Reinstating Hawai'i Adult Medicaid Dental Benefits in 2022

Oral Health Is More Than Just Teeth

HAWAI'I ORAL HEALTH COALITION

223,438
adult Medicaid recipients have NO diagnostic, preventive, or restorative dental coverage

29,536
adults aged 21 and older visited the ER with a dental-related diagnosis between 2016-2020

$12.3M
of all charges for ER visits with a principal dental diagnosis was charged to Medicaid between 2016-2020

49%
of ER visits with a principal dental-related diagnosis between 2016-2020 were Medicaid recipients

Poor oral health is associated with acute and chronic health issues including:

- Heart disease
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Low birth weight
- Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP) & COVID-19*

Improved oral health is associated with:

- social interactions
- employment opportunities

A study found that COVID-19 patients on mechanical ventilation were more susceptible to ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP), which is the leading cause of hospital acquired infection (HAI) deaths among critically ill patients. However, **patients are 22% less likely to develop VAP if they received preventive dental care within the last 3 years**

*September 2020 report from the DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement

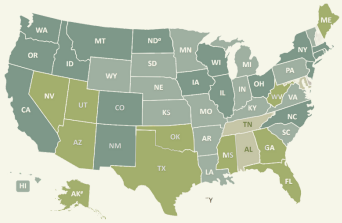
A Wise Investment

Improved Chronic Conditions

HPI-ADA estimates a cost savings of up to

$1.7 mil

for the diabetic population each year with adult Medicaid dental benefits



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states offer comprehensive or limited preventive and restorative benefits to adults

Reduced Risk for Pregnancy Complications

Birth costs for a premature/ underweight newborn range from

$200,000 - $2 million

50%

Potential investment of the State's investment by the Federal Government

In a 2021 survey conducted by Ward Research for HIPHI, 9 in 10 registered Hawai'i voters **(92%) STRONGLY AGREED** that preventative dental benefits should be included in adult Medicaid coverage.

HAWAIʻI ORAL HEALTH COALITION

Join the many organizations state-wide that support

REINSTATING DIAGNOSTIC, PREVENTIVE AND RESTORATIVE DENTAL COVERAGE FOR ALL ADULTS ON MEDICAID

AARP Hawaiʻi
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawaiʻi
AlohaCare
Bay Clinic
Easterseals Hawaiʻi
Family Support Services - West Hawaiʻi
Full Life Hawaiʻi
Hale Makua Health Services
Hawaiʻi Children's Action Network
Hawaiʻi Dental Hygienists Association
Hawaiʻi Dental Service
Hawaiʻi Dental Service Foundation
Hawaiʻi Disability Rights Center
Hawaiʻi Health & Harm Reduction Center
Hawaiʻi Oral Health Coalition, *a program of Hawaiʻi Public Health Institute*
Hawaiʻi State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Hawaiʻi State Rural Health Association
Hoʻola Lahui Hawaiʻi
Hui Mālama Ola Nā ʻŌiwi
Hui No Ke Ola Pono Maui
Ke Ola Mamo
Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services
Lānaʻi Community Health Center
Maikaʻi Health Community Clinic
Na Puʻuwai NHHCS (Molokai and Lanai)
Pacific Island Health Officers Association
Papa Ola Lokahi
Parents And Children Together (PACT)
Puna Kamaliʻi Flowers/Employment Network Hawaii
Responsive Caregivers of Hawaiʻi
Queens Medical Center Dental Clinic
University of Hawaiʻi at Hilo School of Nursing
University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawaʻi Maui College Dental Hygiene
Wahiawā Health
Waikiki Health
Waimanalo Health Center
West Hawaii Community Health Center

For questions or more information, contact the Hawaiʻi Oral Health Coalition at: info@hiohc.org