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2	COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
3	CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
4	FOR MEDICAID SERVICES
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6	
7	IN RE: DENTAL TAC
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12	HELD VIA ZOOM
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15	DATE:
16	MAY 10, 2024
17	2:00 P.M.
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3	ATTENDEES:
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7	Garth Bobrowski, DMD, Chairman
8	Joe Petrey, DMD
9	Carol Jean Braun, DMD
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15	(and many more were on ZOOM)
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1	May 10, 2024
2	2:00 p.m.
3	* * * * * *
4	DR. BOBROWSKI: Do we have a quorum?
5	MS. BICKERS: I saw yourself, Joe and Carol
6	log in, so that should give you a quorum.
7	DR. BOBROWSKI: I saw we had Joe, okay.
8	Well, hello. I want to thank you first and
9	I want to welcome everyone to the Medicaid
10	Dental TAC Meeting. I sent out the agenda
11	the other day and I noticed a typo, but we
12	will get to it later. It may not be any
13	big significance on that. But we'll do the
14	roll call.
15	Let's see. Dr. Petrey?
16	DR. PETREY: Here.
17	DR. BOBROWSKI: Dr. Braun?
18	DR. BRAUN: Here.
19	DR. BOBROWSKI: And this is Garth Bobrowski
20	and I'm here.
21	Dr. Gray? I hadn't seen him in the
22	picture docket yet.
23	MS. BICKERS: I haven't seen him come in
24	yet.
25	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Well, we've got a

1	quorum so we'll get started. And we will
2	have the approval of the minutes from the
3	last meeting from February the 9th, '24.
4	DR. PETREY: Make a motion to approve the
5	minutes.
6	MS. BRAUN: Second.
7	DR. BOBROWSKI: All in favor say Aye.
8	(All Members vote "Aye".)
9	DR. BOBROWSKI: And those are approved.
10	Thanks, Everyone.
11	And before we get into our official
12	meeting here, I wanted to say
13	congratulations to Nicole Allen. She has
14	received a promotion and today is going to
15	be her last day with our Kentucky TAC
16	meeting, so we want to congratulate her.
17	She's been working with us for nine years
18	and we appreciate all that Nicole, all
19	that you have done, you know, for the
20	Medicaid population and for helping with our
21	TAC.
22	And the other thing, I want to wish
23	all the ladies and the moms a Happy Mother's
24	Day this weekend. I can't think of a
25	greater, more significant title than Mom.

1	So congratulations to all you moms out
2	there. I hope you have a great and
3	wonderful day.
4	We've got a pretty full agenda, so I'm
5	going to move on to Old Business. I just
6	wanted to bring up we talked a little bit
7	about it before I guess it's a DMS rule
8	on it's changed a little over the years
9	from, you know, if somebody breaks off a
10	front tooth, and you fix it and they might
11	be a bruxer or and, see, in years past on
12	the adults we could not Medicaid did not
13	cover a bite guard, and they did not cover
14	crowns. So, you know, sometimes these folks
15	or bruxers would break these off again.
16	Well, my question is does this become a
17	non-covered service that the patient then
18	would have to be paid for that they would
19	pay for, or according to the wording of a
20	20140, it calls that we can do an anterior
21	resin filling code to get paid for that
22	service, but there's really no clear
23	definition on that. And I didn't know if
24	anybody from DMS had an answer to that one
25	yet or and some of these there's going

1	to be a lot of questions today. We may not
2	have time for answers, but we'll if we
3	don't, we'll bring it up at the next
4	meeting. But I didn't know if anybody had
5	any ideas on how to cover that or what code
6	to use. So anybody got any ideas?
7	MS. MADRAS: Hi, this is Ashley Madras with
8	Kentucky Medicaid.
9	So when we went over the Dental TAC
10	agenda, we weren't really sure which code
11	was being talked about on that certain
12	question. So what I will have to do is I'll
13	have to take that back to management and ask
14	them how to is the code that you are
15	wanting to know about is that 20140? Is
16	that the one that you are wanting to
17	specifically know about?
18	DR. BOBROWSKI: Well, that's an option
19	because the but the other qualifier is,
20	is that on the filling codes it's got a
21	wording in there that it will pay for a
22	filling on the same tooth once a year.
23	Well, and a lot of our folks have got
24	they've got fillings on top of fillings.
25	And, you know, we were just wondering how

1	can the dentist do this service. And it
2	might be 11 months, it lacks one month
3	being a year since that tooth was fixed,
4	and well they, you know, had a sucker in
5	
	their mouth and broke it off, bit on a
6	piece of candy and broke it off or chipped
7	it. I guess if we smoothed it for that
8	time being, we would turn in a 911 because
9	it was cutting their lip or their tongue.
10	But I was just kind of wanting to see if we
11	could get that one cleared up for our
12	dental providers out there.
13	But, yeah, that will be fine if you
14	want to bring some information back to the
15	next meeting. That's fine.
16	MS. MADRAS: And any questions that you
17	have today, just if you have any specific
18	codes or examples or claims that you would
19	like us to look at, they told me just to
20	have you e-mail it to that division of
21	healthcare policy e-mail. That way we can
22	research it better for you guys.
23	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Do you have that
24	e-mail address?
25	MS. MADRAS: Yes. I can put it in the chat

1	for you.
2	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay, thanks.
3	MS. MADRAS: You're welcome.
4	DR. BOBROWSKI: Another thing we were
5	looking at was I was kind of going back
6	on some questions that we had had in the
7	past, is just like the utilization reports
8	on adult root planning. And we've gotten
9	some folks that, you know, they were
10	denied, and I didn't and I apologize on
11	my end of it. I didn't ask the dentist
12	more details. Well, did they give you a
13	reason why that was denied or because,
14	you know, most usually, I mean, it's either
15	they didn't have enough qualifying
16	periodontal pocket numbers, or the X-rays
17	were not adequate to show either bone loss
18	or tarter. So I need when dentists call
19	me about issues, or text me about it, I
20	need to do a little bit more investigative
21	work myself, so that it's more clear so
22	that I can ask the appropriate question and
23	get it to the appropriate department. But
24	that was one of the codes that we were
25	looking at was and I appreciate DMS and

Commissioner Lee for the work that they are
doing on getting a few more of these
periodontal disease codes in there. And I
know once before I had mentioned to the
Commissioner, said, well, let us treat the
disease. Let us help people. And I think
that's coming around.
Now, the tie-in question with that
was and this is not aimed at any, you
know, one person, group or MCO, but what can
we as a TAC or as a group look at
streamlining prior authorizations. They
according to the paperwork and spreadsheet
that's on the DMS website, like for dentures
it doesn't call for a prior authorization on
dentures or partial dentures, but it is
required through the MCOs. So, you know,
just that little bit of differences there
and, you know, and I know and on some of
those we are required to send in a Panorex;
some of them we are not.
And the other one there was a new
code that was added in, the D let me pull
it up here 4346, and we appreciate that.
That's one that can really help a lot of

1	people, the D4346. The only thing that I
2	noticed on it, that it requires a prior
3	authorization. Now, I'll give you an
4	example. It doesn't happen real often, but
5	periodically we'll have folks that come in,
6	I mean, they are sick. They are running a
7	fever. They can't hardly open their mouth.
8	They can't eat. They can't drink. But
9	they're in their gums are so infected
10	and, again, because of lack of brushing,
11	flossing, and dental cleanings typically
12	and a lot of times we just got to start them
13	with antibiotics and have them come back
14	anyway. But now there's times when some of
15	those folks, they just need to be numbed and
16	scaled, cleaned, get that stuff out from
17	under their gums. But then we've got
18	according to this, I've got to reschedule
19	them and get the prior authorization done
20	and then have them come back. So that means
21	it's two appointments that these folks have
22	got to potentially have to take off work
23	again. But, I mean, such is life, you know,
24	even with the medical doctor sometimes we
25	got to go see what the problem is and come

1	back and treat it. But I just wanted to
2	give you that example of, you know, why
3	why do we need to have a prior
4	authorization.
5	Now, does any TAC member or MCO have
6	any comments on that?
7	DR. RICH: Yeah, Garth, this is Dr. Rich
8	with United Healthcare. With UHC you can
9	submit the prior authorization information
10	with the claim, and if it qualifies we will
11	pay the claim regardless of whether the
12	prior authorization was done in advance or
13	not.
14	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay.
15	MS. MEDINA: Yeah, and this is Christina
16	with DentaQuest. Pretty much the same, you
17	know. For those type of cases we'll do the
18	review as part of the claims payment, under
19	prepayment review, so it doesn't
20	necessarily you know, we don't want to
21	be obstruction to care. There's no need to
22	have to reschedule the member, have them
23	come in. You know, some of those cases,
24	they need to be addressed at that point, so
25	there's allowances for that.

1DR. EOBROWSKI: Okay.2DR. CAUDILL: Garth, this is Jerry. We're3the same. We have always had the policy4that if it's an urgent situation, emergent5situation, and you feel you can't wait for6a prior authorization, you can go ahead and7do the treatment and send us a post-review,8you know, with the same information9required for the prior auth so we can10adjudicate it.11DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Well, thank you-all.12That's you know, when you just13because this was a new code that was added14in recently. I think this was updated on15March 28th, I believe, of this year, and I16noticed that prior authorization required,17so, you know, that's a good point. I18appreciate you-all working on that with the19dentists and helping our patients just, you20know, get some treatment. And you dentists21know what ANUG is, acute necrotizing22ulcerative gingivitis, and you just hope23you never get that in your mouth.24And we just received today the and,25Erin, thank you for you and your team to		
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And we just received today the and,	22	ulcerative gingivitis, and you just hope
	23	you never get that in your mouth.
25 Erin, thank you for you and your team to	24	And we just received today the and,
	25	Erin, thank you for you and your team to

1	they got us these dental codes. And I'm
2	sure probably the TAC members haven't had a
3	chance to look at those fully yet. But we
4	appreciate your all's work on getting that
5	together. And we may comment on that after
6	we have had time to review them. But does
7	any TAC Member have any comments on that so
8	far, or the prior authorizations, or
9	anything like that?
10	Okay. Then I know I'm talking about
11	rules and sometimes generalities, but if a
12	full mouth X-ray series is done within a
13	year we are not really going to get paid if
14	we have to do another X-ray, you know, if
15	they got a new trauma or new toothache. But
16	it says we can get a PA when we use the
17	D0140 code. Is that correct? Would we get
18	paid for that PA even though the other rule
19	says that once you get a full mouth X-ray
20	series, we are not paying for any more
21	X-rays for a year. So is anybody from DMS
22	that can answer that one?
23	MS. MADRAS: This is Ashley again. I'm not
24	sure on that. That one, again, I'll have
25	to take back to management and we will have

<pre>1 to research that one as well. 2 DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. That's fine, and 3 thank you. 4 I tell you sometimes folks will come 5 in, we'll do our exam, cleaning, they come 6 in, they got a mouth full of old fillings 7 big fillings, and, you know, three months</pre>	9
3 thank you. 4 I tell you sometimes folks will come 5 in, we'll do our exam, cleaning, they come 6 in, they got a mouth full of old fillings	9
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6 in, they got a mouth full of old fillings	,
7 big fillings, and, you know, three months	
8 later they come in with a swelling, and,	Γ
9 mean, you just have to get an X-ray. But	my
10 point in all of this is, is that I think	ve
11 get \$7.25, so, I mean, it's not like that	we
12 are \$10.00 for the first X-ray and 7.5)
13 for the second.	
14 But dentistry is and I'll explain	l
15 this as we go through today. We're just	
16 getting hammered with the high costs. Out	2
17 supplies have just gone out the roof. And	ł
18 I'll talk a little bit more about this af	ler
19 while, but a lot of folks are having	
20 staffing issues. And sometimes it just	
21 feels like that we are getting nickeled as	ıd
22 dimed to death and Medicaid practices are	
23 really struggling, you know, to make ends	
24 meet.	
25 Okay. Let's move is there any	

1	other Old Business? Any TAC Members
2	remember any Old Business that we need to
3	bring up?
4	MS. ROEHRIG: Dr. Bobrowski, this is
5	Rachael Roehrig with DMS. I put something
6	in the chat, but I wasn't sure if you were
7	able to see it. For the Old Business item
8	on the follow-up questions, we had sent
9	previously the top 15 used dental
10	procedures and codes based on paid amounts
11	and based on utilization. So we have those
12	already, but we would be happy to do
13	another data request to get that specific
14	utilization report for the second one on
15	the adult root planning. So we can take
16	that back and get that information.
17	If you wouldn't mind to send Erin the
18	exact codes that you want pulled, then that
19	will just make it a lot easier, if possible.
20	DR. BOBROWSKI: I'm making a note right
21	now. Yes, thank you. Yeah, that root
22	planing and there's those other things.
23	I'll try to get you I made myself a note
24	to send those codes. Make a note here.
25	Okay. And we appreciate the research

1	that you-all do to help us figure out
2	things. It kind of helps in planning or
3	helps the TAC maybe make some suggestions
4	and just helping providers give care.
5	Now, is there any other Old Business?
6	DR. CAUDILL: Garth?
7	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes.
8	DR. CAUDILL: On your previous question
9	about X-rays I put something in the chat
10	that we go back from the KAR Regulations
11	that shows that even if you've taken a full
12	mouth series, if you need to take
13	additional ones later on for a root canal
14	or oral surgery, or you can show medical
15	necessity like something got broke along
16	the way, absolutely we can cover those.
17	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay.
18	DR. CAUDILL: It's in the chat now.
19	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay.
20	MS. MEDINA: And that is pretty much true,
21	Dr. Bobrowski, I think for all codes,
22	right, if there's a certain limitation or
23	guide, that's usually the general rule of
24	thumb, that, you know, if something is
25	medically necessary, for the most part we

1	have to factor that in, and there's always
2	exceptions, you know, going above
3	limitations or outside of age ranges, and
4	whatnot, to accommodate those type of
5	situations.
6	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Because that was
7	kind of what I don't think I wrote it on
8	the agenda, but I made a note to myself
9	here that, you know, a lot of times we've
10	got to show diagnostic the X-rays are
11	for diagnostic purposes and for proof of
12	medical necessity. And I believe that's
13	what you-all are talking about is, like,
14	well, yeah, sometimes you just got to get
15	another picture and, you know, to help you
16	make your diagnosis or to see if so many
17	of these folks got such large fillings
18	that, well, you don't know, well, is it
19	this tooth or the one beside it, because
20	sometimes the swollen bump is right in the
21	middle of two of them. So that's why we do
22	need X-rays. But, okay, thank you so much.
23	All right. We are going to move on to
24	New Business.
25	DR. PETREY: Garth, I'm sorry, just clarify

1	one thing on X-rays.
2	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes.
3	MR. MATTINGLY: And it's a horse that's
4	been that's been beat to death years
5	ago, but I continue to get questions about
6	from an orthodontics perspective. I
7	have we have worked under the
8	understanding that we are the Panorex
9	taken in the initial exam is inside of our
10	records. Any Panorex taken after that,
11	though, are we cannot and do not bill
12	for those. Is that still the
13	understanding? We obviously, we take
14	radiographs throughout treatment of active
15	canines, evaluating wisdom teeth, and more
16	specifically evaluating root resorption.
17	But the single initial exam X-ray is really
18	the only one that until our final
19	records that is whether they are taken
20	or not, that is a covered service. Is that
21	correct still?
22	DR. BOBROWSKI: That's the way I understand
23	it, Joe, is that you take that initial
24	X-ray, like that Panorex, and that's your
25	one for two years. Now, I think even

though you may have a Panorex, the way I read the scripture is that within 12 months if you needed to take a PA, you know, like where you're moving the canine down, now they would still cover for the PA. Now, can any of the MCOs or DMS respond to that and how that's handled on your end? DR. PETREY: I know Jerry was part of helping us figure this out years ago, because the number of orthodontists that had recoupments on X-rays that had been billed for. But I still continue to get the question of patients that are in retention, that are no longer in treatment that have radiographs by an orthodontist, we are under the understanding that we are -- that is a non-billable service or should not be billed by the orthodontist. In our practice we don't do it anyway because we don't want to use the patient's benefit that might be needed in a general practice, but it is a -- it's a sticking question with a number of practices.

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24DR. CAUDILL: Joe, if I can kind of go back25to those years ago when we were working on

1	this with Dr. Rich, who is the dental
2	director at DMS. It was kind of like
3	working linked radiographs on root canals.
4	They said, well, that's part of doing the
5	treatment, and they considered anything
6	during the treatment to be I can inclusive.
7	However, I don't personally remember saying
8	that two years or three years later you
9	couldn't take a Panorex.
10	DR. BOBROWSKI: That's kind of what I was
11	looking at.
12	DR. PETREY: I'll pass that along I was
13	just going to say, I'll pass that along. I
14	just we still just take them and don't
15	bill, and I think that's how we will
16	continue to do so, but I I know that
17	there are that's been a sticking point.
18	So thank you for that clarification.
19	DR. CAUDILL: And if anybody has a problem,
20	you know my phone number.
21	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Thank you-all. We
22	are going to move to New Business. And I
23	just want to thank the folks that have
24	the TAC and MAC. They have a member
25	orientation packet that they have produced,

1	and I really don't know exactly who to
2	thank for that, but I think that's a I
3	don't know who worked on it, but that's a
4	great idea to work on, and that way as we
5	get new members, we are the KDA,
6	Kentucky Dental Association, is working on
7	a replacement for Dr. Phil Shuler. So
8	hopefully when we get that person selected,
9	we can get them one of these orientation
10	packets and that will kind of help bring
11	them up to speed.
12	But does anybody from DMS want to
13	comment on those orientation packets?
14	MS. BICKERS: Dr. Bobrowski, this is Erin.
15	That was all Kelli. I glanced at it, made
16	a few recommendations, but she put a lot of
17	work into that, and that was a
18	recommendation, excuse me, from the
19	Consumer Rights TAC.
20	DR. BOBROWSKI: Well, thank you, Kelly, for
21	putting all that together. I think that
22	will be a great addition to getting folks
23	on board and up to speed.
24	MS. BICKERS: I will pass that along to
25	her. She's on the beach this week.

1DR. BOBROWSKI: Oh, that lucky little girl,2I tell you what.3The second item under New Business is4the dental codes were updated on March the528th. And I just wanted to put a thank you6in there that glad to see these additional7codes to treat gum disease, and that way us8general dentists and stuff, we are not9accused of supervised neglect. But, you10know, sometimes we tell patients, well,11that's just not covered, you know, you will12have to cover it yourself if you want it13done, and I guess that's you know, what14we've always told them. But now we are glad15to see that some of these other codes are16being added in.17Now, and I just listed the main five18there that were added in. But I did have a20couple questions on some of those. The21Now, again, it has a prior authorization22required, and my question is why, because23usually we don't know if it's going to24really get close to the nerve or not. Yes,25sometimes we can see our X-rays and we can	1	
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	23	usually we don't know if it's going to
25 sometimes we can see our X-rays and we can	24	really get close to the nerve or not. Yes,
	25	sometimes we can see our X-rays and we can

1	say, yeah, that's a big one, but sometimes
2	it doesn't require an indirect pulp cap.
3	But do you know why they added the words
4	preauthorization required? And I guess I'll
5	direct this to DMS.
6	MS. MADRAS: Hi, this is Ashley again.
7	That was the directive given to me when we
8	added the code to have a prior
9	authorization, but that is something,
10	again, that I can take back to management.
11	And if you can send us, you know, just,
12	again, a specific example of how that code
13	would be used and, you know, reasons why we
14	wouldn't need the prior authorization on
15	it, that would probably help us as well.
16	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. So noted. Got it.
17	Now, another question on that same
18	code is, like, why is there such a disparity
19	in the fee ranges? Because, I mean, I'm
20	glad to see the fee on there, because some
21	of the things a lot of the things we do
22	are so low that it's harder to recruit, you
23	know, some of the younger dentists to accept
24	Medicaid. But the kind of the cousin
25	code to that is the D3100, is for a direct

1	pulp cap, which pays \$17.00. And a direct
2	pulp cap means if, you know, you are
3	cleaning out a cavity and, boy, that cavity
4	just barely nicks that nerve, that they may
5	have not been in a lot of pain yet, but the
6	cavity was that deep, and we can put some
7	a medicated treatment on that and then put
8	our filling in. But I was just wondering
9	why there's such a fee disparity. So I'll
10	add that into my notes, Ashley.
11	MS. MADRAS: Yeah. I will tell you some of
12	those codes we had problems finding other
13	states that paid for a lot of these codes,
14	so we had to look at private insurance
15	companies to get prices as well to get the
16	average. So that could very well be
17	affecting the price as well.
18	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Well, and then see
19	that was another thing, that since you have
20	added the and I'll try to write all this
21	up, but I may not get it done this weekend
22	because I've got to mow my yard this
23	weekend and let it dry up so I won't get
24	mired up in the mud.
25	But anyway, the other one, question I

1	had on that was the D3100 is listed, and
2	it's always been listed for children only.
3	But since the indirect pulp cap was listed
4	for children and adults, that maybe we could
5	get that changed for to add the adults on
6	the D3100 code, just to make it uniform
7	across the board to just help us, you know,
8	treat our patients.
9	The other code was the D4346, was the
10	scaling in the presence of inflammation, and
11	that's all I'll send I think the question
12	on that one was we talked about that one
13	a minute ago about the prior authorization.
14	I'll make a note.
15	DR. CAUDILL: Hey, Garth.
16	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes, sir.
17	DR. CAUDILL: Was your question that you
18	wanted the 3110 3110 covered for adults
19	also?
20	DR. BOBROWSKI: For adults covered, yes.
21	DR. CAUDILL: Right, 3110. Okay.
22	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes. Yeah. Those are
23	things that I mean, they don't happen on
24	every patient we treat, but it happens
25	often enough that, boy, sometimes if you

could just treat it -- and I know I've told you-all before, I know I've got some -- at least two groups of patients in our area that are traumatic brain injury patients, and I know there's just no way they can come up with the cash to pay for some of these treatments, and I was just trying to get a more uniform across the board.

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9 Now, the -- and then this is one that 10 I think we had talked before about, the 6110 11 and 6111, the implant supported dentures. Ι 12 think that's good to add that. The non IV 13 conscious sedation, just having your 14 anesthesia permit required. But I did have 15 one other one, and I forgot to put that on 16 our list, was the D0180, and which is a 17 periodontal exam, and those do -- they take 18 a lot of time to do them, I think, and do 19 them correct, chart recession, gum pockets. 20 But in the DMS website it does not show any 21 criteria on how to properly bill for that. 22 I know I personally have billed for it a 23 couple of times and it did not get paid. So 24 I was just wondering, well, what criteria do 25 we use to get that done, so I'll -- Ashley,

1	I'll try to send that one in also. That way
2	that can be looked at.
3	Dental TAC Members, are there any
4	other questions or comments on any of those
5	new codes? Hearing none and, again, this
6	will go this question will go to the
7	to DMS and to the MCOs.
8	Of course, most everybody is aware of
9	the Change Health computer hack, and now
10	correct me if I'm wrong, but I had heard
11	that they got hacked a second time and that
12	I think they wound up paying right around
13	22 million dollars to get their stuff back
14	or access back to their records, and my
15	question was how has this affected the fee
16	for service and MCO payments and EOBs. And
17	I made a note that if each MCO wants to give
18	a response back to us, because this is
19	really affecting the dental offices. If
20	want to start with DentaQuest, if you want
21	to comment, or if you don't, that's okay.
22	But if you don't want to say anything right
23	now, just say pass, and we will go on to
24	another one.
25	MS. MEDINA: So on I think from our

1 perspective we haven't really seen any type 2 of delays, you know. We -- particularly --3 now that's not to say the providers aren't 4 impacted. They go through different 5 clearinghouses before they come to us. So I think the delay is happening before it 6 7 reaches kind of our organization. So we 8 have been able to kind of process 9 everything timely and within our normal 10 cadence. 11 Now, understanding that, you know, 12 there was a lot of kind of, you know, 13 challenges put forth for, you know, across 14 the country. We did put out some education 15 materials on some resources possibly, you 16 know, for providers to be able to submit 17 directly through us, you know, as an 18 end-term solution until some of those things 19 got cleared up. 20 DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. And Passport? 21 MS. MARCUM: Hello, this is Becky with 22 Passport. Just a high overview. Molina 23 responded swiftly to CHC incident to limit 24 The the impact to the provider community. 25 clearinghouse options -- providers

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1	utilizing CHC can submit claims to Molina
2	prior to the outage may now do so alternate
3	establish connections with the SSI
4	Claimsnet LLC Clearinghouse or another
5	clearinghouse of their choice. The
6	provider portal, which is Availity
7	Assistance Provider Portal Solution was not
8	impacted by this outage and remains
9	available as another option for the claim
10	submissions. The provider payments
11	Molina has established a direct connection
12	with ECHO, a CHC partner, to resume
13	provider payments for processing. ECHO has
14	not been impacted by this outage. Payments
15	have resumed and will be processed in the
16	order it was received.
17	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Thank you-all.
18	United Healthcare?
19	DR. RICH: Dr. Bobrowski, I show
20	alternative methods of payments either
21	using the portal or other exchange systems
22	were used in the meantime by many
23	providers. It didn't affect our system
24	directly. Obviously, it depends on which
25	exchange the provider was using at the

1	time. But everything is back online. I
2	don't know the exact amount of money that
3	was spent on resolving the problem, but the
4	information that you presented earlier, I'm
5	fairly certain was not correct being the
6	about the 22 million. But I will tell you
7	that United Healthcare spent over a billion
8	dollars reestablishing the system and
9	putting it back together, and then also put
10	out more than three billion in loans to
11	providers to help them stand between the
12	while the service was down.
13	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Thank you.
14	WellCare?
15	DR. OWEN: Good afternoon, Dr. Bobrowski.
16	This is Stuart Owen. So, first of all,
17	paper payments and virtual credit card not
18	affected at all. Certainly to what others
19	have said, we tried to help providers use
20	other clearinghouses and platforms. A key
21	one that we connected folks with was
22	Availity. And so we had assistance to
23	expedite providers to be able to enroll
24	with Availity to use that platform. That's
25	what we tried to steer people to.

1	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Thank you, Stuart.
2	MR. OWEN: Sure.
3	DR. BOBROWSKI: Humana?
4	MS. GRAY: Hi, this is Kim Gray with
5	Avesis. I can speak on behalf of Humana
6	and Aetna. So Avesis did act swiftly to
7	the CHC incidents that occurred at the end
8	of February. We are accepting claims via
9	paper, as well as through various
10	clearinghouses including DentalXchange or
11	Vyne for electronic claims submission, and
12	we also accept claims through directly
13	through our portal. We are currently
14	making payment via paper and EFT, and EOBs
15	are available for download on our portal.
16	Notification did go out to the provider
17	community at the end of February, around
18	the February 26 time period.
19	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. I want to thank you.
20	Any TAC Members have questions or
21	comments?
22	I know some of those let me make
23	one more note. So a lot of those we can go
24	to the portals. I've had some dentists say,
25	well, they were afraid to, you know, get

1	some treatments started on, you know, root
2	canals or dentures or something, because
3	they just we were having so much trouble
4	getting either getting paid, or if they
5	did get a check, it's like, well, which
6	accounts do these go on, or did they deny
7	payment. That would probably be the worst
8	scenario, if did go ahead and do treatment
9	and for some reason it didn't get covered.
10	So thank you-all for those comments. It
11	looks like everybody is on top of that.
12	And I've got another question, and I
13	guess this will well, this will be for
14	DMS or for the MCOs. Now, this one happened
15	to me. I had a lady, you know, come in for
16	new dentures, and I think she had had some
17	immediates several years ago or something
18	and now has Medicaid, but she understands
19	that, you know, the Medicaid dentures are
20	not the you know, I guess you'd call it
21	the premium dentures. But anyway, she asked
22	me about it. She said, I would like to get
23	a premium style denture and she offered to
24	pay the difference between, you know, what
25	Medicaid pays and what the premium denture

1	is. Now, since it involves a payment, I
2	know Medicaid has a form that for anything
3	that is not covered by Medicaid or like this
4	difference here, they sign it that they
5	agree to this price, and we we just go.
6	We do it.
7	Now, I told her, well, I don't know
8	really what Medicaid will do on this. The
9	first time we have ever really had anybody
10	ask. But I'll tell you, I know one of the
11	labs we use, they told me, said, now,
12	Dr. Garth, we are not going to some of
13	these cheap dentures even the lab said we
14	are not going to do those because they don't
15	want their name on it. And it's the same
16	thing. I mean, it's just the on some
17	items of the expansion codes that the
18	payment is is quite a bit less than what
19	a like a premium denture would be. I'll
20	use that as an example again. But our lab
21	said or one of the ones we use, he said
22	I'm just not going to go there with that
23	style denture.
24	So then sometimes you're trying to do
25	these treatments and it gets to really

1 sometimes your labs are limited on -- you 2 got to go hunting a lab that will do these 3 4A -- or I quess sometimes we just say, 4 well, you've got to go to one of those 5 places that's a denture mill and you go in 6 at 8:00 in the morning and you come out at 7 4:00 and you get your dentures. And then 8 those denture patients come to me and they 9 say now what can we do, because they are 10 just so cheaply made that they are just not 11 holding up. 12 But can anybody from MCO standpoint or from DMS standpoint, can you help give us 13 14 some guidance on that? 15 MS. BICKERS: Dr. Bobrowski, I'll take that 16 back to the policy department. 17 DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. 18 I was going to say -- this is MR. OWEN: 19 Stuart with WellCare. I mean, generally if 20 something's not covered by Medicaid, then 21 the member basically has to give written 22 consent to the provider that they agree to 23 pay for it if it's not covered. This is a 24 little bit of a gray area. 25 DR. BOBROWSKI: Right.

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1	MR. OWEN: The denture is covered, but she
2	wants a better one.
3	DR. BOBROWSKI: Right.
4	DR. CAUDILL: It's usually an aesthetics
5	thing. They want the more natural-looking
6	teeth. So it's more aesthetics is what it
7	is.
8	DR. BOBROWSKI: Well, and then the other
9	thing is it's like the quality of the
10	actual teeth that go in the denture, the
11	cheap ones they just it's just like
12	buying a 29.95 tire versus a \$99.00 tire.
13	The \$99.00 ones typically last longer. So
14	by using a better quality teeth, those
15	patients are going to get a little
16	hopefully going to get a little
17	longer-lasting denture, because they wear
18	down, they get so flat they are just
19	mashing their food, not chewing their food.
20	So that was kind of another, I guess, a
21	point of information on those that just the
22	quality of the dentures but I'll send
23	that to DMS there and
24	DR. RICH: Hey, Garth, this is Dr. Rich. I
25	think the problem that we are running into

1	here is the fee is not you know, the fee
2	is what it is, right. And the code is what
3	it is. There is only one denture code.
4	There's an upper denture code and a lower
5	denture code. There's not a premium
6	denture code and a mid-level denture code
7	and a low denture code. There's one
8	denture code and there's one fee associated
9	with it. If it's a commercial insurance,
10	they pay one fee. You can't you don't
11	get to change your fee depending on what
12	kind of denture the patient wants. Your
13	fee is the same. And I totally understand
14	and appreciate what you're saying. You
15	know, it's like, hey, we want to make
16	better dentures for these people, but we
17	can't afford to. They would like to pay
18	for a better denture. You can't afford to.
19	You can't make the procedure dependent on
20	the patient paying partial, part of the
21	that's not the way Medicaid works, you
22	know. And that's the place we are stuck in
23	here. And so I totally appreciate and I
24	know you are trying to do the best for the
25	patient and everything else, but I think we

1 ought to come up with a way to resolve --2 the initial problem is how do we address 3 the fee itself and what do we want -- what 4 does Medicaid want to provide for the 5 patient. If this is the denture that we 6 are seeing everybody in the state gets, 7 that's the one you get and I don't think 8 there's another choice, you know. It's 9 like that's what the state said they are 10 going to cover. That's what they cover. 11 If you want something else, that's on you. 12 This is what -- I don't know. You know, 13 there's a lot -- there's a lot of, you 14 know, opinions and thoughts on this, but 15 really in the end it's one code, it's one 16 fee, and if you get down to the black and 17 white, you know, you can't charge -- you 18 know, just because you want to shine the 19 amalgam more, you can't say, hey, I'm going 20 to make this one extra shiny if you'd like 21 it, but it's going to cost you another 20 22 bucks. You can't do that. So it's the 23 same thing with -- you know, you got to 24 have the same rules, everything, or it 25 doesn't work out.

1 So, you know, like I said, I totally 2 appreciate it, but until we -- we got to fix it universally. We can't do this piecemeal 3 4 thing together. And I think we are all 5 going to stumble until we figure out a way 6 to come up with a universal fix. And 7 partial payments, or making one procedure 8 that's not covered required for a patient to 9 have a procedure that is covered, that 10 doesn't work either. You know, that's not 11 the way Medicaid is designed to work. So, I 12 don't know, I'm with you on this, and you --13 we want a solution that works for the 14 patient. It's not just a service that's 15 there that's not functional or really 16 doesn't benefit the patient, because we are 17 spinning our wheels. So, you know, but I 18 think we need to address the fact that 19 there's just one denture code, and no matter 20 how you do it, you know, if you work with an 21 insurance company or if you work with 22 Medicaid or if you work with Medicare, one 23 fee is assigned to that code and you can't 24 balance bill. That's just always been, I 25 know -- unless CMS changes the rules, you

1 are not going to be able to balance bill. 2 Enough of me rambling, but thank you. 3 DR. BOBROWSKI: But, see, that's what I 4 mean, that's a good point, you know, 5 because there is one fee and typically that 6 fee that Medicaid covers is really not a 7 fee for, you know, IPM teeth and, you know, 8 the best teeth out there. You know, some of those IPM teeth are, you know, a little 9 10 bit less than what the whole thing that 11 Medicaid covers on those. But that's a 12 good point, too. So, anyway, we'll send it 13 back to the policy department. 14 But I told that lady, really, that's 15 probably about the first time I've had that 16 asked to me, but it was one of my patients, 17 and I said, well, I'll just ask at our next 18 meeting and see what they say on it. So 19 I'll get this sent to you-all quickly here. 20 Now, here's where my typo was on 21 that -- the previous agenda I sent out. 22 It's the PIP Program, or Performance 23 Improvement Project, for children's dental 24 visits, topical fluoride, sealants. And I

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wanted to put that on the agenda today

25

1	because it's so new for us the TAC Members,
2	that all this is just is just brand new
3	for us, and I wanted to make sure that the
4	TAC Members knew what was going on with
5	this.
6	Let me see. I've got some
7	information, but and we probably don't
8	have to spend a lot of time on this, but
9	just wanted to it's a state I-Prof Focus
10	Study on children's oral health, and it's
11	called the Performance Improvement Project,
12	PIP, and it's going to be for the years '24
13	and '25, so it's a two-year project. It
14	comes through the Quality of Care Department
15	that reaches out and works with the MCOs,
16	kind of looking at increasing the rates of
17	topical fluoride application for children
18	ages one to four, using the dental code
19	D1206, or the physicians code, and an oral
20	evaluation, dental services for under age
21	21, and for sealants for the age group of
22	six to nine, dental sealants for the age
23	group of 10 to 14.
24	But I believe, and somebody correct me
25	if I'm wrong. I can look it up here, too.

1 But I was believing that as long as they are 2 20 and under, we could still apply sealants 3 to the children or teenagers' teeth. Now, 4 there's another section of this, is that 5 there's a dental provider access on focus 6 counties from the focus study, and it 7 listed, oh, about four or five counties in 8 Kentucky that just had limited provider 9 access, and that there may be other counties 10 out there that have a disparity in provider 11 access. And some of this was related to a 12 provider within 50 miles of the member's 13 county. And they are going to use this to 14 educate primary care physicians and their 15 staff on how to apply fluoride varnish in 16 the medical setting, but I wanted to bring 17 that up so that other TAC Members -- TAC 18 Members, I'm just kind of getting 19 information on this just recently, and I 20 know we haven't had a chance to talk about 21 it, but I wanted to start letting you-all 22 know about it, that the MCOs are working on 23 this. And, again, part of this is just to, 24 you know, try to move the needle into better 25 oral health for our Kentucky patients.

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1	Now, any TAC Member got any questions
2	so far?
3	DR. PETREY: I just want to say thank for
4	sending the link there. That's helpful.
5	Thank you.
6	DR. McKEE: Dr. Bobrowski, it's Julie
7	McKee.
8	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes, Dr. Julie.
9	DR. McKEE: I just have a couple of
10	comments here. I've been working with
11	these people on trying to get these
12	projects off the ground and I appreciate
13	their inclusion for me. The sealants
14	the targeted sealants six to nine and 10 to
15	14, those are actually national standards
16	that we can benchmark ourselves with. Yes,
17	you can put sealants on any kid at any time
18	until they age out of Medicaid as a
19	pediatric patient. But we really try to
20	work with providers to get those sealants
21	on when the teeth are erupting at those
22	ages, so that's why they are kind of
23	divided up.
24	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay.
25	DR. McKEE: Now, we are not doing a real

1 good job of it, thus the Performance 2 Project, because according to more recent 3 Medicaid data for Kentucky, that these 4 children at the optimum ages of six to 5 nine, 10 to 14, only between 11 and 13 percent of any eligible patient is 6 7 getting one sealant, and it could -- it 8 should be more than that and that's what 9 they are trying to do. Also, I really 10 commend them trying to reach out to the 11 primary care medical community for oral 12 assessments or screenings and varnish 13 application. They can -- I've offered to 14 train their physicians, and I've got a 15 presentation; I can do that at any time. 16 But they can also provide to their 17 providers an online course called Smiles 18 For Life. And what that does is that 19 teaches non-dental health professionals how 20 to do an oral assessment, why to do it, how 21 to do varnishes effectively, and why to do 22 And that should train them enough to them. 23 apply the varnish for billing. So it's pretty good. And the thing is, is the 24 25 provider can do that at their own leisure,

1	the training.
2	DR. BOBROWSKI: I'm making a couple notes
3	there. Well, yes, and thank you,
4	Dr. McKee, on that.
5	I got a couple of things, and TAC
6	Members please chime in with some ideas or
7	if you think of something, you know, later
8	on or over the weekend or next week, just
9	either get them to me and I'll forward them
10	on to DMS, or you can send them yourself.
11	But, Dr. McKee, have the focus groups
12	reached out to maybe I know it said the
13	primary care physicians' offices and their
14	staff, but what about also the public health
15	departments?
16	DR. McKEE: The public health
17	departments excuse me. I think I must
18	have been talking all week because it's
19	Friday afternoon and my voice is finally
20	wearing down.
21	The public health departments do tens
22	of thousands of varnishes a year with their
23	clinical patients. Now, they have decreased
24	over the years for a couple of reasons, and
25	one of them is because of the swing of the

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1 pendulum, and that's a whole another hour 2 But our public health departments lecture. are doing less and less hands-on clinical 3 4 procedures for patients in a clinic. It's 5 become more population based, so we are not seeing even the opportunity to do the 6 7 varnish, so it is decreasing. But I train 8 nurses all the time and it still happens, 9 but it is decreasing. Once -- and I say a 10 pendulum, because one day soon, not in my 11 professional lifetime, it will swing back 12 where health departments will see patients 13 for clinical care such as well-child 14 examinations, immunizations, family 15 planning, things like that, the hands-on 16 clinicals that they can do. We tried to 17 incorporate varnish into the WIC visit and 18 the HANDS visit, and their curriculums are 19 so tight right now they don't allow that. 20 But we are going to try again soon for that. 21 Health departments are doing what they 22 are interested in doing. For a varnish just 23 one more hour-long lecture is not considered 24 a core function in health departments. It's 25 optional. Now, is it optional to Julie

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1 Blankety-blank, no. It should be McKee? 2 mandatory. But it's an optional thing. A 3 lot of health departments coming out of 4 Covid have rethought and they have paired 5 down to what they either have to do 6 according to the law and what they get paid 7 enough to do, and they don't get paid enough 8 to do the varnish. 9 DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay, yeah. Because I 10 know -- I'm on our local health board, and 11 I know, you know, year by year -- I mean, 12 financially, you know, we are okay, but, 13 boy, sometimes you hope the refrigerator or 14 the air conditioner doesn't go out, you 15 Sometimes it just runs pretty close. know. 16 And I told one of the ladies, one of the 17 nurses over at our health department, I 18 said, well, listen, whenever you want to 19 get that one room painted, I said, call me 20 and I will come over and help you move the 21 furniture and help you get that room 22 painted, because for some reason it was 23 painted years ago -- it was painted some 24 kind of brown, and just didn't look very 25 good in a health department. So anyway, I

1	told her to call me, we'll get this thing
2	painted and done for you.
3	But, you know, one of the things that
4	we do at our office is well, two things
5	for the usually for the one to four or
6	five-year-old group, we just call them a fun
7	visit. And we'll tell the parents to bring
8	them in, let us, you know you know, just
9	have some fun with the kids. I know one of
10	our daycares here in our county, usually
11	once a year they will bring 30 or 40 kids
12	over. You know, nothing gets billed. We
13	just bring them in and have fun. We just
14	ride them up and down in the chair.
15	Sometimes we will get five or six in one
16	chair. We will we kind of squirt water
17	on their hands and then get the little
18	Mr. Slurpy, you know, and let it suck the
19	water out of their hands, so that they start
20	to get used to the noises and the equipment,
21	and let them know that this is not totally
22	dangerous stuff. But we just call ital fun
23	visit.
24	And then another thing we do is we
25	tell the parents, well, go home and just,

1 you know, like kids like to play doctor or 2 they like -- I said, well, play dentist. I 3 say get the flashlight out and get a spoon. 4 Kids are used to putting a spoon in their 5 You know, just let the spoon be your mouth. mirror, and just tell the kids, well, we are 6 7 going to play dentist and the dentist is 8 going to count your teeth, and you help me 9 count them. We are going to look at them 10 and shine a flashlight in there, because 11 that's the term we use when they come in. 12 So I don't know -- those are -- each office 13 has got their way own way of handling little 14 ones, but I think you got to try to make 15 those first visits, you know, fun and 16 enjoyable and educational. And, of course, 17 from those days all the kids, they get to go 18 get in the prize box, you know, and pick out 19 a prize. 20 But any TAC Members got any questions 21 so far on the Performance Improvement 22 Project? 23 Okay. Let's see, let me get my other 24 page here. I wanted to get a couple of 25 things just out for DMS and the MCOs. This

1	comes from the USA Today, Becker's Dental
2	Health Review and the New York Times and the
3	AGD News. These are just some tidbits.
4	Wal-Mart is closing health centers in 51
5	locations in five states along with their
6	telehealth program, and the reason why is
7	just escalating operational costs and
8	challenging reimbursement environment, is
9	the terms that they used. They are not
10	closing the pharmacies or the vision
11	centers.
12	Now, some states we are doing kind of
13	a hybrid of, you know, telehealth and hybrid
14	care. And one other tidbit was they were
15	talking about, like, for folks with total
16	hip arthroplasty this was a large
17	ten-year study on hip replacements, that
18	they were suggesting to wait one-year postop
19	before they have any invasive dental
20	treatment. And they also say to be sure to
21	take your preventive antibiotics or premeds.
22	But this is a thing that maybe as a TAC, and
23	maybe we could bring this up at the MAC,
24	that, you know, due to these recent studies,
25	that people that are anticipating, you know,

1 hip, knee replacements, things like that, 2 they may want to get a dental visit in and 3 just make sure that if they got any bad 4 teeth, either get them out or do a root 5 canal, or, you know, be aware of them. It's just, you know, so that they don't have 6 7 complications while they're recuperating 8 from like a hip replacement. 9 And then another tidbit was the --10 some of the independent pharmacies are 11 really struggling. Now, when they passed 12 the bill through the Kentucky legislature 13 that limited it to one PBM, they commented 14 that, well, this has helped them, but, 15 again, their low reimbursements are making 16 their life challenging. And that just kind 17 of ties in with some of the things that 18 dentists are doing. 19 And I'll just give you an example out 20 of my office. Two years ago we had to

of my office. Two years ago we had to replace the whole suction system, and that was listed at close to \$21,000. I had -about a month and a half ago I had one X-ray unit go down. That's going to be another 5,000 to fix that. About two weeks ago my

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1 air compressor that runs the whole office is 2 going down. And when you live out in the country, you know, you try to buy stuff 3 4 that's got two or three motors on it, and 5 the pressure that I had was -- did have 6 three motors on it. But these are air 7 compressors that you shouldn't go down to 8 Lowes or the hardware store and just buy a 9 regular air compressor. They usually don't 10 work as good and as well, and to provide 11 quality dental care. But these are 12 specialized air compressors where dental 13 offices -- but they -- I just got my guote 14 in this week and it's another \$20,000. So I just want to let you -- it's expensive to 15 16 run a dental office and, yeah, there's money 17 that comes in, but when you got these kind 18 of expenses -- and these are pieces of 19 equipment that are, you know, 10, 12 years 20 old, and they are already having to be 21 replaced. 22 Now, let me see. Now, here's another 23 situation that a lot of offices are having, 24 and I'm going to put this down in our Other 25 New Business or our tidbit section, is

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1 that -- this is coming from the ADA's Health 2 Policy Institute and McKinsey & Company, and 3 it just says the numbers are scary. The 4 34 percent of dental assistants are expected 5 to retire by 2028; 31 percent of dental 6 hygienists are expected to retire by 2028. 7 That's just four years away, folks. And 8 36,000 is the number of dental workers that 9 United States could be short by 2031. And 10 we definitely need to look at working on 11 things that we can do to help keep our 12 Medicaid, you know, doctors going. 13 This is just stuff I found out this 14 last two weeks, was that in Kentucky there's 15 a -- one of the pediatric offices that I 16 know about is no longer accepting any new 17 patients. Another one is stopping to see 18 their older teens. Let's see. And I guess 19 that's my point of bringing some of this up, 20 is that, you know, we need to keep working 21 on things that we can keep our doctors in 22 our Medicaid house, and even recruit new 23 doctors. 24 You know, in my county here -- I know 25 I don't look like it, but I'm going to be 71

1	this summer. I know I look like 41. But
2	anyway, the other dentists in our county
3	that takes Medicaid, I believe he is 68.
4	And the young ones that are in our county do
5	not accept Medicaid and can't get them to.
6	Part of that, you know, they say is low
7	reimbursements, the paperwork, the prior
8	authorizations, you know, cost of equipment,
9	cost of staff, and the staffing shortages.
10	The debt they got when they get out of
11	school, you know. So those are all things
12	that you know, they play it into the
13	factor. So as a Medicaid provider for 44
14	years, we have just got to keep looking at
15	things that we can do to help providers stay
16	an active provider in their counties.
17	But any TAC Members have any Other New
18	Business?
19	DR. BRAUN: This is Carol Braun. I just
20	have one question in particular. About a
21	week ago we received something from
22	Passport regarding prepayment review of
23	some procedures which would be instituted
24	as of June the 1st, and then they
25	underlined that this is not a prior

1	authorization, but it really sounds like
2	the steps are the same. So has anyone else
3	looked over that or have any concerns about
4	that?
5	DR. BOBROWSKI: Anyone from Passport or DMS
6	talk about this?
7	MS. BICKERS: I don't see Jennifer from
8	Program Integrity on, so I can take that
9	back to her and get you guys some
10	clarification.
11	MS. BRAUN: It's just concerning because it
12	sounds like, okay, prepayment review, it's
13	like you could submit it, they are not
14	going to pay you 'til they review it, which
15	to me is the same as prior authorization.
16	And as a pediatric dentist, the code for
17	stainless crown, D2930, is something that
18	we use really quite frequently. And the
19	other for everyone is on extractions.
20	Well, of course, you are going to have an
21	X-ray. Depending on the child, you may or
22	may not have an X-ray, but it is to me I
23	don't get the difference, so that was my
24	concern.
25	MS. BICKERS: I'll take that back. I was

1	typing it up. Sorry for the delayed
2	response.
3	DR. BRAUN: No. Thank you.
4	DR. BOBROWSKI: Erin, is that you?
5	MS. BICKERS: Yes, sir.
6	DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Sometimes I'm trying
7	to take notes so that I don't forget
8	something. But, Erin, I hope you are
9	taking notes, too, just to keep up. And I
10	do apologize, sometimes I'm so busy taking
11	my notes own notes again on this, sometimes
12	I don't get the things out of the chat.
13	I'll see it sitting there with the numbers
14	on there. I just haven't had time to write
15	on that.
16	That was another question. Is there a
17	way that these websites, some of them have
18	got a name on them two miles long. But is
19	there a way that I can get somebody from DMS
20	to just e-mail me those that information
21	out of the chat box?
22	MS. BICKERS: Yes, sir. We always add
23	everything that I send, that meeting
24	information e-mail I send you after every
25	meeting, that always has all the chat

1	information included.
2	DR. BOBROWSKI: Great, great.
3	MS. BICKERS: Yeah. I always try to grab
4	all of that. That's why I'm also delayed
5	in responding sometimes, because I'm
6	grabbing chat information or
7	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes.
8	MS. BICKERS: constructing the DMS
9	follow-up e-mail that I also send.
10	DR. BOBROWSKI: All right. Dr. Braun, did
11	you have anything else?
12	MS. BRAUN: No. That's all. Thanks.
13	DR. BOBROWSKI: Or Joe? Okay, thank you.
14	DR. PETREY: Garth, I would comment on your
15	last statement about simply number of
16	providers. One situation that we are
17	beginning to see really in all of our
18	locations is pediatric dentists being
19	overrun and lowering the age at which they
20	will they will continue to treat
21	DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes.
22	DR. PETREY: which I completely
23	understand. The issue is that in two of
24	the three areas we don't have providers to
25	take these what become new patients. In

1 essence, it's a patient who has had care, 2 but then can't find care because they 3 simply aged out of the pediatric dentist. 4 And as we are seeing them through this time 5 period while they are under orthodontic care, or retention, we are having a major 6 7 struggle with dealing with patients with 8 active decay and simply just not being able 9 to even have a prophy because they have 10 aged out of the pediatric dentist. And our 11 pediatric dentists are working with us, but 12 they have limits to what age that they are 13 able to do to continue to even function, 14 and we have this almost gap of patients 15 that are getting lost because they are 16 not -- older patients that have already 17 been in an active adult practice, or they 18 are -- they are new to the system because 19 they've essentially been dropped from the 20 provider that they had and don't have 21 anybody accepting new patients. It's very 22 challenging. 23 DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes, and thank you for 24 bringing that up, because that's exactly 25 And I know of another pediatric right.

1 office that they have done just that. They 2 have lowered their age down to, you know, 3 nine to 12-year-olds and under. So you got that teenage group that's like where do we 4 5 qo. And a lot of offices are not accepting 6 any new Medicaid patients. But it's 7 like -- and, Dr. Joe, it's like on these 8 fillings, like, they -- and I think DMS 9 needs to look at this seriously, is the fee 10 that we are getting paid for a filling. 11 Like a one-surface filling, I noticed that 12 was one on that list was one of the top 15 13 or top 30 codes that's used. And if we can 14 get those in and get them fixed, that one 15 surface filling will prevent a tooth loss 16 or an abscess or several hundred dollar 17 root canals, several hundred dollar crown, 18 so -- but DMS, I'm just encouraging you to 19 really look at the fee. I mean, you get 20 \$38 for an amalgam and \$44 for a white 21 filling. I mean, for a lot of offices, you 22 can't -- by the time you pay for your front 23 office staff, one person, you pay for an 24 assistant, \$34, you're already in the hole, 25 and that's what we are hearing a lot of

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1	dentists complain about, well, I can't keep
2	working and we want to help people, but I
3	can't go in a hole, or else you don't have
4	any dentists at all.
5	DR. PETREY: I think, too, it's also
6	there's an economic consideration to have
7	there as well, especially these patients
8	that are, in essence being dropped or lose
9	their dental home because they are aging
10	out. There's no doubt in my mind from an
11	economic perspective from what limited
12	funds and limited resources the state has,
13	when that patient is dropped that needs a
14	one-surface restoration and we we work
15	to get them into a new dental home, and
16	sometimes that can take six, nine months,
17	that may now turn into a root canal, which
18	we are talking about a root canal, a
19	multi-surface restoration, we are talking
20	about a crown. So the economics of it is
21	that that patient not only has not gotten
22	the care they deserved, but also from the
23	state's perspective, the cost to treat has
24	gone up significantly on that individual
25	because we were not able to get them into

care when they had a minimal treatment, the
single surface restoration.
I know that seems that seems like,
gosh, that happened on Thursday and that's
the only time. We are consistently seeing
that. And it's a and it is especially in
this age group of kids that are aging out of
the pediatric dentist and there just is not
anybody taking them. And the practices that
are taking them are so overrun, we are not
able to get them into the new dentist for
nine months, and that is and when they do
go they get a cleaning and then back another
three, six months to get the restoration.
By that time we have a major problem.
DR. BOBROWSKI: Yeah, yeah. And speaking
of the two things, the dental homes and the
mobile dental units, they do provide some
good service, but the problem that we see,
and another dentists across the state says
the same thing, it's just like, well, we
call the mobile unit that went to the
school system, and I understand that really
helps the parents get the kids checkups and
a cleaning. They will send a sheet home

1	that, well, your child has three cavities,
2	you need to go see your local dentist.
3	Well, then we try to get ahold of them to
4	well, which three teeth is it? So,
5	well, parents don't know. They weren't
6	told that. So then you say we've got to
7	have you in and do an exam. Well, that's
8	another fee. But I always thought that the
9	mobile units, if they find cavities and
10	have the opportunity to provide that
11	service, they are supposed to fix that
12	stuff. Well, then we call them they
13	don't do that, then we call them and say,
14	well, can we get the X-rays you took. No,
15	we can't get the X-rays. So that means we
16	got to take new X-rays. So that's a
17	situation that needs to be looked at too.
18	And the other thing, Dr. Joe, you
19	brought up about the dental homes, and this
20	is just an idea. You know, we we have
21	people every day just flat not show up for
22	their dental appointments. And the one guy
23	yesterday, I looked back in his chart and
24	he's missed six appointments. Now, how nice
25	am I supposed to be, you know, to let this

1	
1	continue? And usually when folks miss
2	and it doesn't matter if it's a Medicaid or
3	not Medicaid, but we try to ask them, well,
4	what happened, and we hope nothing bad
5	happened. And, you know, yesterday this
6	guy, the one that missed six appointments,
7	it's like, well, the last one he missed
8	is we actually made a note in there. We
9	got ahold of him and said, well, he just
10	didn't want to come that day. I mean,
11	that's just not acceptable behavior for them
12	not to even call or have the respect for
13	that dental office or their dental home.
14	And this was one of the this is an idea
15	that I had yesterday. I said, well, when
16	these homes are these dental homes are
17	being established, if there would be a way
18	or a form they could sign emphasizing these
19	failed appointments, or not to fail
20	appointments call the dental office, call
21	the clinic to let them know that you can't
22	come. That gives them a day or two of time
23	to get somebody else in.
24	But, you know, these dental homes just
25	when they are being set up for these

1 patients, say, look, this is the only 2 dentist we've got in 50 miles. If you don't keep your appointments, you are going to 3 4 have to go 50 miles or more to get your 5 dental work done. I'm just -- and I know 6 some offices, you miss one, maybe two 7 appointments, they just dismiss you. But 8 anyway, I think this failed appointments 9 stuff has got to be addressed. That's 10 another big reason that Medicaid is losing 11 providers. But I'll not say any more about 12 that. 13 Now, one other question I had, and I guess this is for DMS to look into, are the 14 15 MCOs being paid enough on their capitation 16 plans, I think is what you call it, to cover 17 their expansion codes on the adult dentures, 18 crowns, et cetera. I have no idea, but I 19 just want to be try to be fair to everybody 20 to make sure that, you know, we're viable 21 financially to do the things that we're 22 doing. And maybe that's a topic we can 23 bring up at the next meeting, but I just 24 wanted to put that out there just being fair

to everybody that works with Medicaid.

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1 And, Dr. Joe, you talked about the 2 people not accepting patients. Yesterday I 3 had a 73-year-old lady, mentally retarded, 4 but she's cooperative, but she is hard for 5 me to get X-rays due to her movement. But her dentist that she had been doing to for 6 7 years, I guess, had said, well, she took --8 she quit taking this lady's Medicaid. But I 9 can understand why in a way. It took us 90 minutes for the hygienist, you know, just to 10 polish her teeth and, you know, get her, you 11 12 know, kind of up to par. Could not do a lot 13 of scaling, but we did -- we were able to 14 get some bite wings that show the tarter. 15 We got a periodontal exam done. And it also 16 took another assistant 30 minutes of time 17 just to go in there and help the hygienist 18 with her, you know, and we get paid \$60 or 19 \$61 and change. 20 So you can see there's just another 21 example, yeah, we want to help these people 22 because her other dentist, you know, quit 23 seeing her. And she's a non-verbal, you 24 know, patient other than grunts and noises 25 like that. But these -- these folks need

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1 help, and I just wish we could do more, you 2 know, for them. But at the same time we've 3 got a small business to run, and like Joe 4 said a minute ago, that some of the offices 5 that do take the Medicaid, we just get 6 swamped. But anyway, we just got to keep 7 working on all this. We got to get some new 8 people helping with the Medicaid program in 9 terms of being providers. 10 That's all the New Business I got. 11 Any TAC Member got any other New Business? 12 Do the TAC Members feel like there's any 13 motions that we need to present to the MAC? It sounds like a lot of these dealing with 14 15 these codes, I believe we can get a lot of 16 those questions to Erin and she'll be able 17 to spread the love and get some of these --18 get some of these codes looked at. But any 19 other ideas from the TAC Members? 20 DR. PETREY: Not at this time. 21 DR. BOBROWSKI: Okay. Well, thank you-all. 22 And I wanted to remind everybody that there 23 is going to be another Medicaid forum this 24 fall in August, the 24th, at the Galt House 25 11:30 to 1:30 Eastern time. You know, last

1	year I thought we had a really good
2	turnout. We had a lot of good
3	conversations with providers. Commissioner
4	Lee was there, and we were glad that she
5	was able to be there and talk. And, you
6	know, we had representatives there from the
7	MCOs. And I just thought it was a really
8	good turnout. And we wanted to thank
9	Avesis for providing the luncheon, and I
10	believe they are going to do that again for
11	this year, and we do appreciate that and
12	excuse me.
13	But our next meeting is going to be
14	August the 9th at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.
15	Is there any other business to come
16	before the TAC meeting today?
17	MS. O'BRIEN: Dr. Bobrowski, this is Jean
18	from Anthem. I just want to ask a quick
19	question. For the KDA meeting, is it going
20	to be just a form? No presentations or
21	anything are needed for that; is that
22	correct?
23	DR. BOBROWSKI: Right. There's no
24	presentations from the MCOs. We do like to
25	have a representative from each one if we

1 can --2 MS. O'BRIEN: Yes. 3 DR. BOBROWSKI: -- to answer questions. 4 And then I believe we are also going to 5 have a course presented by Dr. Caudill this time on -- well, kind of on these handling 6 7 our special needs children, I believe is 8 maybe not the exact title, but -- and then 9 we are going to be including other MCOs as 10 we go. But we are going to -- we'll give 11 everybody ample time to have something 12 prepared, you know, when we do those going 13 in the future. But, yeah, you don't have 14 to have anything specifically prepared 15 other than bring your knowledge cap with 16 you, and I --17 MS. O'BRIEN: Okay. 18 DR. BOBROWSKI: -- know you got plenty of 19 knowledge, Ms. Jean. 20 MS. O'BRIEN: You are so sweet. 21 I just I wanted to be sure. No. Ι 22 just wanted to ask so that we were prepared. 23 DR. BOBROWSKI: Yes. 24 MS. O'BRIEN: Thank you. 25 DR. BOBROWSKI: Thank you. Yes.

1	Well, I believe that's got everything
2	on my list. And I want to thank everybody
3	for hanging in there with us today. A lot
4	of a lot of stuff to look at and keep
5	working on, but we'll just keep working
6	together.
7	Anybody from DMS want to say anything
8	while we got a minute?
9	All right. Well, I will make a motion
10	we adjourn.
11	MS. BRAUN: I second that.
12	DR. BOBROWSKI: All right. Thank you.
13	Thank you-all. You-all have a great
14	weekend, and I hope you-all have a great
15	Mother's Day.
16	MS. BRAUN: Thank you so much.
17	DR. BOBROWSKI: Thank you. Bye, bye.
18	* * * * * *
19	THEREUPON, the Meeting was concluded.
20	* * * * * *
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STATE OF KENTUCKY) COUNTY OF FAYETTE) I, JOLINDA S. TODD, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Kentucky at Large, certify that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the Dental Technical Advisory Committee meeting. My commission expires: August 24, 2027. IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office on this the 8th day of July 2024. JOLINDA S. TODD, RPR, CCR(KY) NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE AT LARGE

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