


PLAN OPERATIONS	 From DentaQuest			
	<i>Policy and Procedure</i>			
	Policy Name:	Practice Guidelines Policy	Policy ID:	PLANCG-43
	Approved By:	Peer Review and Credentialing Committee	Last Revision Date:	04/25/2024
	States:	Oregon	Last Review Date:	04/26/2024
Application:	Medicaid	Effective Date:	04/27/2024	

PURPOSE

To establish clinical practice guidelines to aid providers in clinical decision-making and help incorporate evidence gained through scientific investigation into patient care. Guidelines include recommendation statements intended to optimize care that are informed by a systematic review of evidence and an assessment of the benefits and harms of alternative care options. Practice guidelines are developed from scientific evidence or a consensus of health care professionals in the particular field such as the HERC/Oregon Health Authority. Practice guidelines are not intended to address all individual variations, but to reflect population-based recommendations. Evidence based practice guidelines are provided to improve the quality of care delivered to DCO members.

POLICY

The DCO, reviews and adopts practice guidelines that define standards of practice as they pertain to improving oral health care quality for major diseases/diagnoses and preventive strategies. The selection of guideline topics is based on an analysis of the DCO population.

Whenever possible, guidelines are derived from nationally recognized/local sources and are evidenced-based in their foundation. If a nationally recognized guideline is not available, DCO will involve board certified specialists in the development of the appropriate guideline. DCO also uses the guidelines presented by the HERC. Guidelines are made available to practitioners via the appropriate websites.

Practice guidelines are reviewed and updated at least every two years and more frequently when updates are released by the issuing entity. DCO expects its practitioners will utilize the adopted guidelines in their practices and recognizes the inability of the guidelines to address all individual circumstances.

The DCO supports its members in self-management of their conditions by making practice guidelines available to members and potential members on the DCO websites and through specific quality improvement initiatives/activities.

The DCO reviews clinical practice guidelines against coverage and authorization criteria, utilization management criteria, and member education materials to ensure consistency with guidelines.

DEFINITIONS

“**Practice Guidelines**” means a set of criteria that describes appropriate management for a specific population or diagnosis, i.e., health maintenance for children.

REFERENCES

- 42 CFR 438.236 Practice guidelines
- OAR 410-141-3525 Outcome and Quality Measures

Revision History

Date:	Description
03/02/2015	Approval and adoption.
02/23/2016	Updates based on annual review.
02/14/2017	Updates based on annual review.
07/12/2017	Updates based on annual review.
03/12/2018	Updates based on annual review.
05/10/2019	Updates based on annual review.
12/09/2019	Conversion to revised policy and procedure format and naming convention.
3/26/2020	Updates based on CCO partner audit findings.
12/28/2020	Updates based on annual review.
04/26/2021	Updates based on CCO partner audit findings.
11/16/2021	Updates based on annual review.
11/30/2021	Updates based on annual review.
12/31/2022	Updates based on annual review.
02/27/2023	Updates based on annual review.
04/25/2024	Updates based on annual review.