



Dentistry IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Allied Staff News

Medicare Advantage 101

What is Medicare Advantage? Medicare Advantage is a type of Medicare health plan offered by a private health insurance company that contracts with Medicare. Medicare Advantage plans provide all of the traditional Medicare benefits and often include benefits not traditionally covered by Medicare, like dental.

Who is eligible for Medicare Advantage? Patients with Medicare coverage have the option to keep traditional Medicare or transition their coverage to a Medicare Advantage plan. This happens at the 65th birthday or during open enrollment each fall. Of the 200,000 South Dakotans over the age of 65, just 10% currently participate in a Medicare Advantage plan. Nationally, uptake in the plans has reached 48% of the eligible population, indicating further growth is likely in SD.

Why would someone choose a Medicare Advantage plan instead of traditional Medicare? Seniors might choose a Medicare Advantage plan for several reasons. These include coverage of services traditional Medicare doesn't cover, like dental; or history of coverage during employment with an insurance company that provides similar coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan.

How does Medicare Advantage impact my office? As more and more South Dakotans over the age of 65 choose a Medicare Advantage plan over traditional Medicare, more seniors will have dental coverage. Your office will likely find more patients presenting with Medicare Advantage ID cards. Like other insurance plans, each Medicare Advantage company has its own network, plan design, and claim submission process so it is important to look at each card closely and explore the company's website and other information.

What if I've already opted out of Medicare with CMS? Even if you've opted out of Medicare through The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) you can still participate in the Delta Dental Medicare Advantage network. CMS rules prohibiting payment to providers who have opted out of participation in Medicare don't apply to supplemental benefits, like dental, provided through Medicare Advantage plans. That means you can provide services to Medicare Advantage members who have Delta Dental of South Dakota dental benefits in their plan and receive reimbursement for covered services. All current members of the Delta Dental of South Dakota provider network were automatically enrolled in the Medicare Advantage Network when their participating dentist rules were amended to include the Medicare Advantage Regulatory Amendment unless the dentist chose to opt-out of the Medicare Advantage Network.

Other Medicare Advantage Information All current members of the Delta Dental of South Dakota provider network were automatically enrolled in the Medicare Advantage Network when their participating dentist rules were amended to include the Medicare Advantage Regulatory Amendment unless the dentist chose to opt-out of the Medicare Advantage Network. The ADA provides a video tutorial about Medicare Advantage as part of its "Understanding Dental Insurance Issues" series. You can find the Medicare Advantage video and others at: <https://www.ada.org/resources/practice/dental-insurance/dental-insurance-resources/support-on-dental-insurance-issues>

For information about Delta Dental of South Dakota's Medicare Advantage plans go to their Medicare Advantage webpage when you sign in to your online account or contact them at professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com.



CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

SOUTH DAKOTA DENTAL ASSOCIATION 2023 ANNUAL SESSION

Contact: Melissa Afdahl, 605-609-1152
melissa@sddental.org, www.sddental.org

May 18-20, 2023; Sioux Falls, SD

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: 605-718-2410; email: corped@wdt.edu

• Third Friday of the month (AM)

American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals

• Third Friday of the month (PM)

American Heart Association CPR Recertification for Healthcare Provider

• Dental Radiology (2-day course)

April 29-30, 2023 and May 20-21, 2023 in Rapid City

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: 605-367-4607
or corporateeducation@southeasttech.edu

• Dental Radiology

November 17, 2023

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: Amy Meadors, 800-657-4344, ext. 378;
Amy.Meadors@lakeareatech.edu
<https://www.lakeareatech.edu/corporate-education/corporate-education-registration/>

Home Study Radiology Courses available:

- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

CPR COURSES

CPR: Contact: Tia Meyer; 605-842-5672 or meyertia@hotmail.com

CPR Solutions: Local instructor with 20 years of CPR teaching experience. We provide AHA and Red Cross BLS/ACLS/PALS certification www.cprsiouxfallssd.com; sfcpr solutions@gmail.com; 605-525-4CPR (4277).

Will travel.

PCIHIPAA

More information at www.sddental.org

• Live HIPAA & Cyber-Security Training

April 5, 2023 12 PM CST

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene, 605-658-5960

Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course

- Offered two to three times per year

Home Study Radiology Courses available:

- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application

ADA CE ONLINE

Contact: www.ada.org/goto/ceonline

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL BOARDS

Contact: 1-800-621-8099

- "The Dental Patient Record"



CASINO FUN
Plinko and Music!
2023 PRESIDENT'S MIXER AND
FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

Thursday, May 18, starting at 5:30pm | Sioux Falls Convention Center

Casino Night hosted by Jer Events will include Blackjack tables, Craps, Roulette, PLINKO, music and prizes! And don't forget to check out the South Dakota Dental Foundation's "Lucky Chance Raffle" with lots of wonderful prizes to choose from and the Best for Last Raffle winner(s) will be announced! Lots to offer at this event for the whole team to have a great night out and support a worthy cause! See you there!

Classified Ads

Dental Hygienist: Are you a dental hygienist looking for a change? Delta Dental of South Dakota's Mobile Program has opportunities for dental hygienists. These opportunities include both—full time and/or part-time flexible schedules, including working specific weeks and/or months out of the year. The dental hygienists will work under collaborative supervision in southwest South Dakota, primarily on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The dental hygienists will join a team providing preventive services and oral health education in schools, Head Starts, etc. Extensive travel is required. Excellent salary and benefits including health, dental, vision, life/long term disability insurance, paid holidays, vacation/sick leave, 401k, and more. For more information visit www.deltadentalsd.com. Submit a cover letter and resume to: summer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com. Questions? Contact Summer Sporrer at 605-494-2569.

The University of South Dakota Department of Dental Hygiene is looking for **retired dental assistants** who are willing to fill in for reception and dental assisting duties on an as needed basis. Please contact the Department Chair: Miranda Drake for more information (miranda.drake@usd.edu and/or 605-658-5964).

Dakota Family Dentistry in Huron, SD is seeking a full-time or part-time **registered dental hygienist** to join our team. The ideal candidate should be dedicated to providing excellent patient care with exceptional service. This is an outstanding opportunity to practice in a well-established clinic with a great team! Benefits include sign-on bonus, competitive pay, 401K with profit-sharing, paid sick leave, paid vacation, paid dues, paid licenses, in-house family dental benefit, paid CE, and 6 paid holidays. Visit our website at www.dakotafamilydentistry.org to learn more about us or to print off a job application. You can also call 605-352-6999 to inquire and get an application. E-mail To: office@dakotafamilydentistry.org; OR Mail To: Dakota Family Dentistry; 1010 Dakota Ave. S.; Huron, SD 57350

Dakota Family Dentistry in Huron, SD is seeking a full-time or **part-time dental assistant** to join our team. The ideal candidate should enjoy the full scope of general dentistry in a fun, fast-paced work environment. Benefits include sign-on bonus, competitive pay, 401K with profit-sharing, paid sick leave, paid vacation, paid dues, paid licenses, in-house family dental benefit, paid CE, and 6 paid holidays. Visit our website at www.dakotafamilydentistry.org to learn more about us or to print off a job application. You can also call 605-352-6999 to inquire and get an application. E-mail To: office@dakotafamilydentistry.org; OR Mail To: Dakota Family Dentistry; 1010 Dakota Ave. S.; Huron, SD 57350.

Single dentist office looking for clinical staff who appreciate a calm, team centered, drama free work environment. 4 days/week M/W 8-5, T/Th 7-3 Generous PTO and vacation days 401k with profit sharing HSA, CE. For more information contact info@scottfamilysmiles.com.

Wellbeing Within Reach

By Mary Wolf



I have been talking with my dental clients about the difference between what can I control vs. what can I impact? This spurred the idea to present for annual session on Employee Retention: Building a Wellbeing Culture. Retention and recruitment feels out of control right now but there are many ways to impact work culture.

The Be Well Committee and Program continues to be active. I am pleased that twenty-one dentists and team members have reached out

for the three free and confidential counseling or coaching sessions since June 1.

Please reach out if you would like to meet in person during the annual session in May. These sessions can be utilized to discuss any personal or professional issue. Some of the common themes are anxiety, burnout, conflict, work/life integration, relationships, transitions, decision making, leadership, and retirement.

Here is what one dentist said about utilizing the counseling/coaching: *"What a great experience...the Be Well Program was a wonderful asset to have available when I needed some guidance. The experience with Mary was top notch and it made a huge difference in my life and perspective. The coaching was so helpful and I truly feel I have been given the tools to move forward in a positive manner. It brought me peace, joy and hope to grow. This program is amazing and is a huge benefit."*

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Important Changes coming to Medicaid Eligibility

Due to the COVID-19 federal public health emergency (PHE), federal regulations did not allow Medicaid to close coverage even if a recipient was no longer eligible for Medicaid. This has resulted in a steady increase to the number of South Dakotans who are eligible for Medicaid over the past three years. Effective April 1, 2023, federal regulations will again allow for Medicaid to close if a recipient is no longer eligible.

To keep providers, stakeholders, and Medicaid recipients informed about the changes to Medicaid eligibility, South Dakota Medicaid will post updates and resources to a new webpage at https://dss.sd.gov/medicaid/medicaid_eligibility_changes.aspx. This webpage will highlight frequently asked questions and other helpful resources.

As the Department of Social Services (DSS) returns to normal pre-pandemic operations it will be vital for providers to verify the Medicaid eligibility of patients. This will ensure the patient and office know upfront if coverage has ended and the patient will be financially responsible for the services.

There are several ways to verify a patient's eligibility:

- **South Dakota Medicaid Provider Online Portal:** Eligibility changes are made by DSS, so this online eligibility portal has the most current information. You can find the portal at <https://dssapps.appssd.sd.gov/ocp/Account/Login>.
- **Delta Dental of South Dakota Patient lookup tool:** Find the patient lookup in the dentist section of the Delta Dental of South Dakota website. All you need is the patient's first name, last name, and date of birth to search a patient's eligibility details.
- **Phone:** Contact Delta Dental of South Dakota at 1-877-841-1478.

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