

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Suzanne Bierman,
JD MPH
Administrator

October 7, 2022

Judith Cash, Director
State Demonstrations Group
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS)
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
7500 Security Blvd., Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Mrs. Cash:

Nevada is committed to reforming our system of care to improve health outcomes for individuals with chronic disease conditions. In the 80th (2019) Session of the Nevada Legislature approved AB 223, which directs the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for a waiver to receive federal funding for Medicaid coverage to expand dental benefits for adults diagnosed with diabetes. Governor Steve Sisolak signed this bill on June 5th, 2019.

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP), requests authority from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for a five-year, Section 1115 demonstration waiver. We are pleased to submit Nevada's Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application entitled "Whole Mouth Whole Body Connection for Adults with Diabetes".

This project is intended to expand statewide access to oral health services for Medicaid-enrolled Nevadans over the age of 21, by utilizing the comprehensive diabetes treatment and management models of federally qualified health centers. Specifically, DHHS seeks a limited waiver to pilot the expansion of dental benefits for diabetic adults (21 through 64 years of age) which has been mandated by state law to address a gap in coverage. The benefits package while limited mirrors the services that are available to pregnant adults within Nevada Medicaid. This demonstration is aligned with the objectives of Title XIX and Title XXI of the Social Security Act to improve access to high-quality, person-centered services that produce positive health outcomes for individuals; advance innovative delivery systems and payment models to strengthen provider network capacity and drive greater value for Medicaid.

Included in this application, Nevada has identified the strategies to address goals and milestones specific for the expansion of dental benefits for adults. Hypothetical budget neutrality projections were also developed using CMS requirements, with the format adjusted to accommodate the services outlined in this demonstration request.

The Demonstration will not modify the State's current Medicaid program or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) outside of the benefits and reimbursement methodologies described within this application.

We appreciate your time and commitment to working with Nevada toward the approval of this application.

If you have any policy questions regarding this 1115 demonstration waiver, please contact Dr. Antonina Capurro, Deputy Administrator at (702) 677-7416 or a.capurro@dhcfp.nv.gov.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Bierman

[Suzanne Bierman \(Oct 7, 2022 14:42 PDT\)](#)

Suzanne Bierman, J.D., M.P.H

Administrator

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Department of Health and Human Services

Enclosures

Cc: Antonina Capurro, D.M.D, M.P.H., M.B.A Deputy Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
Stacie Weeks, J.D., M.P.H, Deputy Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy