

## Medical Coverage Policy | Dental Services for Accidental Injury



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 07|19|2007  
**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 12|01|2015

### 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

#### BlueCHiP for Medicare

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.

Medicare policy is developed separately from BCBSRI policy. Medicare policy incorporates consideration of governmental regulations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), such as national coverage determinations or local coverage determinations. In addition to benefit differences, CMS may reach different conclusions regarding the scientific evidence than does BCBSRI. Medicare and BCBSRI policies may differ; however, BlueCHiP for Medicare members must be offered, at least, the same services as Medicare offers.

#### 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 covered for the treatments mentioned above.

#### **X-rays**

**D0210**

**D0220**

**D0230**

**D0240**

**D0250**

**D0260**

**D0270**

**D0272**

**D0273**

**D0274**

**D0277**

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

**D7210**

**D7270**

**D7272**

**D7530**

**D7540**

**D7910**

**D7911**

**D7912**

The following is a list of ICD-9-CM diagnoses codes typically used by dentists for accidental injury to sound teeth:

**873.62**

**873.63**

**873.72**

**873.73**

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, February 2016  
Provider Update, August 2014  
Provider Update, December 2012  
Provider Update, March 2012  
Provider Update, March 2009  
Policy Update, December 2007  
Policy Update, October 2007

### **REFERENCES**

1. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island 2015 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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