Presentation to SB 193
Oral Health Pathways Commission

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Overview

• The New Hampshire Dental Society
  – Established in 1877.
  – Committed to improving the quality of dental care offered to NH’s residents and retaining a high standard of care for all.
  – NHDS has over 1000 members. Membership in NHDS is open to dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and dental office managers.
  – Membership is voluntary.
Priorities

- NH Dental Society Priorities:
  - Improving the Medicaid program for children and adults. NHDS supports a comprehensive benefit for adults.

Figure 1: Pediatric Dental Medicaid Fee-for-Service Reimbursement as a Percentage of Commercial Dental Insurance Charges in 2013

Source: Medicaid FFS reimbursement data collected from state Medicaid agencies. Commercial dental insurance charges data collected from FAIR Health. Notes: The following states contract the majority of their Medicaid enrollees to managed care programs for dental services: DC, FL, GA, ID, KY, LA, MI, MN, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, TN, TX, VT and WV. The relative fee rates shown in this figure for these states, therefore, may not be representative of typical dentist reimbursement in Medicaid.
Priorities

• NH Dental Society Priorities:
  – Addressing Barriers to the Utilization of Dental Services:
    • Lack of education for the value of oral health;
    • Transportation.
  – Fluoridation of public water supplies.
  – Sustainability of the public health infrastructure.
Priorities

• NH Dental Society Priorities:
  – Maintaining a highly qualified and stable workforce.

Figure 3: Percentage Indicating Financial and Supply-Related Barriers to Needed Dental Care

Source: 2003-2004 and 2011-2012 NHANES. Notes: Change from 2003-2004 to 2011-2012 in the percentage indicating supply-related barriers was significant at the 1% level.
NH’s Oral Health Achievements

• **Successes in Oral Health: NH in the top tier among states:**
  - NH received an “A” grade for the use of sealants in children.
  - NH Ranked 3rd best in the nation for the number of 3rd grade students with dental sealants.
  - Ranked 3rd best in the nation for the percentage of Medicaid enrolled kids with a dental visit.
  - Ranked 4th best in the nation for the lowest % of residents underserved and living in Dental Shortage Areas (NH = 1%, US = 11.2%).
  - Ranked 4th best in the nation for the number of adults who had their teeth cleaned in the past year (NH = 77.1%, US = 69%).
Highlighting NH Initiatives

• Expanding access to care for children

• Expanding access to care for seniors

• Expanding access to care for low income and disabled populations
Trends in Dentistry

• Maintaining a Highly Qualified and Stable Workforce in New Hampshire:
  – University of New England Dental School
  – Partnership with Bi-State – Recruitment Center
  – State Loan Repayment program
  – New Dentists make NH home