

SOUTH DAKOTA

Ryan VanLaecken, President

Keri Barrow, Secretary/Treasurer

South Dakota Medicaid has announced several improvements to the dental benefit. The yearly maximum for adult Medicaid dental services has increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000. This applies to all adult Medicaid recipients ages 21 and older. Some services are exempted from the annual max. These services include two exams, two cleanings and two sets of bitewings. Emergent dental services and dentures and partial dentures are also exempt when corresponding documentation is submitted with the claim. Medicaid will also cover sealants once in a 2-year period. Severe pain or swelling will be considered a medically necessary reason for extraction of third molars. In addition, if extraction of one third molar is considered medically necessary, all third molars proposed for extraction will be approved.

No changes have been made to Medicaid coverage for orthodontics. KELO, the local news station, recently did a story on the gap in coverage when it comes to orthodontics.

This November, Medicaid expansion will be voted on. Further changes might ensue.

Keri Barrow

Sioux Falls, South Dakota