



Connecticut State Dental Association

Message from the President

August 20, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

As it has been reported in the media that several healthcare provider associations would receive a letter from the Attorney General's office concerning PPE fees, the CSDA today received a letter from the Attorney General addressing in-network healthcare providers charging additional PPE fees. The Attorney General stated in his letter ([click here to read the full letter](#) - password protected) that:

"It is the Office's position that charging patients an additional fee for PPE constitutes illegal balance billing when the charges are assessed in connection with in-network services covered by the patients' health plans."

To be clear, this position relates to in-network providers only. We have requested a meeting with the Attorney General's office to seek clarification on the out-of-network issues.

We continue to advise you to check your provider contracts and review the terms of your participation agreements before charging for PPE. Please note: It is unethical for healthcare providers to only charge uninsured patients or only seek reimbursement for insured patients for PPE costs. The fee a healthcare provider charges a patient without insurance is considered the dentist's full fee and should be represented to all third-party payers. The ADA offers a summary and guidance ([click here](#)) on billing for PPE as well as a listing of the dental plans currently providing financial assistance during this time. Please be sure to review this document as it has been recently updated on August 18, 2020.

For further guidance on PPE fees, [click here](#) to check out the latest coronavirus updates on the CSDA's website.

Sincerely,

Tam Le, DMD

Connecticut State Dental Association, President