While we have talked about a Carve Out for a number of years, many still have questions about how the system would work.

CARVE OUT
A Dental Carve Out would end the current complicated system and ensure that more tax dollars go toward patient care and fewer go toward program administration.

With this arrangement, money for dental Medicaid services would be “carved out” of the Medicaid budget. These funds would go directly to a single Dental Managed Care company that develops a network of dentists to provide services to patients in all 114 counties in Missouri.

Carve Out would not only streamline the Medicaid billing operations in your office, it also would expand the number of dental providers in the state. As well, administration would also be greatly simplified because there would be a single set of rules that would apply to all patients and providers across the state — without adding money to the state budget.

CARVE OUT SUCCESS STORIES
Sixteen states, including Tennessee and Kansas, have implemented a Dental Carve Out. In Kansas, after establishing a Dental Carve Out in 1998, the number of eligible children receiving an annual Medicaid dental visit went from 24,855 to 54,362 by 2003 — a nearly 119 percent increase.

Every state that has implemented this type of program has seen an increase in provider participation and utilization.

WE NEED YOUR HELP
While we are working to improve the system, companies that we believe are making money administering this antiquated system are lobbying legislators and dentists to stop this change. It is important that legislators hear from you.

Please forward the attached postcards to your legislator. Let them know you support improving Medicaid through a Dental Carve Out.

You can learn more about the current system and Carve Out by visiting the MDA Web site at www.modental.org/session.
Improve Patient Access to Dental Care
SUPPORT A DENTAL CARVE OUT

Senator
201 W. Capitol Ave.
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Representative
201 W. Capitol Ave.
Jefferson City, MO 65102