



9/6/2023

Morgan Honea
Medical Services Board Vice President
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
303 E. 17th Street
Denver, CO 80203

RE: MSB 23-04-25-A

Dear Morgan and Medical Service Board Members:

On behalf of the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), I am writing to express support for the proposed rule revision to the Medical Assistance Rule Concerning Dental Therapists at Federally Qualified Health Centers through MSB 23-04-25-A.

CCHN is the membership organization for Colorado's 20 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) which operate over 240 clinic sites across the state and act as the health care home to more than 832,000 Coloradans from 63 of the state's 64 counties. FQHCs serve people regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay; nearly 50% of patients are covered by the state's Medicaid program.

The purpose of the rule revision is to add dental therapists to the list of billable providers at FQHCs per SB22-219. This will allow FQHCs that wish to hire dental therapists to be reimbursed for visits with a dental therapist, creating parity with dentists and dental hygienists as billable providers. This rule change will provide all 20 Colorado FQHCs with the flexibility to incorporate dental therapists at their clinics, if desired, to help meet the oral health needs of their communities.

CCHN is grateful for the Department's commitment to expanding access to care and reimbursement for new provider types at FQHCs. We look forward to continuing to collaborate to improve health care outcomes and access for Coloradans across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Polly Anderson", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Polly Anderson
Vice President of Strategy and Financing
Colorado Community Health Network