



Texas RoundUp

Program Updates for Our Texas Dentists

Vol. 8 – July 2012

Dear Doctor,

In this week's Texas RoundUp:

- Fee reduction questions
- Benefit changes for Medicaid Texas Health Steps therapeutic dental services
- New orthodontia prior authorization requirements
- D9610 and D9612 requirements
- Update on fee increase for three- and four-surface restorations
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) marketing policies

Fee Reduction Questions

A number of you have come to us with questions regarding potential changes to the fee schedule, and we want to arm you with the facts.

Recently the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approached DentaQuest about the possibility of reducing the rate it pays DentaQuest to administer the dental program. This rate pertains to the relationship between DentaQuest and HHSC, and should not be confused with the fees dentists are paid for services provided to program enrollees.

How might this affect you? Probably not at all.

If DentaQuest's rate is reduced, we believe we can absorb this reduction without affecting the Provider fee schedule. We are performing our internal analysis to make a final determination.

We urge you to go about your business as usual. As soon as we learn more about a potential rate change, we'll bring you back in the loop. We should know something in the next couple of weeks, since this rate issue must be addressed in advance of the new fiscal year that begins September 1.

Benefit Changes for Medicaid Texas Health Steps Therapeutic Dental Services

Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2012, porcelain crown procedure codes D2740, D2750, D2751, and D2752 may be reimbursed for services rendered to the following Texas Medicaid clients:

- Texas Health Steps clients who are 17 through 20 years of age
- Clients who are 21 years of age and older who reside in an Intermediary Care Facility for Persons with Mental Retardation (ICF-MR)

“ In Your Words

We are very happy with DentaQuest! You are so organized and nice to work with.

DentaQuest has made our work easier.



New Orthodontia Prior Authorization Requirements

As of March 1, 2012, you will need to submit the following documentation with orthodontia prior authorization requests:

- Completed ADA 2006 or newer claim form with service codes noted*
- Duplicate diagnostic models or a complete set of diagnostic photographs
- Radiographs
- Cephalometric X-ray with tracings
- Treatment plan

**For adjustments, please only list the code once on the form. A dental director will determine the number of adjustments based on the level of the case.*

D9610 and D9612 Requirements

When submitting a request for D9610 or D9612, please include the name of the drug. We need this information to determine medical necessity.

Update on Fee Increase for Three- and Four-surface Restorations

As you may be aware, we are considering increasing the reimbursement rate for three- and four-surface restorations to bring the fee schedule in balance. We will have an answer for you soon regarding this issue.

HHSC Marketing Polices

HHSC's marketing guidelines prohibit dentists from conducting direct marketing or recruiting members on behalf of individual plans or dental practices. For information on these guidelines, refer to section 10 (k) of your provider agreement. You can also reference Chapter 4 of the Uniform Managed Care Manual.

Please contact customer service if you have questions.