This fall, Delta Dental celebrated the first stop of the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) School of Dentistry’s new mobile dental coach at Noble Elementary and Middle School in Detroit.

After a floss-cutting ceremony featuring representatives from Delta Dental, University of Detroit Mercy, Michigan Dental Association Foundation and Detroit Public Schools, eligible students were invited to board the mobile coach to receive dental treatment.

The mobile coach and four portable dental chairs were funded by two Delta Dental Foundation grants to UDM totaling $584,907. Under UDM’s School-Based Dental Services Program, dental students and faculty will travel to schools across Wayne County providing comprehensive diagnostic, preventive and restorative treatment to eligible schoolchildren.

The program is expected to reach 1,600 children in the 2015–2016 academic year.

Healthy Kids Dental program expands statewide

Dental offices may see an increase of Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) patients with the October 1 expansion of the program into Kent, Oakland and Wayne counties. The expansion brought 251,000 more children into the program.

HKD, a Medicaid program administered by Delta Dental and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, is now operational in all of Michigan’s 83 counties.

With this expansion, the program benefits nearly 794,000 Medicaid-eligible children statewide and covers services such as X-rays, teeth cleanings, cavity fillings, root canals, tooth extractions and dentures.

Eligible children are enrolled in HKD when enrolled in Medicaid. Services are available to children ages 0–12 in Kent, Oakland and Wayne counties, and children under age 21 in the other 80 counties.
Medicare change may require action

**A change in the Medicare Part D prescription program requires dentists to take action before January 1, 2016.**

Compliance with the new regulation ensures that prescriptions you prescribe to Medicare beneficiaries will be covered by the program.

Dentists must do one of the following to ensure their prescriptions are covered: enroll as a Medicare provider, or actively opt out of Medicare by filing an affidavit. If you are already enrolled with Medicare, no further action is required.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the regulation change in May 2014.

If you do not comply with the regulation, prescriptions that you write for your Medicare beneficiaries may not be covered. Please also note that if you elect to opt out, you may not be able to receive direct or indirect Medicare payments for two years. This could impact the payments you receive from Medicare Advantage plans covering dental as a supplemental benefit.

To opt in as a Medicare provider, use CMS Form 855I.

Action is recommended before January 1, 2016. The CMS regulation goes into effect June 1, 2016.

If you have questions or need additional information, the American Dental Association (ADA) provides resources for its members. The ADA materials can be found at [http://success.ada.org/en/practice/medicare/medicare](http://success.ada.org/en/practice/medicare/medicare).

Upcoming dental seminar

**University of Michigan School of Dentistry and the Delta Dental Foundation invite you to the Annual Kenneth J. Ryan, DDS, Memorial Seminar January 13, 2016, at Ann Arbor's Rackham Auditorium. The seminar will be led by Jeffrey Okeson, DMD, who will discuss “What Every Dentist Needs to Know about Temporomandibular Disorders.”**

To register, visit [www.dent.umich.edu/cde](http://www.dent.umich.edu/cde). There, you can access course details and registration. Please submit separate registrations and payment for each person attending.

After registration, you will immediately receive a course confirmation via email. If you do not receive a confirmation, please call (734) 763-5070 or (734) 763-5171 to verify your registration.

For assistance, call the U-M School of Dentistry's Office of Continuing Dental Education at (734) 763-5070 or (734) 763-5171.

Automated fee schedules

**Starting in December, Delta Dental will no longer send updated fee schedules to providers for the programs they participate in. Instead, fee schedules will be available on the home page of the Dental Office Toolkit® (DOT). To view a fee schedule:**

1. Once logged in to DOT, you will see a line that says “Fee Schedules, View Listings.” Click on the “View Listing” link.

2. The network names appear that the dentist participates in.

3. Click to view each of the network PDF fee schedules. Once opened, it can be viewed and printed. A menu bar appears with a print icon.

4. Arrow back to return to the “Fee Schedule Network” list to view and print each network. Do not close out of the fee schedule or it will close you out of the Toolkit and you will have to start over.

5. After reviewing each fee schedule, click on the “Back to Welcome Page” link to return to the home page.
Increase the number of patients you serve by joining Delta Dental’s new TriState Advantage network.

TriState Advantage, which serves government-sponsored programs and Medicare Advantage plans in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, has the same great Delta Dental service and fast payments you are used to. Delta Dental remits benefit payments directly to participating providers, and 98 percent of claims are processed within 10 working days.

As with other Delta Dental programs, you and your staff will have access to the Dental Office Toolkit and DASI (Delta Dental’s automated phone system). All claims in the TriState Advantage network must be submitted electronically and will be paid by electronic funds transfer (EFT). Participating dental offices will need to sign up for EFT if you have not already done so. Paper claims will not be accepted in the TriState Advantage network unless the claim is subject to an electronic claim submission exception in the Administrative Simplification Compliance Act.

TriState Advantage members will be required to receive services from participating TriState Advantage network dentists. Participating dentists will be listed in our closed-panel directory, making it easy for potential patients to find you. Reimbursement to participating dentists for covered services rendered to members is based on the Delta Dental PPO fee schedule. Please note that dentists who have opted out of Medicare cannot participate in the TriState Advantage network.

Contact your Delta Dental professional services representative for more information or to participate in the TriState Advantage network.

Grow your practice with TriState Advantage

Restock your Rethink Your Drink materials

As part of our Rethink Your Drink initiative, Delta Dental has produced educational materials about the impact of sugar-sweetened beverages and healthy alternatives. Many dental offices have already ordered Rethink Your Drink posters and brochures. You can place your order or request additional materials (at no cost to you) by visiting www.deltadentalmi.com/rydorder.

You may also request a Rethink Your Drink display kit (see above photo) for your dental office or event. The display includes a variety of popular beverage choices with their sugar content, and can be set up on tables of various sizes. To borrow a kit for up to 30 days at no charge, or to purchase one for a $200 donation to the Delta Dental Foundation, visit www.deltadentalmi.com/rydkit. Please contact Katie Frankhart at kfrankhart@deltadentalmi.com or (517) 381-4345 if you have any questions.

Updates to DASI

If you’ve called DASI (Delta Dental’s Automated Service Inquiry) lately, you may have noticed new features. Earlier this fall, the interactive voice response (IVR) system was migrated to a new platform and included updates to its shortcuts menu.

To navigate the updated system, please review the new “DASI shortcuts for dental offices” document. You can view and print it at www.deltadentalmi.com/ddsresources

Required training for TriState Advantage dentists

All TriState Advantage network participating dentists are required to complete Medicare Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) Training before the end of the year, and once a year thereafter, as stated in the participant agreement. Once training is completed, please submit the acknowledgement form. To find the training module and acknowledgement form, visit www.deltadentalmi.com/cmscompliance.

MPSERS making changes

The Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS) has made a change to its dental plan effective January 1, 2016. The dental plan is adding implant coverage for its members.
More than smiles: Blessings in a Backpack

Delta Dental is making a difference for schoolchildren in need every weekend throughout the school year!

For the fourth consecutive year, Delta Dental is working with the national Blessings in a Backpack program to provide children who qualify for the federal free and reduced price meal program with a bag of food to take home every Friday throughout the school year. The menu of nonperishable food items includes easy-to-prepare and eat foods such as granola bars, oatmeal, tuna fish, and macaroni and cheese.

Here is where we are making a difference in Michigan:
Fairview Elementary STEM, Lansing—160 students
Harms Elementary, Detroit—457 students

Processing change

Delta Dental is making a processing change for D0210 (complete series of radiographs) and a D0330 (panoramic film) completed on the same date of service by the same dental office.

Delta Dental's processing policy states “when benefits are requested for D0330 in conjunction with D0210 by the same dentist/dental office, fees for the D0330 are disallowed as a component of the D0210 on the same date of service.”

Currently, when a D0210 and a D0330 are completed by the same dental office on the same date of service, Delta Dental combines the two services into a D0210-complete series of radiographs and provides the maximum plan allowance for the D0210, and any difference in fees is not charged to the member.

Effective with claims processed on or after January 1, 2016, a maximum plan allowance will be provided for the D0210 and the charge for the D0330 will be disallowed and cannot be charged to the member.