



CDSS

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☒ State Law Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☒ Initiated by CDSS

December 4, 2017

ERRATA ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 17-22E

TO: ALL COUNTY CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM MANAGERS
ALL COUNTY CHILD WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL TITLE IV-E AGREEMENT TRIBES
ALL JUDICIAL COUNCIL STAFF
ALL ADOPTION REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES
ALL COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY DIRECTORS
ALL GROUP HOME DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: UPDATED HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND DENTAL REFERRAL PERIODICITY SCHEDULES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND NON-MINOR DEPENDENTS (NMDs) IN FOSTER CARE

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTER (ACL) NO. [17-22](#)

The purpose of this errata to ACL No. 17-22 is to clarify that NMDs are not required to comply with the new periodicity schedule for health and dental exams, and to clarify the information that was provided about dental referrals and exams.

Health Assessments and Dental Exams for NMDs

The ACL No. 17-22 states children, youth, and NMDs in the California foster care system up to the age of 21 must receive timely health and dental exams, based on the [Child Health and Disability Prevention \(CHDP\) Bright Futures Schedule for Health Assessments](#) and the [CHDP/Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment \(EPSDT\) Periodicity Schedule for Dental Referrals](#). However, NMDs have reached the age of majority and therefore have all of the legal decision making authority as any other adult, including privacy regarding their medical conditions and the right to consent to receive treatment or to take medication. While youth over 18 are entitled to receive medical care with the frequency provided by the new periodicity schedules, they must consent and agree to receive dental and healthcare treatment and services. County child welfare agencies and probation departments cannot require NMDs to receive services at a particular frequency. Additionally, healthcare information for NMDs cannot

be obtained, added to the health and education summary, or shared without the NMD's consent.

Dental Referrals and Exams

The ACL No. 17-22 states that children and youth must receive a dental referral every six months as outlined in the CHDP/EPSTD Periodicity Schedule for Dental Referrals. The CHDP/EPSTD Periodicity Schedule for Dental Referrals uses the term referral rather than exam. To clarify, the expectation for children and youth in foster care is for dental exams to occur every six months. Children and youth in foster care must see a dentist at the eruption of the first tooth, or beginning at age 1, or during the first 30 days of placement and every six months thereafter. Due to Denti-Cal billing restrictions, dental exams should be scheduled as close to six months apart as possible, following the criteria for Denti-Cal reimbursement: https://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/provsrvcs/manuals/sec5/Section_5.pdf.

If you have any questions regarding this errata, please contact the Placement Services and Support Unit at (916) 657-1858 or by emailing FosterYouthWellness@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

GREGORY E. ROSE
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division