Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents

There are some exciting new initiatives which are improving the way oral health care is being delivered in Metro North Hospital and Health Service. From January 2014 all eligible families and teenagers will receive dental services including prevention and treatment (e.g. fillings and extractions) under the new Child Dental Benefits Schedule.

Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS)

The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) commenced on 1 January 2014 and provides access to benefits for basic dental services to children aged 2-17 years. The total benefit entitlement is capped at $1,000 per child over a two calendar year period. The CDBS has a means test, which requires receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB-A) or a relevant Australian Government payment*.

The CDBS provides individual benefits for a range of services including examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions. Benefits are not available for some complex services such as orthodontic treatment or cosmetic dental work, and cannot be paid for any services provided in a hospital.

Is My Child Eligible?

THE CDBS CAN BE USED IN ALL METRO NORTH HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICE PUBLIC DENTAL CLINICS.

Child eligibility for Queensland public sector oral health services has been extended to all children eligible under CDBS.

Children who do not receive CDBS benefits will still be eligible for treatment as long as they are 4 years of age or older, and have not completed Year 10 (children outside of this age range need to hold a Health Care Card to receive treatment).

No Out of Pocket Expenses

All Medicare benefits payable under CBDS for any treatment provided must be assigned under bulk billing arrangements to Queensland Health.
• If your child is eligible for dental treatment under the CDBS you will be asked to complete the **Bulk Billing Consent form** attached to the Medical History/Consent for Treatment form to assign the benefits up to the cap to the Metro North Oral Health Services. You will pay no out-of-pocket expenses for these services. Once the benefit cap has been reached, you will not need to pay any out-of-pocket costs provided your child is eligible for services in a Queensland public dental health clinic.

• Children who are not eligible for treatment under the CDBS, but are eligible for treatment under the Queensland public oral health services (four years of age until the completion of Year 10 at school or have a Healthcare Card) will be provided oral health care with no out-of-pocket expenses in the public oral health clinics.

**Metro North Oral Health Services still provides a broad range of services not covered by the CDBS at no cost if your child is eligible under Queensland public oral health services.**

Your child will receive treatment from experienced paediatric oral health staff including dentists, dental therapists, oral health therapists and dental assistants.

**If you wish to enrol your child in the public sector oral health services program, complete the attached paperwork and return it to your school/dental facility as soon as possible.**

After the examination, a treatment plan will be developed in consultation with the parent/legal guardian. You will be provided with a copy of the proposed treatment plan and the associated costs (which will be bulk billed) for your consideration and consent to the treatment. At the end of each appointment, you will be required to sign the Medicare bulk billing form.

**It is a requirement that a parent/legal guardian attends all dental appointments** with their child/ren to complete and sign the necessary forms. This will also provide an opportunity for parents and guardians to discuss any concerns about your child’s oral health.

**You will need to bring your Medicare Card to the dental appointments.**

*A child is eligible if they are aged 2–17 years for at least 1 day of the calendar year, are eligible for Medicare and are either part of a family receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or one of the following Australian Government payments:*

- Youth Allowance
- ABSTUDY
- Disability Support Pension
- Parenting Payment
- Special Benefit
- Carer Payment
- Double Orphan Pension
- Veteran’s Children Education Scheme, if the child is 16 or over
- Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme, if the child is 16 or over

Eligibility is determined each calendar year.