



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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October 6, 2015

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health public hearing to consider a Resolution revising the Dental Clinic Fee Schedule effective October 12, 2015.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize President to adopt a Resolution revising the Fee Schedule for the Dental Clinic effective October 12, 2015.

SUMMARY: Approximately 67% of the visits to the adult portion of the County Dental Clinic (i.e. Suite C) are from self-pay clients without commercial or publicly funded insurance. The current fee structure, in effect since October 1, 2011, no longer covers the Dental Clinic's costs even for those with an ability to pay; does not include fees for nine recently added procedures, which prevents the Dental Clinic from providing those services to self-pay clients and charging for the procedures; and includes a sliding fee scale based upon 2011 federal poverty guidelines.

The proposed fee structure is based upon a detailed evaluation of the cost of services and still provides for a sliding fee scale based upon the client's income and family size. The proposed fee schedule reflects adjustments in fees for procedures to account for changes in dental clinic costs from previous years. While the majority of fees are increasing, three procedure fees remain unchanged, nine procedure fees are being reduced, and there are nine new procedure fees. Note that federal law prohibits clinics from charging any client less than the amount paid by Medi-Cal (Denti-Cal for dental services) for that service.

The proposed fee schedule and sliding fee scale will not apply to services the Department provides to children as a subcontractor of Marin Community Clinics (MCC) as those children are considered MCC patients and the services are billed for by MCC. It also will not apply to children covered by Medi-Cal or another form of insurance. Adults with commercial or publicly funded insurance will continue to have the applicable insurance billed for covered services; for services not otherwise covered, the proposed fee schedule and sliding fee scale will be applied.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS: While the proposed fee schedule more closely aligns fees with the clinic's actual costs, the actual financial liability for most patients will be based on a sliding fee scale. The Department will continue to work with community agencies to ensure that individuals who cannot pay even the lowest amount on the

fee schedule, such as persons who are homeless, will be served through agreements with our community partners.

FISCAL IMPACT: This proposed action will result in increased revenue in the Dental Clinic Funds Center 1000104000 as the proposed fee schedule will allow the Dental Clinic to recover a higher portion of the cost of providing services. While increased revenue is anticipated, the use of a sliding-fee scale makes it difficult to estimate the amount. The Department will work with the CAO to adjust the FY 2015-16 budget as part of the monthly budget adjustment process when a more accurate estimate can be made based on several months of implementation.

REVIEWED BY:

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Department of Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | County Counsel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Nash Colfax, MD
Director

SAP Document: No SAP Document required