

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

P.O. Box 30763, Lansing, MI 48909
(877) 833-0870; Fax: (517) 373-4147

IN THE MATTER OF:

Docket No. 2014-8011 PA

██████████

██████████

██████████

Appellant

_____ /

DECISION AND ORDER

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 42 CFR 431.200 *et seq.*, upon the Appellant's request for a hearing.

After due notice, a hearing was held on ██████████. The Appellant appeared and testified. ██████████, Appeal Review Officer, represented the Department. ██████████, Medicaid Utilization Analyst, testified as a witness for the Department.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Appellant's prior authorization request for lower partial dentures?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. Appellant is a ██████-year-old Medicaid beneficiary.
2. On ██████████, the Department received a prior authorization request from Appellant's dentist for the approval of upper and lower partial dentures. (Department Exhibit A, p. 7).
3. On ██████████, the Department sent written notice to Appellant that the request for the upper partial denture was approved, but the request for the lower partial denture was denied on the basis that Appellant did not have fewer than █ teeth in occlusion in the posterior areas of his mouth. (Department Exhibit A, pp 5 & 6).

4. On ██████████, the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) received Appellant's request for hearing, protesting the denial.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance Program is established pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is administered in accordance with state statute, the Social Welfare Act, the Administrative Code, and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program.

1.10 PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Medicaid requires Prior Authorization (PA) to cover certain services before those services are rendered to the beneficiary. The purpose of PA is to review the medical need for certain services. . . .

Medicaid Provider Manual, (MPM)
Practitioner,
January 1, 2013, page 4.

Under the general policy instructions for Medicaid related dental services the MPM sets replacement schedules for denture repair and replacement:

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Complete and partial dentures are benefits for all beneficiaries. All dentures require PA. Providers must assess the beneficiary's general oral health and provide a five-year prognosis for the prosthesis requested. An upper partial denture PA request must also include the prognosis of six sound teeth.

Complete or partial dentures are authorized:

- If there is one or more anterior teeth missing;
- If there are less than eight posterior teeth in occlusion (fixed bridges and dentures are to be considered occluding teeth); or
- Where an existing complete or partial denture cannot be made serviceable through repair, relining, adjustment, or duplicating (rebasings)

procedures. If a partial denture can be made serviceable, the dentist should provide the needed restorations to maintain use of the existing partial, extract teeth, add teeth to an existing partial, and remove hyperplastic tissue....

Reimbursement for a complete or partial denture includes all necessary adjustments, relines, repairs, and duplications within six months of insertion. This includes such services for an immediate upper denture when authorized.

If a complete or partial denture requires an adjustment, reline, repair, or duplication within six months of insertion, but the services were not provided until after six months of insertion, no additional reimbursement is allowed for these services.

Complete or partial dentures are not authorized when:

- A previous prosthesis has been provided within five years, whether or not the existing denture was obtained through Medicaid.
- An adjustment, reline, repair, or duplication will make them serviceable.
- Replacement of a complete or partial denture that has been lost or broken beyond repair is not a benefit within five years, whether or not the existing denture was obtained through Medicaid.

*Medicaid Provider Manual, Dental
§6.6A, Version date July 1, 2013, pp. 17, 18*

The Department properly denied Appellant's request for a lower partial denture. The Department established that it received radiographs and a tooth chart, showing that Appellant did not meet the requirement of having fewer than █ teeth in occlusion in the posterior areas of his mouth to qualify for a lower partial denture once the upper partial denture is placed. (Department Exhibit A, p. 7)

[REDACTED]
Docket No. 2014-8011 PA
Decision and Order

The Medicaid dental policy requires **less than** [REDACTED] posterior teeth in occlusion. Since Appellant failed to provide any evidence that at the time of the prior authorization request he met the eligibility criteria for a lower partial denture, the Department's denial must be upheld.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the Department properly denied Appellant's request for a lower partial denture.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

The Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

/s/

Marya A. Nelson-Davis
Administrative Law Judge
for James K. Haveman, Director
Michigan Department of Community Health

Date Signed: [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: [REDACTED]

MAND/db

cc: [REDACTED]

***** NOTICE *****

The Michigan Administrative Hearing System may order a rehearing on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. The Michigan Administrative Hearing System will not order a rehearing on the Department's motion where the final decision or rehearing cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request. The Appellant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Decision and Order or, if a timely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt of the rehearing decision.