



## **COUNCIL ON DENTAL BENEFIT PROGRAMS**

November 15, 2017

### **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Hoddick, James, Chair (8)  
Cooper, Ada (NY)  
Buchalter, Alyson (2)  
Hosoyama, Shig (3)  
Korkosz, Adrienne (4)  
Bozek, Walter (5)  
Lacey, Frederick (6)

Keating, Michael (7)  
Cuomo, Christopher (9)  
Porcelli, Eugene (N)  
Jhaveri, Viren (Q)  
Guariglia, John (S)  
Herman, Richard (B)  
Krishnan, Prabha (BOT Liaison)

The Council on Dental Benefit Programs met on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, via video conference. All members were present with the exception of Drs. Lacey, Cuomo and Herman. Dr. Steven Snyder attended as the Second Trustee Caucus Representative to the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs. Dr. Mark Feldman, NYSDA Executive Director, Dr. Judith Shub, NYSDA Assistant Executive Director, and Ms. Jacquie Donnelly, NYSDA staff, also attended.

Dr. Hoddick called the meeting to order at 9:35. There being no additions or corrections, the council adopted the minutes from its meeting on April 28, 2017, as written. He began by reporting on the actions of the NYSDA House of Delegates' annual meeting in June 2017. The House adopted the resolutions submitted by the council, including resolutions calling for the continuation of the Special Committee on Dental Medicaid and the establishment of a discounted program to negotiate participating provider contract fees as a member benefit. He and Dr. Snyder then summarized the actions taken by the ADA House of Delegates at its annual meeting in October.

#### **ADA Council Report**

Dr. Snyder continued his report on the activities of the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs. He reported that the council is working with its Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs to develop ethical guidelines for third-party dental consultants. The Subcommittee on Codes is involved in the next revision cycle of the CDT codes and the ICD-10 code set. He updated the council on software development relating to third party payments via EFT.

He concluded his report by reviewing the ADA's position on the inclusion of dentistry in Medicare and efforts by the Oral Health Alliance's advocacy for its inclusion. The form such benefits would take and whether they would be incorporated into Part B, Part C or as a separate benefit offering remains undecided. The ADA is working to "have a seat at the table" in these discussions.

### Medicaid

Dr. Patricia Hanlon, chair of the Special Committee on Dental Medicaid, reported on the committee's activities and recommendations. She described complaints about HealthPlex's reimbursement policies for orthodontic care. Dr. Feldman asked her to raise these concerns with the DOH staff at the Medicaid symposium she is attending at the Greater New York Dental Meeting. Dr. Buchalter proposed a resolution, seconded by Dr. Keating, in support of the committee's recommendations:

Resolved: That NYSDA advocate with the Department of Health for coverage for fluoride varnish, without the current age limitations, at the intervals recommended by the ADA; and be it further

Resolved: That NYSDA advocate with the NYS Department of Health for the inclusion of coverage for silver diamine fluoride as a covered benefit in the New York State Medicaid program.

The council adopted the resolution unanimously.

### Managed Care Issues

Dr. Feldman described NYSDA's efforts with respect to legislation supporting New York's existing laws barring insurance companies from including coverage for services they do not insure in their benefit policies. While the legislation was passed by both the Senate and the Assembly, Governor Cuomo has been unwilling to sign it if he believes that it will increase consumer costs. The council is assisting in collecting documentation on this issue.

Dr. Snyder informed the council that a "toolkit" for discount plans for offices would soon be available to members on the ADA website.

### Component Issues and Activities

The members of the council who had received complaints or requests for assistance from colleagues reported on related activity in their respective components.

### New Business

There was no additional new business before the council.

## Old Business

Ms. Donnelly and Dr. Shub discussed NYSDA's HIPAA security compliance course offering.

Dr. Feldman requested guidance from the council on Resolution 16H-2017 to report to NYSDA Support Services to assist NSS in implementing the resolution.

### **16H-2017 – Adopted:**

**Resolved**, that NYSDA urge NYSDA Support Services (NSS) to consider endorsing a company or companies that specialize in reviewing and negotiating dental benefit agreements for participating providers; and be it further

**Resolved**, that if feasible, negotiate a discount of these services as a member benefit in exchange for endorsement by NYSDA/NSS.

Dr. Buchalter referred Dr. Feldman to a member service implemented by the Florida Dental Association that negotiates fees with managed care companies on behalf of individual members. Dr. Guariglia advised that his practice employs a consultant to review its fees periodically and negotiate with the plans with which it participates.

## Adjournment

Dr. Feldman asked for a moment of personal privilege to thank Dr. Cooper for her appointment as an ADA spokesperson.

Ms. Donnelly will poll the members via email to determine a convenient date to schedule the council's next meeting in the spring of 2018.

There being no additional business before the council, the chair adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m., following a motion by Dr. Guariglia, seconded by Dr. Jhaveri.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Hoddick, DDS". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Hoddick" being the most prominent part.

James A. Hoddick, DDS, Chair