



## Newsletter

September 26

### Tobacco Cessation

Capitol Dental Care believes that dental professionals play an important role in assisting members to prevent tobacco use and to engage in tobacco cessation activities for members who already use tobacco. The entire dental team can play a role – tobacco cessation conversations aren't limited only to dentists and hygienists.

If you are interested in learning more about tobacco cessation, you may take the online tobacco cessation training, "[Treating Tobacco Use in Oregon](#)" from the Oregon Health Authority. You will be asked to enter some basic information to access the training module. The module takes about 45 minutes to complete.

### Tobacco Cessation Counseling is a covered service for Oregon Health Plan members (D1320).

Capitol Dental Care encourages all providers to screen patients for tobacco use and to bill the code when Tobacco Cessation Counseling is delivered. Chart notes should document how the dental team followed the Dental Tobacco Intervention steps of Ask, Advise and Refer.

Dental teams should follow the Brief Tobacco Intervention's **2 As and an R** (Ask, Advise and Refer):

- ASK:** *Ask patients about their tobacco-use status at each visit and record information in the dental record.*
- ADVISE:** *Advise patients about their oral health conditions that are related to tobacco use. Give direct advice to quit using tobacco along with a strong personalized message to seek help.*
- REFER:** *Refer patients who are ready to quit, utilizing internal and external resources, to complete the remaining three A's (assess, assist, arrange) of the standard intervention for tobacco.*



### Case Management

Capitol Dental Care recognizes that certain systemic conditions can have an impact on oral health. For that reason, our Case Management team communicates with pregnant and diabetic members to assist

them to obtain oral health services. Any of your pregnant or diabetic patients who are CDC members may receive a phone call from our team in order to assist them to make an appointment. You can help in this process by emphasizing the value of oral health care as a part of total-person care during your conversations with your patients.

In addition, we prioritize prevention of oral health disease – the patients at highest risk of developing new cavities are those patients who have already had a cavity. We offer outreach services to CDC members aged 0-15 in order to help them get dental sealants placed or ensure that they receive other preventive services.

### **REDUCE and IMPROVE Pilot**

Capitol Dental Care and Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital are piloting a truly innovative approach to providing dental access for community members at the hospital. The REDUCE and IMPROVE Pilot places an expanded practice dental hygienist (EPDH) in the hospital to provide dental education for medical staff and patients, assessments and limited dental treatment for hospital patients, and navigation and care coordination for comprehensive dental care for all hospital patients regardless of race, socioeconomic status, insurance coverage, gender, etc.

The Capitol Dental Care and Lebanon hospital teams have worked tirelessly to overcome existing barriers to integrating dental care in a medical setting. These two collaborating groups rose to the challenge to develop processes and workflows for the EPDH to work within the hospital as a “dental hospitalist” in all areas of the hospital. Some of the major objectives of this pilot are to:

- Reduce dental access barriers for patients who use the hospital for dental care or who have been noted by hospital staff as needing care. The EPDH will assess the patient and provide palliative care, diagnostics (x-rays and intraoral images to be viewed by a teledentist) and enhanced navigation into dental treatment as needed.
- Increased collaboration between medical and dental providers within the hospital setting. The EPDH will be an oral health resource for medical staff as well as patients.
- Oral health education for inpatients and outpatients. The EPDH is available for assessments and oral health consultation for inpatients and also teaches oral health education classes during diabetes and new family classes.
- Create a sustainable model for replication in other regions and settings. During the pilot phase, there has been some funding to support the staffing and some of the equipment purchasing. It is the goal of the pilot to create a model that will be sustained beyond the funding and that other regions can replicate.



### Billing for Oral Surgery

The American Dental Association recently released an [ADA Guide to Extractions – Tooth and Remnants](#), which was published in order to educate dentists and others in the dental community on oral surgery CDT codes D7140, D7210 and D7250. It also includes a decision tree to assist dentists to determine which oral surgery code is appropriate to use in certain circumstances.

Extractions – Tooth and Remnants – Coding Decision Tree –  
 1) Determine what is to be extracted; 2) Assess the clinical condition; 3) Deliver and report the procedure

