

ORAL EVALUATIONS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March , 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Periodic Oral Evaluation (D0120)

Limited Oral Evaluation – problem focused (D0140)

Oral Evaluation for a patient under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver (D0145)

Comprehensive Oral Evaluation (D0150)

Detailed and Extensive Oral Evaluation (D0160)

Re-evaluation – limited, problem focused (D0170)

Comprehensive periodontal evaluation – new or established patient (D0180)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

D0120 - the number of oral evaluations conducted in the same calendar year limits this benefit

D0140 - the number of oral evaluations conducted in the same calendar year limits this benefit..

D0145 - the number of oral evaluations conducted in the same calendar year limits this benefit.

D0150 - benefits should be provided for only one initial /comprehensive oral evaluation per provider.

D0160 - benefits are traditionally processed as a comprehensive evaluation (D0150) and subsequent submissions are processed as periodic evaluations (D0120).

D0170 – traditionally not covered.

D0180 the number of oral evaluations conducted in the same calendar year limits this benefit.

Consultation, diagnosis and treatment planning are considered components of the fee for an evaluation.

Diagnostic D0100 – D0999

INTRAORAL X-RAYS: Complete, Periapical and Bitewings

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Intraoral, complete series (D0210)

Periapical (D0220 – D0230)

Bitewings (D0270 – D0277)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process according to contract benefits.

Combine separate charges for periapicals to a complete series code (D0210) when the fee for the individual periapicals equals or exceeds the fee for the complete series. The excess fee will be disallowed.

Routine working and final treatment radiographs taken for endodontic therapy are considered a component of the complete treatment procedure. Separate fees for these films are disallowed.

Bitewings submitted with a panorex (0330) are considered a full mouth series.

Diagnostic D0100 – D0999

CEPHALOMETRIC AND PANORAMIC RADIOGRAPHS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Cephalometric film (D0340)

Panoramic Film (D0330)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Cephalometric radiographs are covered under the orthodontic benefit

Panoramic films:

- If billed by a general dentist, process under the diagnostic benefit
- If billed by an orthodontist, process under the orthodontia benefit

Diagnostic D0100 – D0999

PULP VITALITY TESTS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Pulp vitality tests (D0460)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Multiple pulp tests during the same visit should be combined and allowed as a single pulp vitality test.

Diagnostic D0100 – D0999

DIAGNOSTIC CASTS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Diagnostic Casts (D0470)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

If procedure is for orthodontia, process to orthodontia benefits.

Models that are necessary for an extensive treatment plan are payable but other wise, this is traditionally not a covered benefit. .

Preventive D1000 – D1999

DENTAL PROPHYLAXIS: ADULT AND CHILD

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Prophylaxis – adult (D1110)
Prophylaxis – child (D1120)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

If the dentist reports two routine prophylaxis on the same claim and indicates the treatment required more than one visit to complete, process each routine prophylaxis separately. Additional charges for difficult or prolonged periods of time are not covered.

A fee for a prophylaxis performed on the same date as periodontal maintenance or scaling & root planing is considered part of those procedures and is disallowed.

Periodontal maintenance is counted toward the contract limitation for prophylaxis

Preventive D1000 – D1999

SEALANTS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Sealant (D1351)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Repair or replacement of a sealant within 12 months of initial placement is included in the fee of the initial placement and disallowed.

The teeth must be free from caries or restorations on the occlusal surface. Sealants are denied when claim history indicates an existing restoration on the occlusal surface of the same tooth.

A separate fee for a sealant performed on the same date of service and on the same surface as a restoration is considered a component of the restoration and is disallowed.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

RESTORATIONS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Direct resin restorations (D2330 - D2335; D2390 – D2394)
Amalgam restorations (D2140 – D2161)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Procedure includes repairs, remakes or replacements for 12 months

The fee for a restoration includes services such as, but not limited to: light curing, acid-etching and adhesives, liners, bases, indirect pulp caps, local anesthesia, polishing, occlusal adjustment, caries removal and gingivectomy performed on the same date as the restoration. A separate fee for any of these procedures is disallowed.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

INLAY - Metal, Porcelain and Resin

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2007
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Inlay (D2510 – D2530; D2610 – D2630; D2650 – D2652)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Process to alternate benefit procedure.

Cast restorations include all models, temporaries and associated procedures.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

ONLAY – Metal, Porcelain and Resin

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Onlay (D2542 – D2544; D2642 – D2644; D2662 – D2664)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

1. Process to contract benefits
2. Process to alternate benefit procedure.
3. Requires the overlay of a cusp and minimum one interproximal surface – allow the onlay
4. The area requiring restorative care is too extensive to be adequately protected and supported by an amalgam or resin restoration – allow the onlay.
5. No cuspal involvement – alternate benefit procedure applies
6. Onlays are only benefited when the tooth would also qualify for a crown based on the degree of breakdown due to decay or fracture.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

CROWN RESTORATION

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Crown (D2710 – D2794)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

1. Process to contract benefits
2. Process to alternate benefit procedure.
3. Existing restoration of three or more surfaces with evidence of decay (x-ray verifiable or narrative) and cannot be restored by an amalgam or resin restoration.
4. Existing restoration with evidence of a fractured cusp(s)
5. Existing root canal therapy
6. Replacement crowns exceeding time limitations with evidence of decay (x-ray verifiable or narrative)
7. Tooth preparation, temporary restorations, cement bases, impressions, study models and diagnostic wax ups, occlusal adjustments, gingivectomies (on same date of service), and local anesthesia are to be considered in the fee for the crown restoration.

Crowns placed due to craze lines without symptoms or displacement of tooth structure are not a covered benefit.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

SEDATIVE FILLING

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Sedative Filling (D2940)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Temporary restorations are a benefit on an emergency basis

Procedure in conjunction with root canal therapy is not a benefit

Process to contract benefits

Restorative D2000 – D2999

BUILDUPS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Core buildup (D2950)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

If there is sufficient tooth structure for retention of a crown , a build-up is not covered.

The filling in of undercuts and voids or the elimination of casting bulk is considered part of the crown preparation procedure.

Procedure code D2950 is inclusive of cast post & cores and prefabricated post & cores and not reimbursable for the same date of service.

Not intended to be used if crown is not to be considered for a final restoration.

Restorative D2000 – D2999

LABIAL VENEERS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Labial Veneer – chairside (D2960)
Labial Veneer – laboratory (D2961)
Labial Veneer – laboratory (D2962)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

D2960 – Generally no benefit allowed since often times considered cosmetic. Under individual consideration. Unless tooth qualifies for a crown and can be appropriately treated with a veneer, either allow an alternate benefit of 2335 or deny R22.

D2961 – Generally no benefit allowed since often times considered cosmetic. Under individual consideration. Unless tooth qualifies for a crown and can be appropriately treated with a veneer, either allow an alternate benefit of 2335 or deny R22.

D2962 – Generally no benefit allowed since often times considered cosmetic. Under individual consideration. Unless tooth qualifies for a crown and can be appropriately treated with a veneer, either allow an alternate benefit of 2335 or deny R22.

Temporary Crown (Fractured Tooth)

Effective date: August 2003
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Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Temporary Crown (fractured tooth) D2970

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Temporary crowns over fractured teeth may be considered a benefit when fitted over a damaged tooth as an immediate protective device and treatment is palliative in nature.

Endodontics D3000 – D3999

PULP CAPPING

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Direct Pulp Cap (D3110)
Indirect Pulp Cap (D3120)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Direct pulp cap (D3110) – allow at the same time as the placement of the restoration.

Indirect pulp cap (D3120) is not eligible for benefits when billed on the same date of service as a permanent restorative procedure on the same tooth.

Endodontics D3000 – D3999

ENDODONTIC THERAPY

Effective date: August 2003
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Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Endodontic Therapy (D3230 – D3330)
Endodontic retreatment (D3346 – D3348)
Therapeutic pulpotomy (D3220)
Gross Pulpal Debridement (D3221)
Canal preparation (D3950)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Requests for additional benefits based on difficulty of the endodontic therapy or for additional canals will not be considered.

Canal preparation and fitting of preformed dowel or post is included in the placement of the cast or prefabricated post & core. No additional reimbursement is available.

A therapeutic pulpotomy (D3220) is only benefited on primary teeth. Code D3220 on permanent teeth and code D3221 on primary or permanent teeth will be considered inclusive of the final endodontic therapy..

Payment of benefits for root canal therapy is based on the assumption that the treatment has been completed and not based on the treatment initiated.

A separate fee for retreatment of root canal therapy or retreatment of apical surgery by the same dentist/dental office within 12 months of initial treatment is disallowed.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

GINGIVECTOMY / GINGIVOPLASTY

ANATOMICAL CROWN EXPOSURE (ONE TO THREE TEETH)

ANATOMICAL CROWN EXPOSURE (FOUR OR MORE CONTIGUOUS TEETH)

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Gingivectomy / Gingivoplasty – 4+ teeth (D4210)
Gingivectomy / Gingivoplasty – 1 to 3 teeth (D4211)
Anatomical Crown Exposure (one to three teeth) (D4230)
Anatomical Crown Exposure (four or more contiguous teeth) (D4231)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Allow benefits when moderate gingival pocket depths or topographical aberrations are present.

Cosmetic exclusion applies unless tissue alterations are due to effects of medication.

Benefits are not allowed to facilitate restorative dentistry.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

GINGIVAL FLAP PROCEDURE, INCLUDING ROOT PLANING

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Gingival flap procedure - 4+ teeth (D4240)
Gingival flap procedure – 1 to 3 teeth (D4241)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

1. Current pocket depth recordings and radiographs of the area involved.
2. A narrative when required documentation does not demonstrate necessity.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

APICALLY POSITIONED FLAP

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Apically positioned flap (D4245)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

1. Current pocket depth recordings and radiographs of the area involved.
2. A narrative when required documentation does not demonstrate necessity.

Benefits are not allowed when procedure is used to facilitate surgical exposure of impacted teeth or for implant placement, when implants are not a covered benefit.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

CLINICAL CROWN LENGTHENING

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Clinical crown lengthening (D4249)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

1. Current pocket depth recordings and radiographs of the area involved.
2. the nature and extent of the lesion
3. position of the gingival margin on the tooth surface
4. A narrative when required documentation does not demonstrate necessity

Based on the documentation submitted, an alternate benefit of D4211, D4241 or D4261 may be established.

Benefits will not be allowed for a crown lengthening procedure performed within the same tooth range receiving D4260 on the same date of service.

When multiple crown lengthening sites are located within a single quadrant, the maximum allowable should not exceed the osseous surgery (D4260) full quadrant fee.

Benefits will not be allowed for a crown lengthening procedure performed on the same tooth and on the same day as crowns, bridgework, inlays, onlays, veneers, build-ups, post and cores, fillings, root canal therapies or other surgical procedures.

OSSEOUS SURGERY

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Osseous Surgery (D4260, D4261)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

When more than one surgical procedure is provided in the same area (tooth, quadrant, surgical site) on the same day, benefits are based upon the most inclusive procedure.

Periodontal surgical procedures include all necessary post-operative care and finishing procedures.

Periodontally involved teeth that would qualify for surgical pocket reduction benefits under codes 4210, 4211, 4240, 4241, 4260 and 4261 must be documented to have at least 5mm pocket depths. If less than 5mm, special circumstances resulting in need for treatment will be considered upon request.

If periodontal surgery is performed less than 4 weeks after scaling and root planing, the fee for the surgical procedure or scaling and root planing may be disallowed upon consultant review.

The fee for osseous surgery includes osseous contouring, distal or proximal wedge surgery, frenectomy, scaling and root planing, soft tissue grafts, gingivectomy and flap procedures in the same quadrant.

Pocket charting should be current and dated.

If osseous surgery coding is submitted for services performed around healthy teeth, D4249 is provided according to contract benefits.

Bone Replacement Grafts

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Bone replacement graft – first site in quadrant (D4263)
Bone replacement raft – each additional site in quadrant (D4264)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Benefits for bone grafting are available only when billed for natural teeth to stimulate periodontal regeneration. When this code billed in conjunction with implants, cyst removals, apicoectomy, root resections, hemisection or extraction sites, benefits will be denied.

Patient selection criteria:

1. Intrabony (walled) defects or furcations
2. Radiographic or charting evidence of vertical bone deformity.

SOFT TISSUE GRAFTS

Effective date: August 2003
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Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Pedicle soft tissue graft (D4270)
Free soft tissue graft (D4271)
Subepithelial connective tissue graft (D4273)
Soft tissue allograft (D4275)
Combined connective tissue and double pedicle graft (4276)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Benefit is considered per site unless indicated otherwise. A site is defined as two adjacent teeth.

Cosmetic exclusion applies.

Procedures may be performed using allograft or other synthetic graft material.

Procedures include donor site. Separate charge for material costs is not a covered benefit. Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

DISTAL OR PROXIMAL WEDGE PROCEDURE

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Distal or proximal wedge procedure (D4274)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

This is a one-tooth procedure.

If more than one tooth is involved in the quadrant, a benefit of 4211 may be more applicable

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

PERIODONTAL SCALING AND ROOT PLANING

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Periodontal scaling and root planing (D4341, D4342)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

A minimum of 4 mm pocket depth is necessary to qualify for a benefit. A quadrant that does not have at least four teeth with 4mm pocketing may be given the alternate benefit of code D4342.

Gross debridement of calculus and polishing of teeth is considered part of this procedure.

Retreatment performed by the same dentist within 12 months of initial therapy is disallowed.

A separate fee for a prophylaxis (D1110) is disallowed when performed on the same date of service as 4341.

A separate fee for scaling & root planing (D4341) is disallowed when performed in the same tooth range on the same date of service as 4260 (considered a component of the surgical service).

Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

FULL MOUTH DEBRIDEMENT

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Full mouth debridement (D4355)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Procedure is subject to review and may require documentation including:

1. Supporting radiographs of the area involved.
2. A narrative when required documentation does not demonstrate necessity

Periodontal disease must be present.

Debridement is not a substitute for a difficult prophylaxis.

Debridement is not to be considered as periodontal history for approval of periodontal maintenance or application of localized antimicrobial agents.

Not allowed on the same date as D1110, D4910 or D4341.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENTS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Chemotherapeutic Agents (D4381)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

History of active periodontal therapy

Minimum of 4 weeks post healing after initial active periodontal therapy

Benefits for sites. should not exceed #75.00 per tooth and \$175.00 per quadrant.

Limit retreatment with this material to once per 12 months per tooth after initial therapy.

Periodontics D4000 – D4999

PERIODONTAL MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Periodontal Maintenance Procedures (D4910)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

By definition, 4910 includes prophylaxis and site specific scaling & root planing and should not be alternated with 1110 by the same dental provider

Procedure requires history of periodontal therapy (D4210, D4211, D4240, D4241, D4260, D4261, D4341. Code D4342 can be considered perio history on review.

Prosthodontics D5000 – D5899

REMOVABLE PROSTHODONTICS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Complete Denture – maxillary & mandibular (D5110, D5120)
Immediate Denture – maxillary & mandibular (D5130, D5140)
Partial Denture – resin base, maxillary & mandibular (D5211, D5212)
Partial Denture – cast metal framework, maxillary & mandibular (D5213, D5214)
Partial Denture- Flexible Base , Maxillary and Mandibular (D5225. 5226)
Partial Denture – unilateral (D5281)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Full or partial dentures include any reline/rebase, adjustment, tissue conditioning or repair required within 6 months of delivery. Relines are benefited after a 6-month healing period for immediate dentures.

Benefits are paid based on the assumption that the prosthesis has been delivered.

Implant Services D6000 – D6199

SURGICAL IMPLANT PROCEDURES

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Surgical Implant Procedures (D6010, D6020, D6040, D6050)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Implants or any related surgical procedures are generally not a standard benefit.

Employer groups may choose to allow implant coverage, often times with certain limitations.

Implant Services D6000 – D6199

IMPLANT SUPPORTED PROSTHETICS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Implant supported prosthetics (D6053 – D6079, D6194)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Benefits are allowed for prosthetics over implants regardless of implant coverage, however the alternate benefit provision and missing tooth provision may apply.

Prosthodontic D6200 – D6999

FIXED PARTIAL DENTURE: Pontic, Retainer – (inlay, onlay, crown)

Effective date: August 2003
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Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Fixed Partial Dentures (D6205 – D6999)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Benefits may be excluded if certain conditions are present:

- Untreated bone loss
- A retainer tooth has poor to hopeless prognosis from either a restorative, endodontic or periodontal perspective
- Periapical pathology or unresolved, incomplete or failed endodontic therapy
- Service meant to treat TMJ, increase vertical dimension or restore occlusion
- Service meant to close a diastema or space where no tooth was extracted or where a tooth is congenitally missing.

Benefits will be based on the number of pontics necessary for the space, not to exceed the normal compliment of teeth.

A posterior fixed partial denture and a removable partial denture are not benefits in the same arch.

Benefit are payable for a fixed partial dentures based on the assumption that the prosthesis has been cemented permanently

A separate benefit for a temporary appliance is not available as a covered benefit.

ORAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Extractions (D7111, D7140)
Surgical Extractions (D7210 – D7250)
Other Surgical Procedures (D7260 – D7999)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

The fee for all oral and maxillofacial surgery includes local anesthesia, suturing (if needed) and routine post-operative care. A separate fee for routine post-operative care is disallowed when performed by the same dentist/dental office.

Submitting an extraction code for benefit following an unsuccessful attempt is disallowed.

The submitted extraction code should be based upon the clinical condition of the tooth as presented by the patient

Surgical Extractions:

- Root recovery is disallowed if submitted for the same date of service as a surgical extraction performed by the same dentist/dental office.

Other Surgical Procedures:

- Oroantral fistula closure – considered a medical procedure
- Biopsy of oral tissue
 - A fee for biopsy of oral tissue is disallowed if not submitted with a pathology report
 - Biopsies non-contiguous to a tooth or its supporting structure are considered medical
- Alveoloplasty – the fee for an alveoloplasty performed in the same location on the same date of service as a surgical extraction is disallowed.

- Surgical Placement: temporary anchorage devices (D7292-D7998)- considered medical procedures

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery D7000 – D7999

ORAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Effective date: August 2003
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- Vestibuloplasty (D7340, D7350)– subject to review with supporting documentation and processed to dental benefits
- Surgical excision of lesions (D7410-D7415)– process to medical benefits
- Removal of tumors, cysts and neoplasms
 - D7450 – D7451: process to dental benefits
 - All other procedures are by report and processed to medical benefits
- Excision of bone tissue
 - D7471 – D7473: if performed in preparation of removable denture, process to dental benefits.
 - D7485: process to dental benefits
 - D7490: process to medical benefits
- Surgical incision
 - D7510, D7511: disallowed when performed on the same date and by the same dentist/dental office as endodontics, extractions, palliative treatment or other definitive service.
 - D7520: process to medical benefits
 - All other procedures are by report and processed to medical benefits
- Treatment of fractures – process to medical benefits
- Reduction of dislocations and management of other TMJ dysfunctions
 - Process to medical benefits
- Repair of wounds, complicated suturing and other repair procedures
 - Process to medical benefits
 - D7960 – process to dental benefits
 - D7970 – D7972: process to dental benefits

Adjunctive General Services D9000 – D9999

ADJUNCTIVE GENERAL SERVICES

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Adjunctive services (D9000, D9999)

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Unclassified Treatment

- Palliative Treatment
 - The fee for palliative treatment is disallowed when any other definitive treatment is performed on the same date except emergency examination, limited radiographs and tests necessary to diagnose the emergency condition
 - Palliative treatment is a benefit on a per visit basis and includes all procedures necessary for the relief of pain.

Anesthesia

- Local Anesthesia
 - A separate fee for local anesthesia (local, regional block, trigeminal division) is disallowed.
- General Anesthesia / IV sedation / Non-IV Conscious Sedation
 - Allowed for children up to 5 years of age
 - Allowed for physically handicapped or mentally handicapped person
 - Placement of implants, when coverage exists
 - 2 or more extractions in which at least one of the extractions involves code 7230 or higher
 - When 5 or more teeth are extracted at one time
 - Notation of pyogenic condition/infection resulting in local or block anesthesia being ineffective

Adjunctive General Services D9000 – D9999

ADJUNCTIVE GENERAL SERVICES

Effective date: August 2003
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Professional Consultation

- Consultation
 - A separate fee for a consultation is disallowed when billed in conjunction with an examination/evaluation.

Miscellaneous

- Occlusal adjustment – limited
 - Typically reported on a “per visit” basis
 - Allow limited occlusal adjustment – 5 or fewer teeth
 - Presently includes discing, odontoplasty and enameloplasty

MULTIPLE SURFACE RESTORATIONS SAME TOOTH

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Multiple surface restoration – same tooth

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Restoration surfaces that are contiguous should be billed as a single restoration.
Restoration surfaces not contiguous should be billed as separate surfaces.

DENTAL ACCIDENT

Effective date: August 2003
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Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Dental services provided for the repair and/or restoration of sound dentition as a result of injury by accident.

Sound Dentition: a healthy tooth or one that has been restored to a sound condition by the placement of a dental restoration (amalgam, resin, inlay, onlay or crown)

Dental Accident: injury to a sound dentition caused solely by unexpected, external means. **Injury during chewing and biting is not considered accidental.**

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits.

Treatment of injury to a sound dentition or fractured jaw if the treatment is given by a physician or dentist, must be diagnosed within 6 months of the date of the accident and the treatment is provided within 12 months of the date of the accident. The injury must be one that occurred while the person was enrolled under the contract.

Process to medical benefits.

PROSTHETIC DEVICE OR RESTORATION FOR IMPLANTS

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

Prosthesis placed over an implant suprastructure for the purpose of restoring dental function.

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

- Allow for a crown on an implant
- Allow standard crown benefit
- If implant is a benefit, allow implant suprastructure
- The alternate benefit provision or missing tooth provision may apply.

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE DENTAL vs. MEDICAL

Effective date: August 2003
Last Reviewed: March 2008
Next Scheduled Review: January 2009

Description

To establish consistent practices for reimbursement determinations.

Definition of Dental vs. Medical Services:

The condition that is being diagnosed and treated determines whether a service is dental or medical. Regardless of whether the service is provided by a dentist or a medical doctor, the condition, not the specialty of the provider, will determine if the service will be covered under the dental benefits or the medical benefits. If the condition being diagnosed and treated is one which is contiguous or localized to the teeth and/or gums is of dental origin, or is to restore function of the teeth, the services are considered dental and applied to dental benefits. If the condition being diagnosed and treated is one that is non-contiguous to the teeth and/or gums or is systemic, the services are considered medical and applied to the medical benefits.

General anesthesia and/or inpatient/outpatient hospitalization associated with dental treatment:

1. General anesthesia, including deep sedation, is eligible for coverage under the medical benefit when:
 - Topical or local anesthesia is contraindicated
 - An underlying medical condition makes anesthesia medically necessary to allow necessary dental treatment. Example includes, but are not limited to conditions such as cerebral palsy.
 - General anesthesia is required for dental treatment due to age, mental retardation or physical handicap.
 - Anesthesia is required for a behavioral management patient when there is a documented underlying illness or injury. Case by case review.

Policy / Criteria

Procedures are in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice.

Administrative Guidelines

Process to contract benefits

Standard dental treatment will be covered under the dental benefit

Anesthesia and any hospital or ambulatory surgery setting charges will be covered under the medical benefit.