

# *The* **Dental Dozen**



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES  
*Office of Vermont Health Access  
Vermont Department of Health*

The Dental Dozen are 12 targeted initiatives to improve oral health for all Vermonters, establish the framework to remedy existing delivery system issues and proactively confront future challenges. The Dental Dozen are:

1. Ensure Oral Health Exams for School-age Children – reinforce the importance of oral health exams for school-age children; the premise is to encourage appropriate preventive care and reduce utilization of more costly dental procedures.
2. Increase Dental Reimbursement Rates – increase Vermont Medicaid reimbursement rates to the same levels as New Hampshire Medicaid rates; the premise is to attract new dentists as Medicaid providers and encourage dentists to see more Medicaid patients.
3. Reimburse Primary Care Physicians for Oral Health Risk Assessment – Vermont Medicaid will reimburse Primary Care Providers for performing oral Health Risk Assessments (HRAs) to promote preventive care and increase access for children from 0-3.
4. Place Dental Hygienists in all 12 District Health Offices-Dental hygienists will be placed in the 12 district health offices.
5. Selection/Assignment of a Dental Home for Children – selecting/assigning a primary dentist to each child allows for the same type of continuity of care as assigning a primary care physician for health improvement.
6. Enhance Outreach – perform outreach activities that create awareness and understanding of the Dental Dozen, and support implementation and operation of the initiatives.
7. Codes for Missed Appointments / Late Cancellations – implementation of codes for missed appointments/late cancellations.
8. Automation of the Medicaid Cap Information for Adult Benefits - Automation of the cap information for adult benefits.
9. Loan Repayment Program – Vermont recruitment and retention program; encourages new dentists to locate to Vermont.
10. Scholarships – encourage new dentists and hygienists to practice in Vermont and work with Medicaid beneficiaries; engage dentists to support Medicaid children in adherence of a preventive oral health regimen.
11. Technology Grants – encourage dentists to adopt the electronic claims submission process for shortened turnaround time on claims processing.
12. Supplemental Payment Program – provides incentives for accepting Medicaid beneficiaries and recognizes high volume Medicaid practitioners for their efforts.

Please contact Stephanie Beck at 802-879-5939 or [sbeck@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:sbeck@vdh.state.vt.us) if you would like to receive a copy of the detailed analysis and write-up.

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Investment Summary						
Initiative #	Initiative Description	Start Date	New Money SFY08	New Money SFY09	New Money SFY10	SFY08-SFY10 Total Money
1	Ensure Oral Health Exams for Children	7/1/2008	\$0	\$735,147	\$54,649	\$1,524,943
2	Increase Dental Reimbursement Rates	1/1/2008	\$637,862	\$1,412,441	\$2,250,851	\$6,989,316
3	Reimburse PCP for Oral HRA	1/1/2008	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$200,000
4	Dental Hygienist Placement	1/1/2008	\$58,000	\$58,000	\$0	\$290,000
5	Selection/Assignment of a Dental Home for Children	1/1/2008	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6	Enhance Outreach	7/1/2007	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	Codes for Late/Missed Appointments	1/1/2008	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8	Automation of Adult Cap	1/1/2008	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9	Loan Repayment Program	7/1/2007	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$60,000
10	Scholarships	7/1/2007	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$60,000
11	Technology Grants	7/1/2007	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$60,000
12	Supplemental Payment Program	7/1/2007	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$60,000
<b>Projected Savings from Preventable Dental Expenditures</b>			<b>-\$543,436</b>	<b>-\$1,167,667</b>	<b>-\$1,254,468</b>	<b>-\$2,965,571</b>
<b>New Annual Investment</b>			<b>\$272,425</b>	<b>\$1,077,921</b>	<b>\$1,051,031</b>	
State Share			\$111,694	\$441,947	\$430,923	
Federal Share			\$160,731	\$635,973	\$620,109	
<b>Total Annual Cost</b>			<b>\$272,425</b>	<b>\$1,350,346</b>	<b>\$2,401,377</b>	<b>\$4,024,149</b>
Cumulative State Share			\$111,694	\$553,642	\$984,565	\$1,649,901
Cumulative Federal Share			\$160,731	\$796,704	\$1,416,813	\$2,374,248

Information Technology (IT) Investment Summary						
Initiative #	Initiative Description	Start Date	SFY2008		SFY2009	
			State Share	Federal Share	State Share	Federal Share
5	Selection/Assignment of a Dental Home for Children	1/1/2008	\$92,250	\$132,750	\$92,250	\$132,750
7	Codes for Missed Appointments/Late Cancellations	1/1/2008	\$10,250	\$14,750	\$10,250	\$14,750
8	Automation of the Medicaid Cap Information for Adult Benefits	1/1/2008	\$10,250	\$14,750	\$10,250	\$14,750
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$112,750</b>	<b>\$162,250</b>	<b>\$112,750</b>	<b>\$162,250</b>

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