REFERRING A PATIENT TO THE DENTIST

The referral process between primary care and dental services will be unique to each site. The project strongly recommends and strives to support formalized referrals between primary care and dental services. For cases in which a primary care practice does not have direct access to dental care services, an example referral form is provided here as a template from which to work.

As each practice joins the Project, project staff will work with Dentaquest and other organizations to assess the availability of dental resources in the community. Factors to be examined in this assessment include finding dental care sites that accept specific Centennial Care Medicaid Managed Care plans, the availability of discounted fees, and the willingness and capacity to see patients who are pregnant or under three years old.
SAMPLE DENTAL REFERRAL FORM

PATIENT NAME: ________________________________________ MRN# __________

REFERRED TO: _____________________________ Phone_______________ Fax_______________

REFERRED BY: _____________________________ Phone_______________ Fax_______________

WEEKS GESTATION (IF APPLICABLE): ______________________________

REASON FOR REFERRAL (be specific please):

Primary Care Oral Assessment Risk Category:  ❑ Moderate  ❑ High  ❑ Extreme

Current Oral Therapies/Management (i.e. antibiotic, analgesia, etc.):

Attached:

❑ Patient demographics (Name, DOB, address, phone #, insurance)
❑ Patient clinical information (allergies, medications, medical diagnosis, chief complaint)
Statewide Resources

Resources for complex dental care in New Mexico are scarce. Complex care for individuals with special healthcare needs or care requiring anesthesia necessitate advance scheduling and consultation. Both UNM and Lovelace currently provide some of these services. The project will continue to provide updates as more resources become available.

UNM

- Dental Residency and Ambulatory Surgery Center

  The UNM ambulatory surgery center conducts dental procedures that require anesthesia for adults and children. It is a statewide resource. At the present time, Centennial Care insurance - except Presbyterian - is accepted. Call the Residency to discuss insurance or any special payment programs.

  1801 Camino de Salud  
  Albuquerque, NM 87102  
  (505) 925-4031

- Special Needs Dental Services

  Dentistry for individuals with special healthcare needs that increase the complexity of their dental care and oral health problems. Faculty and residents of the UNM Department of Dental Medicine provide services. It is a statewide resource. Call to discuss insurance and inquire regarding any special payment programs.

  Novitski Hall Special Needs Dental Clinic  
  900 Yale Boulevard NE, ABQ, 87131  
  (505) 272-4495
LOVELACE

- Lovelace Westside Hospital

  Lovelace Westside Hospital Special Dentistry Program is the clinical site where certain private community dentists schedule their own patients for procedures that require anesthesia and more support. All Centennial Care (MC) insurance is accepted at this site except Cigna, United, and Presbyterian. Blue Cross-Blue Shield is a preferred MCO.

  10501 Golf Course Road NW
  Albuquerque, NM 87114
  (505) 727-2000