health outcomes for both the pregnant patient and developing child. CareOregon provides technical assistance for dental referral pathways and care coordination to simplify connecting a patient to their dental plan for scheduling. Our team can help develop site specific dental referral workflows based on the clinic's structure.

#### Pathways for co-located sites





#### Pathways for non-co-located sites



#### Care Coordination Tools and Technical Assistance

Our team can help develop site specific dental care coordination workflows based on the clinic's structure. We also work with dental plan care coordinators to support timely access to dental care during pregnancy. Providers may opt for external dental referral mechanisms, such as maternity list sharing or use of CareOregon's dental care request mechanism.

For partners interested in a secure and automated process for maternity list sharing, we can collaborate to build a secure file transport protocol (SFTP) between our organizations. The SFTP site requires a one-time build out for automated data transfer that allows maternity care coordination efforts.

CareOregon offers a dental care request mechanism accessible via either the OneHealthPort or Connect Provider Portals. We offer a 30-minute site specific training on the use of the portal and the following tools:

- Dental Care Request Easy Guide: how to connect members quickly and efficiently to dental services via the provider portal. Click image to view.
- Dental Care Request Tutorial: video (under 2 minutes) demonstrating how to access and complete the request form. Click image to open website. Then click "Dental Care Request Form" to view.







If you would like support or further information, please contact <a href="mailto:oralhealth@careoregon.org">oralhealth@careoregon.org</a>.

# **Chapter 5 Data**

Overview of available data reports

The following bi-monthly report- by provider are available:

- Dental care requests (CareOregon dental referral mechanism) received via the provider portal
  - o Includes CPCCO, JCC, and Health Share members



# **Oral Health Integration Readiness Assessment**

Culture re: Oral Health			
Do staff have an awareness of oral health?  • Are there oral health prompts during visits?  • Any oral health programs already implemented?  • How is oral health already integrated into visits?	None	Some  o It's listed as part of the visit  o There is structure present for oral health	Definitely  o It's a routine part of the visit for all providers
Do staff support oral health integration?  • Are staff comfortable with talking about dental?  • Do staff see a need for more oral health?	Not at all CareOr	Some Staff feel it's important, but have concerns Not all are on-board	Definitely
Is there an oral health champion?  • Is there a person excited about oral health or about integration?  • Is there a person or team assigned to oral health integration?	No	Yes, but not an influencer o Is this person on a leadership team? o Is this person assigned to this task?	Yes, in a position of influence
How would you describe the general culture regarding oral health?	No awareness/support	Some awareness/support	A lot of awareness/support

Workforce Capacity			
Do staff perceive capacity to			
<ul> <li>Staff do not believe they can add another task</li> <li>Change fatigue</li> </ul>	No	Some Some staff require buy-in, others are onboard	Yes  o Staff are engaged  & motivated
Is there support of leadership for all-staff involvement?  • Will all members of the team be involved with oral health or First Tooth?  • Does leadership want this to be a focus of certain positions in the clinic?	No	Potentially   O Unsure of roles	Absolutely    Team effort
Is the site generally on schedule?  Do visits end-on time or do visits generally run over?  Do patients routinely arrive late for appts or generally are on —time?	Always behind  o Relaxed culture	Generally Occasionally runs behind Follows templates	Always  o Strict guidelines
Does the clinic currently utilize data driven reports?  • Does the clinic track data?  • Is there a system in place to pull data for reports?	No  O Difficulty with tracking data or creating reports	Some • Frequency of reports	Yes o Dashboards
Current workflows			
Is there an oral health assessment, screening tool or set of questions reviewed with the patient?	No  No tool or questions about oral health asked/ documented	Unsure  Some providers may be doing this Not a standard workflow	Yes  Standard workflow with tool or questions reviewed with patient and documentation

For children: Is there a workflow for fluoride varnish application?	No  There's no established workflow  It's not being done or isn't documented	Unsure  O Not a uniform process Ask what the workflow looks like	Yes  o Established workflow in place for all teams
If applying fluoride varnish, is there a dedicated staff member for ordering supplies?	No	Unsure  o Shared responsibility	Yes
Are member education resources available and provided?  O Examples include printed materials or added to AVS	No	Unsure O Up to provider's discretion	Yes  o Endorsed  materials are  given out
Does the site use OneHealthPort or Connect and are able to utilize the Dental Care Request form?	No  They do not use either portal Are the able to get access?	Unsure  Not sure which portal they use or who has access	Yes  They know which portal is used/roles with access They can access the request form
Is there a workflow in place for the dental referral process?  • Do you currently refer patients to the dental office?  • How do you coordinate care for a child who needs to see a dentist?	No	Unsure or multiple workflows	Yes  o There's an established workflow
Is there a dedicated care coordinator for referrals?  • How do dental referrals get processed?  • Is there one person who is in charge of referrals?	No	Unsure  O Shared responsibility between staff	Yes

Is there a process in place to determine the member's DCO assignment?  • Does the clinic know how to look up a pt's DCO assignment?  • Are staff, or the person in charge of referrals, comfortable with looking up the DCO?	No	0	Unsure "Someone" knows how to do that	0	Yes There's an established workflow
Does there need to be buy in from a Board or leadership team?  • How does oral health integration fit into the clinic's strategic plan?  • Is there anything that leadership wants to evaluate prior to implementation?	No  • Leadership directs the integration	0	Unsure Need to talk with others first	0	Yes Review specific measures before implementation
What is the desired clinic timeline for implementation?	CareOr	0	Unsure Dependent on other factors Dependent on Readiness Assessment findings	0	Yes Discuss the desired timeline for training and implementation





# Oral health screening tool

- 1. Have you seen a dentist during the past 12 months?
  - a. If you are pregnant, did you have a visit during pregnancy?
  - b. When was your last dental visit?
- 2. Do you have a dentist?
  - a. If no, would you like help with finding a dentist and scheduling an appointment?
- Do you have any dental concerns?
   (for example: tooth pain, mouth swelling, broken teeth, bleeding gums, no teeth and no dentures)
- 4. Are you interested in receiving dental care?
  - a. What would help you complete your dental visit?
     (dental phobia, transportation needs, interpreter services, new location or dentist, etc)

# Oral care is important for safe pregnancies

- Pregnancy increases the risk of gingival inflammation, periodontal disease and dental caries due to hormonal changes and altered eating patterns.
- ▶ Up to 70% of pregnant people experience gingivitis, highlighting the importance of oral health.
- Periodontal therapy can reduce oral inflammation and bacterial levels, which may be associated with a decreased incidence of spontaneous preterm birth.
- Making timely referrals for oral care and emphasizing prevention is critical to prenatal and maternal well-being.





# **Take two:** Two minutes to improve patient outcomes



## When you see pregnant patients, ask:

- Do you have any concerns about your oral health?
- When was your last visit to the dentist?
- ▶ Do you know that pregnancy can affect your teeth and gums?
- ▶ Do you need help finding a dentist?

Need support connecting a member to dental care? Place a dental care request via our Provider Portal and we will do the rest.

Note: Documented oral health questions may be reimbursable under the physical health benefit.

## OHP coverage includes comprehensive dental benefits:

- Exams
- X-rays
- Cleanings
- Fluoride treatments
- Deep cleaning for gum disease

- Fillings
- Crowns, limited
- Root canals, limited
- During pregnancy, some of these benefits are enhanced and extended for 12 months after delivery.











# An Upstream Approach

- Prenatal oral health care is a proactive approach to reducing early childhood caries.
- Decreasing the oral bacterial burden reduces the risk of transmission from pregnant person to their infant, helping to lower the child's future risk of caries.
- Emphasizing the importance of oral health during pregnancy fosters lifelong oral hygiene habits and positive dietary behavior.

## Talk to your pregnant patients about oral care.

## Dispel the myths:

- X Dental treatments harm the fetus
- Pregnancy causes tooth loss or weakens teeth
- X Babies absorb calcium from their mother's teeth



- ✓ Diagnostic services, like dental exams and x-rays
- ✓ Preventive services, such as cleanings and fluoride treatments
- √ Restorative services including those requiring local anesthesia, like fillings and extractions



## **Tools for providers**

Patients are more likely to follow recommendations given by their primary and behavioral care team. We offer resources to help:

- Educational curricula and training for provider teams
- Data and dental plan navigation tools
- Technical assistance and support

Contact: oralhealth@careoregon.org

Thank you for helping pregnant patients understand the link between physical health and oral health.











# Two Bright Smiles





# Dental care during pregnancy? Yes!

The good news is, dental care is safe for pregnant people!

And, you are covered for many dental services under the Oregon Health Plan.

We are happy to help you find a dentist and make an appointment.

Dental care is safe for you and your baby!

# Pregnancy and your oral health

Pregnancy affects your body in many ways, even your mouth. Some people have sensitive, swollen and bleeding gums during pregnancy.

If this happens to you, it can put your baby at risk for being born early. Premature birth can cause many health problems for your child.







# Home care for a healthy mouth

You can take steps every day to protect your dental health:

- Brush morning and night.
- Floss your teeth every day.
- Choose healthy food and snacks.
- Rinse with baking soda and water after vomiting.
- Drink water between meals and snacks.





# Healthy mouth, healthy baby

Now that you're pregnant, you want to take extra good care of yourself. Even your teeth.

Pregnancy can affect your dental health. And taking care of your teeth now can affect your baby's health for life.

# See your dentist

Routine dental care is safe at any time during pregnancy. You can get dental X-rays, cleanings and fillings.

When you call for an appointment, tell the office you're pregnant and your due date.

Call the dental health provider listed on your Health Share of Oregon Member ID card. We can also help:

Call: 503-416-4100

Toll-free: 800-224-4840 TTY: 711



You can get this in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. You can also ask for an interpreter. This help is free. Call 800-228-4840 or TTY 711.





# Your Member ID card

You can choose a dental plan from one of our five provider partners. Your dental plan information is on the back of your Health Share Member ID card.





## When to call your dental plan

Call your dental plan with questions about benefits, or if you want help scheduling an appointment or finding a new dentist. The Customer Service number is listed below and on your Member ID card. You can also search dental providers on your dental plan's website.

# Advantage Dental

**Advantage Dental** 

Toll-free: 866-268-9631 advantagedental.com



Kaiser Permamente

Toll-free: 800-813-2000 kaiserpermanentedentalnw.org



Willamette Dental Group Toll-free: 855-433-6825 willamettedental.com



CareOregon Dental Toll-free: 888-440-9912 careoregondental.org



ODS

Toll-free: 800-342-0526 modahealth.com/ohp

**TTY:** 711

(for all dental plans)

# Smile! You've got dental coverage











# Good health includes healthy teeth and gums

Taking care of your teeth and gums is an important way to take care of your overall health. That's why your Health Share of Oregon and Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefits include dental coverage.

#### Dental care for adults and children

Most of our dental benefits apply to members of all ages. Members who are age 0 to 20 years old, or pregnant, get *extra* benefits.

## Need help getting to a dental appointment?

As a Health Share member, you can get assistance with transportation to a dental appointment if you cannot get there on your own. Depending on your needs, you may get transit passes, be provided rides or get help paying for gas. Whatever the assistance, there's no cost to you.

This service is offered through a partner, Ride to Care. Details: RideToCare.com or call 855-321-4899; TTY: 711

## **Emergency or urgent dental care**

If you need emergency or urgent dental care, it's covered. Always try to call your dentist or dental health plan before going to the emergency room, even if it's at night or on the weekend. A health care provider will help you decide what to do.

## **Specialty dental care**

At times, your dentist may decide you need specialty dental care. Usually it is covered only if you get a dentist's referral and pre-approval from your dental plan. Your dental plan can help you with this.

## Great dental health includes a yearly check-up

Even if you have no teeth, the dentist will:

- Look for signs of oral cancer
- Check your dentures' health, or discuss dentures

# Your dental benefits

Exams, X-rays and cleanings

Sealants

(protective coating for molars; members 15 years old and under)

Fluoride treatments

Deep cleaning for gum disease

**Fillings** 

Crowns (limited)

Tooth removal

Partial dentures, generally every five years

Full dentures, generally every 10 years

Root canals (limited)

**Note:** Some benefits have limits or need pre-approval from your dental plan. Questions? Ask your dentist. Or contact your dental plan. The phone number is on your Member ID card and the back of this brochure.

Seeing your dentist once a year is a great way to take care of yourself

Dental check-ups and good at-home care (brushing and flossing) will help you avoid gum disease. Gum disease is the most common cause of tooth loss in adults. We care about your teeth and gums!



# Get to know ALL of your benefits



# **Focus: Dental care benefits**

Taking care of your teeth and gums is an important way to take care of your overall health.

That's why dental care is covered as part of your Health Share/CareOregon benefits.

# Your dental benefit package includes services such as:



Exams, X-rays and cleanings



Sealants for members 15 and under



Fluoride treatments



Deep cleaning for qum disease



**Fillings** 



Tooth removal

Restrictions may apply and/or preapproval may be required.



Crowns (limited)



Root canals (limited)



Partial and full dentures (limited)



We partner with local dental plans so you can see the dentist with no cost to you. Your dental plan is listed on your Member ID card. They work with you to take care of your dental needs. Call them when you need dental care or have questions about oral health, before you seek emergency or urgent care.

#### Your dentist:

- ls your first contact when you need dental care, except in a life-threatening emergency like uncontrollable bleeding.
- Arranges for specialty dental care, if you need it.
- Keeps your dental records and knows your oral health best, so they can offer the best advice even in an emergency.



# Who should see the dentist?

**Everyone!** But regular dental care is most important for people who are pregnant, have diabetes or other chronic conditions, and children.

**Questions?** If you need help finding a dentist or have questions about dental benefits, contact your dental plan. Their number is on your Member ID card. If you need to change your dental plan or need any other help, call **Health Share Customer Service** at 888-519-3845 or TTY 711, or send us a secure message at *careoregon.org/portal* 





# Dental benefits and services are covered by CareOregon, your Medicaid health plan. Learn more about us here.

When people talk about Medicaid in Oregon, you may hear them say a lot of different names or letters. That's because there are many organizations involved in making sure you get the care you deserve. How can you make sense of it all?

# It helps to think of Medicaid in Oregon like a pyramid

**Oregon Health Authority (OHA)** runs the Medicaid program for the entire state of Oregon, which is called the Oregon Health Plan (OHP).



**Health Share of Oregon (HSO)** is what's called a coordinated care organization (CCO). Health Share of Oregon works under OHA to serve OHP members in the tri-county area.



**CareOregon** is one of several insurance providers in the tri-county area that help Health Share CCO deliver care. We also help coordinate oral health services for our members through our dental partners: CareOregon Dental, ODS Community Dental, Advantage Dental Services and Willamette Dental Group.



**Your dentist** — or primary dental provider (PDP) — coordinates your oral health care with your dental plan and CareOregon. They also work with other medical team members like your primary care provider, pharmacists and others.



# CareOregon provides services like these for Medicaid (OHP) members:

- Physical health care
- ► Mental health care
- Substance use treatment
- Dental care
- ► Medicare through CareOregon Advantage
- ► Hospice and palliative care through Housecall Providers

You can get this in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. You can also ask for an interpreter. This help is free. Call 800-224-4840 or TTY 711.

# You'll also be able to use important services like these:

- Care coordination
- Pharmacy
- Prenatal and infant care
- Transportation options
- ► Language interpreter services
- ▶ ER and urgent care





careoregon.org

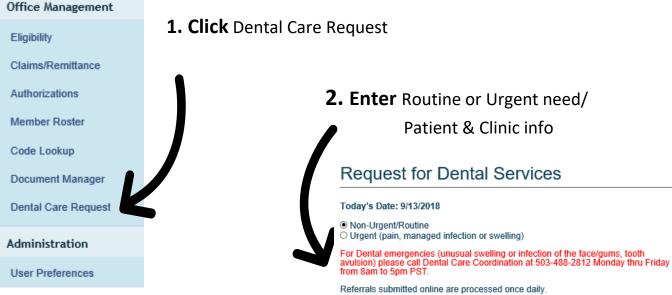
COD-HSO-21176148-EN-0909 OHP-HSO-21-2280

# **Provider Request for Dental Care**



The quick, easy, and efficient way to connect your Health Share of Oregon patients to dental services.

# From OneHealthPort or Connect Portal



3. Enter if patient has diabetes, is pregnant or any pertinent clinical info& Click Submit

Clinical Presentation	
□ Dental caries/Dental decay	
☐ Swelling/Abscess	
☐ Oral Pathology	
☐ Pain ☐ Other	
- Onlei	
Health Conditions	
☐ Pregnancy	
□ Diabetes	
☐ Cardiovascular Disease	
☐ Other significant medical conditions	
Comments about the condition	
	^
	~
We will make every attempt to identify the me	mber's coverage and dental

Submit

Patient Information		
*Patient First Name: *Patient Last Name: *DOB: *Medicaid ID: *Patient Phone: Parent/Guardian, if minor: *Is the patient aware you are submitting this request on their behalf?	● Yes ○ No	台
Referring Provider Informa	ation	
*Clinic/Program Name: *Provider Name: *Phone Number: Fax for Correspondence: Email for Correspondence: *Person submitting this form:		

Easy **1-2-3** steps and we'll do the rest!

Patients can expect to hear from their dental plan for care coordination.

CareOregon provides dental care coordination for all Health Share of Oregon/IDS and ICN members.