



Australian Government
Medicare Australia

If not delivered return to GPO Box 9822 In your capital city

17 June 2010

Phone: (03) 9605 7153
(03) 9605 7160



002 1381

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Audit of Chronic Disease Dental Scheme

Medicare Australia is responsible for paying benefits under the Medicare Benefits Schedule and regularly conducts audits to ensure payments are correct.

Medicare Australia is currently undertaking a compliance project to determine the level of compliance with the requirements of the Chronic Disease Dental Scheme (CDDS). This project includes undertaking audits of a number of providers who have made claims for benefits under the scheme.

A compliance audit involves notifying a provider that we have identified concerns in relation to their claims and that we will be seeking an explanation or evidence to support these claims.

In the audits we have conducted to date we have identified the following:

- some dental providers have failed to meet the requirements of Section 10 of the *Health Insurance (Dental Services) Determination 2007*. Section 10 requires a dental provider to provide a patient, in writing, details of the course of treatment along with a quotation for each dental service and each other service (if any). It also requires the provider to give a copy or written summary of the plan to the general practitioner who referred the patient for dental services.
- some dental providers have lodged claims for benefits prior to completing the services. Section 10 of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* provides that a Medicare benefit is payable only where a service has been rendered.

We are drawing these matters to your attention to give you the opportunity to review your claiming practices.

If you are selected to participate in an audit during this project and Medicare Australia identifies that you are non-compliant, you will be asked to repay any incorrectly claimed amounts. To assist you we have attached general information on the audit process.

The Australian Dental Association Inc has information about the CDDS and the compliance project in its monthly newsletter at www.ada.org.au

For more information about the CDDS compliance project call (03) 9605 7153 or (03) 9605 7160. For general information about the CDDS call the Medicare Provider Enquiry Line on 132 150 or go to www.health.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Kathy Dennis
Branch Manager
Compliance – Health Providers
Customer Service Design and Compliance