

## Payment Policy | Dental Providers Filing Evaluation and Management for Medical Reasons



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 06|02|2009

**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 06|01|2010

### OVERVIEW

The policy addresses office visit reimbursement filed by dental providers for medical conditions.

### PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable

### POLICY STATEMENT

#### **BlueCHiP for Medicare:**

An oral or dental examination (not treatment) on an inpatient basis performed as part of a comprehensive workup prior to kidney transplantation or heart valve replacement surgery is covered for all dental providers including an OMS, General Dentist, Periodontist, Endodontist, Orthodontist, Prosthodontist, and Pedodontist.

Dental providers are covered for extractions done in preparation for radiation treatment for neoplastic diseases involving the jaw under the member's medical benefit. <sup>1,2</sup> (See special claims filing instructions below in the Coding and Reimbursement section of the policy).

#### **Commercial:**

E & M services for oral examinations are covered for Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon (OMS) when rendered for a medical condition under the member's medical coverage.

E & M services for dental examinations are not covered when reported by other dental providers (excluding OMS) such as, General Dentists, Periodontists, Endodontists, Orthodontists, Prosthodontist, and Pedodontists.

### MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not Applicable

### BACKGROUND

Medical Conditions:

Medical conditions include but are not limited to malignant or benign neoplasms of the lip, tongue, or floor of the mouth; diseases of salivary glands; or, cyst removal from the area of the mouth.

Dental Conditions:

Typically services in connection with the care, treatment, filling, removal, or replacement of teeth or structures directly supporting teeth (defined as the periodontium, including the gingivae, periodontal membrane, cementum of the teeth, and the alveolarbone [i.e., alveolar process and tooth sockets]) on which the procedure is performed are not covered as a medical benefit. However, certain medical conditions warrant the removal of teeth especially in preparation for radiation treatment for neoplastic diseases involving the jaw.

Medicare allows oral examinations for medical conditions such as prior to renal transplant and/or heart valve replacement surgery and not for the care of the teeth or structures directly supporting the teeth (for definition see above). The examination is for the identification, prior to a complex surgical procedure, of existing medical problems where the increased possibility of infection would not only reduce the chances for successful surgery but would also expose the patient to additional risks in undergoing such surgery

## COVERAGE

### BlueCHiP for Medicare | Commercial |

Benefits may vary. Please refer to the appropriate Evidence of Coverage, Subscriber Agreement, or Benefit Booklet for applicable benefits/coverage.

## CODING

Special claims filing instructions for dental extractions for BlueCHiP for Medicare members:

Dental providers: To insure correct claims processing, **the unlisted CPT code below should be filed on a CMS 1500 form.**

41899 unlisted procedure, dentoalveolar structures

Also See Unlisted Procedures Policy

The following Evaluation and Management service codes are covered when filed by an OMS for a medical condition for BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial products:

**99201- 99215**

An OMS can file an E&M service for a non-covered, non-medical condition by appending the E&M code with a **GA modifier** (Waiver liability statement on file). When this is filed, the claim will deny as non-covered and the member will be liable

## RELATED POLICIES

None

## PUBLISHED

Provider Update	Nov 2013
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Provider Update	Aug 2010
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Provider Update	Aug 2009
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## REFERENCES

None

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