



EFFECTIVE DATE: 07|19|2007
POLICY LAST UPDATED: 08|17|2022

OVERVIEW

This policy addresses the initial dental care/services provided by dental providers specifically relating to injuries of sound natural teeth due to trauma or accident that are covered under the member's medical benefit.

MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Prior authorization is not required.

POLICY STATEMENT

Medicare Advantage Plans

Non-routine dental care required to treat illness or injury may be covered as inpatient or outpatient care. Covered services are limited to surgery of the jaw or related structures and setting fractures of the jaw or facial bones.

Note: Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) must follow Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines, such as national coverage determinations or local coverage determinations for all Medicare Advantage Plan policies. Therefore, Medicare Advantage Plan policies may differ from Commercial products. In some instances, benefits for Medicare Advantage Plans may be greater than what is allowed by the CMS.

Commercial Products

Treatment of an accidental injury to sound natural teeth when received within seventy-two (72) hours of the onset of an accidental injury is considered medically necessary for the diagnosis codes listed below.

Treatments include the following:

- Extraction of teeth needed to avoid infection of teeth damaged in the injury;
- Suturing;
- Reimplanting and stabilization of dislodged teeth;
- Repositioning and stabilization of partly dislodged teeth;
- Dental X-rays.

Any dental services, other than those listed above, are considered a contract exclusion.

COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage, or Subscriber Agreement for applicable Emergency Dental Condition, and Dental Services benefits/coverage.

BACKGROUND

Coverage under the medical benefit is typically provided when there is accidental injury to the sound natural teeth, caused by unexpected and unintentional means. It does not include injury sustained while biting or chewing. Sound natural teeth are defined as teeth that are free of active or chronic clinical decay, have at least 50% bone support and are functional in the arch.

Treatment for an accidental injury to sound natural teeth, and/or any facial fractures will be covered in the hospital or emergency room, along with the doctor's or dentist's services, when the accidental injury is the direct cause for the treatment, independent of other disease or bodily injury.

If dentally necessary services are received in a doctor's or dentist's office due to an accidental injury to sound natural teeth, the member is responsible for any applicable office visit copayment.

Because services for treatment of accidental injury to sound natural teeth are covered under the medical benefit, the provider should file the claim using the CMS 1500 form.

CODING

Commercial Products

The following dental codes are typically covered for the treatments mentioned above.

X-rays

- D0210** Intraoral-complete series (radiographic image)
- D0220** Intraoral-periapical-first radiographic image
- D0230** Intraoral-periapical-each additional radiographic image
- D0240** Intraoral-occlusal radiographic image
- D0250** Extraoral - 2D projection radiographic image created using a stationary radiation source, and detector
- D0270** Bitewing-single radiographic image
- D0272** Bitewings-two radiographic image
- D0273** Bitewings-three radiographic image
- D0274** Bitewings-four radiographic image
- D0277** Vertical bitewings - 7 to 8 radiographic images

The following is a list of procedure codes typically used by dentists for accidental injury to sound teeth:

- D7210** Surgical removal of erupted tooth requiring removal of bone and/or section of tooth, and elevation of mucoperiosteal flap
- D7270** Tooth reimplantation and/or stabilization of accidentally evulsed or displaced tooth
- D7272** Tooth transplantation (includes reimplantation from one site to another and splinting and/or stabilization)
- D7530** Removal of foreign body from mucosa, skin, or subcutaneous alveolar tissue
- D7540** Removal of reaction-producing foreign bodies, musculoskeletal system
- D7910** Suture of recent small wounds up to 5 cm
- D7911** Complicated suture - up to 5 cm
- D7912** Complicated suture - greater than 5 cm

The following is a list of ICD-10-CM diagnoses codes typically used by dentists for accidental injury to sound teeth:

- S01.532A**
- S01.542A**
- S01.552A**
- S02.5XXA**
- S02.5XXB**
- S03.2XXA**

RELATED POLICIES

Oral Surgeons Filing Anesthesia Services
Dental Providers Filing Evaluation and Management Services for Medical Reasons
Dental Services Rendered in the Outpatient Setting

PUBLISHED

Provider Update, October 2022
Provider Update, February 2020
Provider Update, January 2018
Provider Update, January 2017

REFERENCES

1. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island Subscriber Agreement.
2. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determination (NCD) for DENTAL Examination Prior to Kidney Transplantation (260.6)
3. Medicare Dental Coverage - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
<http://cms.hhs.gov/Medicare/Coverage/MedicareDentalCoverage/index.html>
4. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services 150 - Dental Services

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