

## 13 Dentist

Certain dental health care services are available for eligible children as part of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment up to age 21 as long as the child remains eligible for Medicaid. Most children cease to be eligible upon reaching their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Dental services are any diagnostic, preventive, or corrective procedures administered by or under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. Such services include treatment of the teeth and the associated structures of the oral cavity, and of disease, injury, or impairment, which may affect the oral or general health of the individual.

**NOTE:**

A dental consultant is available for clinical consultation regarding coverage for unusual services and may be contacted through the Dental Program Manager at (334) 242-5472.

The policy provisions for dental providers can be found in the *Alabama Medicaid Agency Administrative Code*, Chapter 15.

**NOTE:**

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### 13.1 Enrollment

HP enrolls dental providers who meet the licensure and/or certification requirements of the state of Alabama, the Code of Federal Regulations, the *Alabama Medicaid Agency Administrative Code*, and the *Alabama Medicaid Provider Manual*.

Refer to Chapter 2, *Becoming a Medicaid Provider*, for general enrollment instructions and information. Failure to provide accurate and truthful information or intentional misrepresentation might result in action ranging from denial of application to permanent exclusion.

### **National Provider Identifier, Type, and Specialty**

A provider who contracts with Alabama Medicaid as a Dental provider is added to the Medicaid system with the National Provider Identifiers provided at the time application is made. Appropriate provider specialty codes are assigned to enable the provider to submit requests and receive reimbursements for dental-related claims.

#### **NOTE:**

The 10-digit NPI is required when filing a claim.

Dental providers are assigned a provider type of 27 (Dentist). Valid specialties for dental providers include the following:

- General Dentistry (271)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (272)
- Mobile Provider (299)

Oral Surgeons are assigned a provider type of 62, depending on the source of the licensure information sent to the HP provider enrollment unit. The valid specialty for Oral Surgeons is Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (272).

Oral Surgeons billing medical procedures or CPT procedure codes should refer to Chapter 28, Physician. Only dental procedures (current CDT procedure codes) should be billed on the ADA dental claim form—Version ADA 2006.

### **Enrollment Policy for Dental Providers**

To participate in the Alabama Medicaid Program, dental providers must be licensed to practice in the state where care is provided. Each dental provider **must** enroll with a NPI for each office location. You must have a different NPI for each specific office location. This also applies for reimbursement for preventive services and must be performed at a fixed physical office location. Screenings at other sites are encouraged, but are not billable to Medicaid. Each claim filed constitutes a contract with the Alabama Medicaid Agency. Dental providers are required to complete and sign a coding sheet (often referred to as a “super bill”) listing all procedure codes/ descriptions performed on each date of service for each Medicaid recipient. For audit purposes, these coding sheets are required to be maintained on file for a period of three (3) years from the date of service.

Dentists who perform anesthesia (general) or IV sedation services must submit a copy of their GA/IV certification to HP with their provider enrollment application.

Out of state providers must follow the enrollment procedures of the Alabama Medicaid Agency, please refer to Chapter 2 - Becoming a Medicaid Provider. All program policies apply regardless of where care is provided.

### **Enrollment of Mobile Dental Clinics**

A mobile dental facility or portable dental operation (Mobile Dental Clinic) is any self-contained facility in which dentistry or dental hygiene is practiced which may be moved, towed, or transported from one location to another.

Mobile Dental Clinics shall comply with all Medicaid rules and regulations as set forth in the State Plan, Alabama Medicaid Administrative Code, Code of Federal Regulations and applicable Medicaid billing manuals.

In order to enroll as a Mobile Dental Clinic, an operator shall:

- (a) obtain a certificate of registration issued by the Board of Dental Examiners (the Board); and
- (b) complete an Alabama Medicaid Provider Enrollment application.

Mobile Dental Clinics shall comply with the following consent requirements:

- (a) The operator of a Mobile Dental Clinic shall not perform services on a minor without the signed consent from the parent or guardian. The consent form shall be established by the Board.
- (b) The consent form shall inquire whether the prospective patient has received dental care from a licensed dentist within one year and if so, the consent form shall request the name, address, and phone number of the dental home. If the information provided to the operator does not identify a dental home for the prospective patient, the operator shall contact the Alabama Medicaid Agency for assistance in identifying a dental home for Medicaid eligible patients. If this information is provided to the operator, the operator shall contact the designated dental home by phone, facsimile, or electronic mail and notify the dental home of the prospective patient's interest in receiving dental care from the operator. If the dental home confirms that an appointment for the prospective patient is scheduled with the dentist, the operator shall encourage the prospective patient or his or her guardian to seek care from the dental home.
- (c) The consent form shall document that the patient, or legal guardian, understands the prospective patient has an option to receive dental care from either the Mobile Dental Clinic or his or her designated dental home if applicable.
- (d) The consent form shall require the signature of a parent or legal guardian.

Each Mobile Dental Clinic shall maintain a written or electronic record detailing all of the following information for each location where services are performed:

- (a) The street address of the service location.
- (b) The dates of each session.
- (c) The number of patients served.
- (d) The types of dental services provided and the quantity of each service provided.
- (e) Any other information requested by rule of the Board or Medicaid.

At the conclusion of each patient's visit to the Mobile Dental Clinic, the patient shall be provided with a patient information sheet which shall also be provided to any individual or entity to whom the patient has consented or authorized to receive or access the patient's records. The information sheet shall include at a minimum the following information:

- (a) The name of the dentist or dental hygienist, or both, who performed the services.
- (b) A description of the treatment rendered, including billing service codes and fees associated with treatment and tooth numbers when appropriate.
- (c) If applicable, the name, address, and telephone number of any dentist to whom the patient was referred for follow-up care and the reason for such referral.
- (d) The name, address, and telephone number, if applicable, of a parent or guardian of the patient.

Mobile Dental Clinics shall comply with the following requirements for Emergency Follow-up Care:

- (a) The operator shall maintain a written procedure for emergency follow-up care for patients treated in a Mobile Dental Clinic, which includes arrangements for treatment and follow-up care by a qualified dentist in a dental facility that is permanently established within a 50-mile radius of where mobile services are provided.
- (b) An operator who either is unable to identify a qualified dentist in the area or is unable to arrange for emergency follow-up care for patients otherwise shall be obligated to provide the necessary follow up via the Mobile Dental Clinic or the operator may choose to provide the follow-up care at his or her established dental practice location in the state or at any other established dental practice in the state which agrees to accept the patient.
- (c) An operator who fails to arrange or provide follow-up care as required herein shall be considered to have abandoned the patient, and will subject the operator and any dentist or dental hygienist, or both, who fail to provide the referenced follow-up treatment to termination as a Medicaid provider.

The provider shall not charge Medicaid for services rendered on a no-charge basis to the general public.

A Mobile Dental Clinic that accepts or treats a patient but does not refer patients for follow-up treatment when such follow-up treatment is clearly necessary, shall be considered to have abandoned the patient and will subject the operator and any dentist or dental hygienist, or both, who fails to provide the referenced follow-up treatment to termination as a Medicaid provider.

Mobile Dental Clinics shall comply with the following requirements for sale or cessation of operation:

- (a) In the event a Mobile Dental Clinic is to be sold, the current provider shall inform the Board and Medicaid, at least 10 days prior to the sale being completed and shall disclose the purchaser to the Board and Medicaid, via certified mail within 10 days after the date the sale is finalized.
- (b) The provider shall notify the Board and Medicaid, at least 30 days prior to cessation of operation. Such notification shall include the final day of operation, and a copy of the notification shall be sent to all patients and shall include the manner and procedure by which patients may obtain their records or transfer those records to another dentist.

(c) It is the responsibility of the provider to take all necessary action to ensure that the patient records are available to the patient, a duly authorized representative of the patient, or a subsequent treating dentist. For purposes of this subsection, a patient shall mean any individual who has received any treatment or consultation of any kind within two years of the last date of operation of the Mobile Dental Clinic.

**NOTE:**

If you are already a Medicaid Provider, you do not have to reenroll with Medicaid to be a Mobile Dental Provider. As a mobile dental provider you will need to submit a request to HP Provider Enrollment to add the mobile provider specialty (299) to your existing provider file along with a copy of your certification received from the Alabama Dental Board. **When filing claims for mobile dental services please indicate your place of service as 15.**

## 13.2 1<sup>st</sup> Look – The Oral Health Risk Assessment and Dental Varnishing Program

Effective January 1, 2009 Medicaid will cover the application of fluoride varnishes for children 6 months through 35 months of age who have a moderate to high caries risk based on the risk assessment by **Patient 1<sup>st</sup> medical providers and their clinical staff (RNs, PAs, Nurse Practitioners, LPNs)**. This assessment and varnish program is to be incorporated into the well child visit and be part of the comprehensive care in a medical home. The medical provider and staff must be trained in oral health risk assessment, anticipatory guidance and fluoride varnish application. This training includes oral health risk assessment, education on performing anticipatory guidance/counseling, demonstration of fluoride varnish application and the provision of information on recommendations for a dental home. Upon completion of the oral health risk assessment training program for pediatricians and other child health professionals, a specialty indicator will be added to the provider file in order for the provider to receive reimbursement.

Added: [This assessment and...a medial home.](#)

**NOTE**

The trained Patient 1<sup>st</sup> provider does include the nurse practitioner under his/her Patient 1<sup>st</sup> practice. An enrolled nurse practitioner that has been trained in the 1<sup>st</sup> Look program can bill for the 1<sup>st</sup> Look services provided.

Once training is completed, a list is sent to the Medicaid Agency for the new specialty to be added to the provider's file. The effective date of the specialty is the same as the training date.

Dental Home as defined by the American Dental Association – The ongoing relationship between the dentist who is the Primary Dental Care Provider and the patient, which includes comprehensive oral health care, beginning no later than age one, pursuant to ADA policy.

A list of Medicaid Dental Providers is available on the Medicaid website at [www.medicaid.alabama.gov](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov) under the Programs/Dental tab.

Patient 1<sup>st</sup> medical providers will be able to bill in accordance with Medicaid reimbursement policies for the oral assessment (D0145) and the applications of the fluoride varnish (D1206).

Procedure D0145 may be billed **once by the pediatric medical provider and once by the dental provider for children age 6 months through 35 months of age**. Records must document the content of anticipatory guidance counseling given to parents/caregivers, the results of the Caries Assessment Tool (CAT) and that a referral has been made to the Patient 1<sup>st</sup> Care Coordinators for all high-risk children.

**NOTE:**

At least two high risk indicators must be present in the high risk category to classify a child as being high risk.

Procedure D1206 will be **limited to three per calendar year**, regardless of the provider and cannot exceed a maximum of six fluoride varnish applications **between 6 months through 35 months of age**.

### 13.3 Patient Record

The patient record must include at a minimum that which is required by the rules of the board of Dental Examiners of Alabama (rule # 270-X-2.22). The minimum requirements include the following:

1. Patient's full name, address and treatment date;
2. Patient's nearest relative or responsible party;
3. Current health history, including chief complaint, if applicable, and a listing of all current medications;
4. Diagnosis of condition
5. Specific treatment rendered and by whom; (e.g. Tooth #04 DO resin 1.8 cc of Lidocaine by Dr. Smith)
6. Name and strength of any medications prescribed, dispensed or administered along with the quantity, date provided and authorized refills;
7. Treatment plan;
8. Applicable radiographs; and
9. Patient's financial records and copies of all insurance claim forms.

### 13.4 Informed Consent

Effective July 1, 2003, informed consent shall be documented in the record for all patients for whom comprehensive treatment is to be provided. The consent form should be procedure specific and include the following:

- Name and date of birth of patient;
- Name and relationship to the patient/legal basis on which the person is consenting on behalf of the patient;
- Description of the procedure in simple terms;
- Disclosure of known adverse risk(s) of the proposed treatment specific to that procedure;

- Professionally-recognized or evidence-based alternative treatment(s) to recommended therapy and risk(s);
- Place for custodial parent or legal guardian to indicate that all questions have been asked and adequately answered;
- Places for signatures of the custodial parent or legal guardian, dentist, and office staff member as a witness.
- The consent form shall inquire whether the prospective patient has received dental care from a licensed dentist within one year and if so, the consent form shall request the name, address, and phone number of the dental home for the prospective patient.

Consistent violation of the informed consent requirement can result in further investigation and appropriate action.

**NOTE:**

Reimbursement for services is subject to recoupment without a documented signed informed consent for a specific procedure.

## 13.5 Benefits and Limitations

Dental care is limited to Medicaid eligible individuals who are under age 21 and are eligible for treatment under the EPSDT Program.

Covered procedures are located in section 13.8.2

### 13.5.1 *Orthodontic Services*

Medicaid provides medically necessary orthodontic services for eligible and qualified recipients. Orthodontic services must be requested through a multidisciplinary clinic administered by Alabama Children's Rehabilitation Service at 1(800) 441-7607 or another qualified clinic enrolled as a contract vendor in the Medicaid Dental Program. All medically necessary orthodontic treatment must be prior authorized by Medicaid before services are provided. Requests for orthodontic services must include the recommendations of the multidisciplinary team, photos and x-rays.

Criteria for coverage include the following diagnoses when medical necessity exists:

- Cleft palate or cleft lip deformities
- Cleft lip with alveolar process involvement
- Velopharyngeal incompetence
- Short palate
- Submucous cleft
- Alveolar notch
- Craniofacial anomalies included but not limited to
- Hemifacial microsomia
- Craniosynostosis syndromes

- Cleidocranial dysplasia
- Arthrogryposis
- Marfan's syndrome
- Apert's syndrome
- Crouzon's Syndrome
- Other syndromes by review
- Trauma, diseases, or dysplasias resulting in significant facial growth impact or jaw deformity.

**NOTE:**

**Extractions for orthodontic purposes are not covered unless there is a Medicaid approved orthodontia case.**

Specific **non-covered services** include the following diagnoses:

- Dento-facial Anomaly, NOS (not otherwise specified)
- Orofacial Anomaly, NOS
- Severe Malocclusion

**NOTE:**

**Procedures billable only by Alabama Children's Rehabilitation Service providers:**

D8080 – Comprehensive orthodontic treatment of the adolescent dentition

D8680 – Orthodontic retention (removal of appliances, construction and placement of retainer(s))

D9310 – Consultation – diagnostic service provided by dentist or physician other than requesting dental or physician.

### **13.5.2 Non-Covered Services**

The following dental services are non-covered except where noted. Non-covered dental services include but are not limited to the following:

- Procedures which are not necessary or do not meet accepted standards of dental practice based on scientific literature. This will be determined thru review of submitted radiographs and written documentation which must support the medical necessity of the service rendered.
- Surgical periodontal treatment (Exceptions require prior authorization: Pharmaceutically induced hyperplasia and idiopathic juvenile periodontosis)
- Orthodontic treatment (Exception: medically necessary orthodontic services when prior authorized by Medicaid)

- Prosthetic treatment, such as fixed or removable bridgework (D6240 and D6750), or full or partial dentures (Exceptions require prior authorization: prosthesis for closure of a space created by the removal of a lesion or due to congenital defects)
- Panoramic films on recipients under age 5
- Dental transplants
- Dental implants
- Prosthetic implants
- Esthetic veneers
- Silicate restorations
- Pulp caps on primary teeth
- Pulpotomies on permanent teeth
- Space maintainers for premature loss of primary incisors or as “pedo bridges”
- Space maintainers placed greater than 180 days after the premature loss of a primary tooth
- Extraction of exfoliating primary teeth without a valid indication (e.g. pain, eruption interference, abscess, etc.) documented in the record
- Acrylic, plastic restorations (class III or V)
- Acrylic, plastic restorations (class IV)
- Plastic crowns (acrylic)
- Porcelain/ceramic substrate crowns
- Permanent crowns, core buildups, and post & cores on recipients under the age of 15
- Adult Dental Care
- Temporomandibular joint disorder

Palliative (emergency) treatment cannot be billed with another therapeutic (definitive) procedure but can be billed with diagnostic procedures.

## **13.6 Prior Authorization (PA) and Referral Requirements**

Prior authorization from Medicaid is required for the following services:

- Periodontal treatment (scaling and root planing, periodontal maintenance procedures)
- Excision of hyperplastic tissue
- Inpatient and Outpatient hospitalizations for dental care for children 5 and above on date(s) of Alabama hospital service. (not required for any out-of-state hospitalizations)

- Inpatient and outpatient hospitalization and anesthesia charges for adults when hospitalization is required because (1) the individual's underlying medical condition and status is currently exacerbated by the dental condition, or (2) the dental condition is so severe that it has caused a medical condition (for example, acute infection has caused an increased white blood count, sepsis, or bacterial endocarditis in a susceptible patient)
- Space maintainers (after the first two)
- Apicoectomy/periradicular surgery
- Removal of completely bony impactions
- Home visits or treatment of any recipient under age 21 in a licensed medical institution (nursing facility)
- Diagnostic models (when requested by Medicaid)
- Oral/Facial Images (e.g., photographs or slides when requested by Medicaid)
- Therapeutic drug injection (by report)

**NOTE:**

**Prior authorization does not guarantee eligibility. Providers are responsible for verifying eligibility prior to rendering services.**

Refer to Chapter 4, Obtaining Prior Authorization, for general guidelines.

### **13.6.1 Obtaining Prior Authorization for Dental Services**

Providers must use the Prior Review and Authorization Dental Request Form (form 343) to request prior authorization for those procedures requiring a prior authorization as noted in section 13.6. All sections of this form must be completed. The form should be forwarded to HP, P.O. Box 244032, Montgomery, AL 36124-4032. **Refer to Chapter 4, Section 4.4, Obtaining Prior Authorization, of the Alabama Medicaid Provider Manual for instructions on obtaining prior authorization and completion of the form. Prior Authorizations may be submitted via paper, web portal, or PES.**

Prior authorization requests take approximately two to three weeks for processing. Providers should call the Provider Assistance Center (PAC) at 1(800) 688-7989 to verify request is in the system if approval/denial is not received within this time frame.

#### **Emergency Prior Authorizations**

In an emergency situation where the delay for written request of prior authorization would endanger the health of the recipient, initiate prior authorization by contacting the Alabama Medicaid Agency's Dental Program at 334-242-5472 or you may e-mail Dental Program at [Dental@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:Dental@medicaid.alabama.gov) , please be sure to include all the information listed below. If the emergency situation occurs after hours, on weekends, or on a holiday, a voice message will be accepted. The voice mail message must include the following information:

- Recipient's name
- Recipient's Medicaid number (13 digits)
- NPI of dentist
- Phone number of dentist, including area code
- Nature of emergency
- Contact person, if other than dentist for follow-up

**An Alabama Prior Review and Authorization Dental Request Form (form 343) must be received by the fiscal agent within ten calendar days of the telephone/voice message request. If the request is not received within ten calendar days of the telephone call, the authorization will be denied.** The request must meet established guidelines and criteria.

### **13.6.2 Criteria for Prior Authorization**

This section discusses specific criteria for prior authorization for certain periodontal, preventive anesthetic and inpatient/outpatient procedures. There are additional dental procedures that require prior authorization as indicated in Section 13.8.2, Procedure Codes. Dental prior authorizations may be submitted via paper through regular mail or electronically through the Web Portal. If the prior authorization is submitted electronically, the digital x-ray should be e-mailed to [Dental@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:Dental@medicaid.alabama.gov) with the patient's name in the subject line. Regular x-rays can be mailed to:

Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Dental Program  
P.O. Box 5624  
Montgomery, AL 36103-5624

- For treatment in the dental office:  
When completing the Alabama Prior Review and Authorization Dental Request (form 343), **ONLY** list those procedures that require prior authorization.
- For treatment in outpatient/inpatient hospital or nursing facility:  
When completing the Alabama Prior Review and Authorization Dental Request (form 343), list **ALL** procedures planned even if they do not normally require prior authorization.

Additional dental prior authorization criteria will be provided to all Medicaid dental providers, as they become available.

### **Documentation Necessary for Hospital Cases Requiring Dental Prior**

**Authorization (For recipients age 5 or older)**

Effective January 1, 2005, for prior authorization for patients **five** years through 20 years of age, at least one of the following criteria justifying use of general anesthesia in the hospital must be met:

1. Child or adolescent who requires dental treatment has a physical or mentally compromising condition
2. Patient has extensive orofacial and dental trauma
3. Procedure is of sufficient complexity or scope to necessitate hospitalization; The mere extent of caries or large quantity of teeth to be treated, or preference to provide all treatment in one appointment, or need for premedication, are not, by themselves, qualifying reasons for hospitalization.
4. Child who requires dental treatment is extremely uncooperative due to acute situational anxiety, attention deficit disorder, or emotional disorder (requires an additional report described in a. – k. below)

**Approval is typically given for a specified time frame not to exceed six months.** Treatment must be dentally necessary and supported by a treatment plan and appropriate radiographs. Requests for treatment in a hospital setting based on lack of cooperation, anxiety, attention deficit disorder, or emotional disorder are not typically approved when the dental history shows treatment was rendered in the office in the past.

Documentation from the medical record justifying one or more of the above four criteria is required to be submitted with the Prior Authorization request along with a completed Informed Consent. **On children under age 5, documentation in the record will be required to support the necessity of the treatment performed in a hospital setting.**

If Criteria number 4 above (without a physical or mental disability) is cited as the justification for treatment in a hospital setting, it additionally requires a report of at least one active failed attempt to treat in the office. This report must include (if applicable):

- a. recipient's behavior preoperatively
- b. type(s) of behavior management techniques used that are approved by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- c. recipient's behavior during the procedure
- d. the use, amount, and type of local anesthetic agent
- e. use and dosage of premedication, if attempted
- f. use and dosage (% , flow rate and duration) of nitrous oxide analgesia used
- g. procedure(s) attempted
- h. reason for failed attempt
- i. start and end times of the procedure(s) attempted
- j. name(s) of dental assistant(s) present in the treatment room
- k. presence or absence of parents or guardians in the treatment room

If requirements d, e, or f above were attempted but not successfully accomplished, the report must state the reason(s) for not carrying out or accomplishing these requirements.

Submit Prior Authorization request (form 343) listing the code D9420. If the Prior Authorization is approved, the approval letter will generally approve **only one procedure code** (usually a radiograph code) and a statement to the effect: "Outpatient/Inpatient Hospital Approved; all other procedures **CONTINGENT UPON**: preoperative radiographs (*type will be specified*) being taken at the hospital and submitted with list of actual treatment procedures directly to Medicaid Agency for review and treatment meeting criteria."

After treatment is completed radiographs and a claim documenting actual services rendered should be sent to:

Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Dental Program  
P.O. Box 5624  
Montgomery, AL 36103-5624

Once the prior authorization is updated, a letter will be sent to the provider indicating services approved. Upon receipt of the letter, the provider may file their claim for services approved by Medicaid.

**Outpatient/ASC Admission (D9420)**, limited to 4 times per recipient per calendar year)

Prior authorization is not required for children under 5 years on date of service (dos), unless the planned procedure code itself requires a Prior Authorization (e.g. scaling and root planing D4341)

**Adult Anesthesia and Facility Fees** (D9420, limited to 4 times per recipient per calendar year)

Coverage may be available for facility and anesthesia charges through the prior authorization process for medically compromised adults whose dental problems have exacerbated their underlying medical condition. This code covers Anesthesia and Facility fee only and does not cover any dental procedures.

Criteria for coverage of adult anesthesia and facility fees include the following conditions:

- Uncontrolled diabetes
- Hemophilia
- Cardiovascular problems (for example, CHF, prosthetic heart valves, acute endocarditis)
- When an existing qualifying medical condition is presently exacerbated by the dental condition or when the dental condition is so severe that it has caused a medical condition (for example, acute dental infection has caused an increased white blood cell count, sepsis, or bacterial endocarditis in a susceptible patient)

Documentation by the patient's primary care physician must be included with the completed Alabama Prior Review and Authorization Dental request form, which confirms the medical compromise indicated.

### **13.6.3 Referral Requirements**

#### **EPSDT Referral**

Dental screenings must be performed on children from birth through age two by observation (subjective) and history. Refer to Appendix A for EPSDT services.

**Medicaid does recommend children be enrolled and under the care of a dentist by age one.**

#### **PATIENT 1<sup>ST</sup> SERVICES NOT REQUIRING PMP REFERRAL**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Claim Type</b>	<b>System Identification</b>
Dental	M D O	Dentists & Federally Qualified Health Centers (Claim Type D only), Clinics- Children's Dental/Orthodontia and Orthodontists, Oral, Maxillofacial Surgeons Procedure Codes: D8080 (Comprehensive orthodontia treatment of adolescent dentition), D8680 (Orthodontic retention-removal of appliances, construction/ placement of retainers), D9430 (Office visit for obs services during regular hours) Outpatient facility procedure codes D9420. Note: OP facilities do not require a referral for <b>DENTAL</b> procedures.

When filing claims for recipients enrolled in the Patient 1<sup>st</sup> Program, refer to Chapter 39, Patient 1<sup>st</sup> to determine whether your services require a referral from the Primary Medical Provider (PMP).

#### **Case Management Care Coordination**

Alabama's Patient 1<sup>st</sup> program requires that Medicaid recipients understand the importance of dental care and how to use the dental health care system. Now, professional case managers in the patient's county of residence can complement the dental services of your practice by working with patients you identify as needing additional assistance.

Referrals should be limited to "special cases" only. These include but are not limited to children with special needs who require follow-up care, children needing assistance with referral for specialty care, and missed appointments for children lost to follow-up during treatments such as root canals. Children should not be referred for just missed appointments.

If you have a child that meets the "special cases" criteria, then refer this patient to the targeted case manager in the patient's county of residence for further screening, support, counseling, monitoring and education. For a list of managers in your area, call the Dental Program at (334) 242-5472 or visit the Alabama Medicaid Agency's website at [www.medicaid.alabama.gov](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov).

## 13.7 Cost Sharing (Copayment)

Copayment does not apply to services provided by dental providers.

## 13.8 Completing the Claim Form

Effective June 1, 2008, all Medicaid dental providers must use the 2006 version of the American Dental Association Dental claim form. If you experience problems with HP processing your forms, contact HP for resolution. Refer to Chapter 5, Filing Claims, Section 5.5, completing the ADA Dental Form, for complete instructions on filling out the ADA Dental Form.

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Medicaid processing, provider should bill Medicaid claims electronically.

Dental providers who bill Medicaid claims electronically receive the following benefits:

- Quicker claim processing turnaround
- Immediate claim correction
- Enhanced online adjustment functions
- Improved access to eligibility information

Refer to Appendix B Electronic Media Claims Guidelines, for more information about electronic filing.

This section describes program-specific claims information. Refer to Chapter 5, Filing Claims, for general claims filing information and instructions.

### **13.8.1 Time Limit for Filing Claims**

Medicaid requires all claims for Dental providers **to be filed within one year of the date of service**. Refer to Chapter 5, Filing Claims, Filing Limits, Section 5.1.5, Filing Limits, for more information regarding timely filing limits and exceptions.

### **13.8.2 Procedure Codes**

Use the code numbers and procedure descriptions as they appear in this section when filling out the ADA dental form. The listing of a procedure in this section does not imply unlimited coverage. Certain procedures require prior authorization as noted in the PA Required column.

**Diagnostic Clinical Oral Examinations**

<b><i>Procedure Code</i></b>	<b><i>Description of Procedure</i></b>	<b><i>Prior Authorization Required</i></b>
D0120	<p>Periodic oral examination is an evaluation a patient of record to determine any changes in the patient's dental and medical health status since a previous comprehensive or periodic evaluation. This may require interpretation of information acquired through additional procedures.</p> <p>Report additional diagnostic procedures separately.</p> <p>This examination is limited to once every six months (per calendar month) for eligible Medicaid recipients. (A full six month period between oral exams is not required. For example, if a recipient received an oral exam on January 15, 2002, he or she is eligible for another exam any time in July 2002 (the sixth month)</p> <p>Cannot be billed within 6 months of D0150 by same provider for the same recipient.</p>	No
D0140	<p>Limited oral evaluation – problem focused (emergency treatment)</p> <p>A limited oral examination is an evaluation or re-evaluation limited to specific health problems. This may require interpretation of information acquired through additional procedures.</p> <p>Report additional diagnostic procedures separately. Definitive procedures may be required on the same day.</p> <p>Typically, recipients receiving this type of evaluation have been referred for a specific problem or are presented with dental emergencies, such as acute infection.</p> <p>Providers using this procedure code must report the tooth number or area of the oral cavity, symptom(s), diagnosis, and emergency treatment in the dental record where the specific problem is suspected.</p> <p>This procedure cannot be billed in conjunction with periodic or comprehensive oral examinations.</p> <p>Limited to one per recipient per provider/provider group per calendar year.</p>	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D0145	<p>Oral Evaluation for a Patient Under Three Years of Age and Counseling with Primary Caregiver :</p> <p>This code is intended to be for the first visit to a dental and/or *medical office for a patient under three years of age, for evaluation of caries susceptibility, development of an appropriate preventive oral health regimen and communication with and counseling with the child's parent or guardian.</p> <p>This code will only be allowed once per recipient lifetime.</p> <p>Cannot be billed on the same date of service as procedure codes D0120 (periodic exam); D0140 (limited oral evaluation) or D0150 (comprehensive oral evaluation).</p> <p>Under the 1<sup>st</sup> Look Program: D0145 will be billable once by a pediatric medical provider and once by a dental provider for children ages 6 months through 35 months.</p> <p>Records must document the content of anticipatory guidance counseling given to parents/caregivers, the results of a Caries Assessment Tool (CAT) and documentation that a referral has been made to the Patient 1<sup>st</sup> Care Coordinator for all high-risk children.</p>	No
D0150	<p>A comprehensive oral examination used by a general dentist or specialist when evaluating a recipient comprehensively. It is a thorough evaluation and recording of the extraoral and intraoral hard and soft tissues. This includes an evaluation for oral cancer where indicated, the evaluation and recording of the patient's dental and medical history and a general health assessment. It includes the evaluation and recording of dental caries, missing or unerupted teeth, restorations, existing prostheses, occlusal relationships, periodontal conditions (including periodontal screening and/or charting), hard and soft tissue anomalies, etc.</p> <p>Documentation of the above findings for hard and soft tissues is required even if each finding is normal.</p> <p>This procedure is limited to once per recipient's lifetime per provider or provider group.</p>	No

### **Radiographs**

Radiological procedures are limited to those required to make a diagnosis. The radiographs should show all areas where treatment is anticipated.

A full series consisting of at least 14 periapical and bitewing films OR a panoramic film are permitted every three years if professional judgment dictates. Effective July 1, 2003, panoramic films are limited to age 5 and above. A full series (D0210) uses the panoramic film (D0330) *once every three years* benefit and visa versa.

If medically necessary, posterior bitewing and single anterior films may be taken every six months as part of an examination and, subject to the annual limits. Documentation must support medical necessity. All periapical films are limited to a maximum of five per year per recipient. Exceptions: full mouth series, panoramic film, or a periapical necessary to treat an emergency (submitted by report).

In order to be reimbursed, all films must be of diagnostic quality suitable for interpretation, mounted in proper x-ray mounts marked Right and Left, and identified by type, date taken, recipient's name, and name of dentist.

When billing Intraoral - Periapical, first film, and Periapical, each additional film (D0230) a tooth number/letter is required in tooth number column on electronic or paper claim.

Any combination of periapical films with or without bitewings taken on the same date of service which exceed the maximum allowed, must be billed as a Complete Intraoral Series (D0210).

Periapical films must have a valid indication documented in the record (e.g. aid in diagnosing an emergency, endodontic obturation evaluation, etc.) Routine use of periapical radiographs(s) at periodic/comprehensive evaluations or treatment appointments without valid documented indications are not allowable.

### **Radiology Guidelines (guidelines do not override benefit limits)**

Added: **Radiology Guidelines (guidelines do not override benefit limits) section**

#### **A. Radiographic Examination of the New Patient**

Child-Primary Dentition: Posterior bitewing radiographs for a new patient, with a primary dentition and closed proximal contacts.

Child-Transitional Dentition: Individualized periapical/occlusal examination with posterior bitewings OR a panoramic X-ray and posterior bitewings, for a new patient with a transitional dentition.

Adolescent – Permanent Dentition Prior to the eruption of the third molars.

#### **B. Radiographic Examination of the Recall Patient**

1. Patients with clinical caries or other high-risk factors for caries
  - a. Child – Primary and Transitional Dentition: Posterior bitewings performed at a 6-12 month interval for those children with clinical caries or who are at increased risk for the development of caries in either the primary or transitional dentition.
  - b. Adolescent: Posterior bitewings performed at a 6-12 month interval for adolescents with clinical caries or who are at increased risk for the development of caries.

2. Patients with no clinical caries and no other high risk factors for caries
  - a. Child-Primary Dentition: Posterior bitewings performed at an interval of 12-24 months for children with a primary dentition with closed posterior contacts who show no clinical caries and are not at increased risk for the development of caries.
  - b. Adolescent: Posterior bitewings performed at intervals of 12-24 months for patients with a transitional dentition who show no clinical caries and are not at an increased risk for the development of caries.
3. Patients with periodontal disease, or a history of periodontal treatment for Child – Primary and Transitional Dentition and Adolescent: Individualized radiographic survey consisted of selected periapicals and/or bitewing radiographs of areas with clinical evidence or a history of periodontal disease, (except nonspecific gingivitis).
4. Growth and Development Assessment

Added: 2. Patients with no...a panoramic radiograph.

Child- Primary Dentition: Prior to the eruption of the first permanent tooth, no radiographs should be performed to assess growth and development at recall visits in the absence of clinical signs or symptoms.

Child – Transitional Dentition: Individualized periapical/occlusal series OR a panoramic x-ray to assess growth and development at the first recall visit for a child after the eruption of the first permanent tooth.

Adolescent: Age 16-19 year of age recall patient, a single set of periapicals of the wisdom teeth or a panoramic radiograph.

### **Requests to Override the Panoramic Film Limitation**

An override of the 3-year limitation on panoramic films will be considered **only** under the following exceptional circumstances:

- a. The provider finds clinical or radiographic evidence of **new** oral disease or a **new** problem that cannot be evaluated adequately using any other type of radiograph, or
- b. The recipient's previous provider is unable or unwilling to provide a copy of the previous panoramic film that is of diagnostic quality. (Such cases may result in recoupment of Medicaid's payment for the previous film.)

To request a panoramic override, the provider must submit the following:

- a. A properly completed 2006 ADA claim form,
- b. Copies of the current and previous panoramic films as well as any other radiographs that support the override request, and
- c. A cover letter that clearly describes the circumstances of the case.

These requests should be mailed to:

Alabama Medicaid Agency

Dental Program

P.O. Box 5624

Montgomery, AL 36103-5624

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D0210	<p>Intraoral – Complete series, including bitewings, consists of 14 periapicals and bitewings.</p> <p>Limit once every 3 years.</p> <p>A complete series uses the benefit of a panoramic film.</p> <p>Any combination of D0220, D0230, D0240, D0272, or D0274 taken on the same date of service, which exceeds the maximum allowed fee for D0210 must be billed as D0210</p>	No
D0220	<p>Intraoral – Periapical, first film.</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as D0210.</p> <p>All periapical films are limited to a maximum of five per year per recipient. Exceptions: full mouth series, panoramic film, or a periapical necessary to treat an emergency (submitted by report).</p>	No
D0230	<p>Intraoral – Periapical, each additional film</p> <p>This film is taken <b>after</b> the initial film (D0220)</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as D0210</p>	No
D0240	<p>Intraoral – Occlusal film</p> <p>Requires code 01 or 02 in “area of oral cavity” field on the claim indicating maxillary or mandibular arches)</p> <p><b>This code is not to be billed when periapicals are taken (D0220 and D0230)</b></p>	No
D0250	Extraoral – first film	No
D0260	Extraoral – each additional film	No
D0272	<p>Bitewings – two films</p> <p>Limit 1 every six months</p> <p>Not allowed on same the date of service as D0274</p>	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D0274	Bitewings - four films  Limit 1 every six months  Effective July 1, 2003, procedure restricted to age 13 or older.  Not allowed on same the date of service as D0272	No
D0330	Panoramic film  Cannot be billed in addition to D0210. A panoramic film uses the benefit of a complete series (D0210)  Limited to once per recipient every three years (calendar year),  Effective July 1, 2003 procedure restricted to age 5 or older)	No
D0350	Oral/facial images (traditional photos and intraoral camera images)  <i>Oral/facial images are authorized only when required by Medicaid</i>	Yes

### Tests and Laboratory Examinations

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D0470	Diagnostic casts, per model.  Models must be trimmed and able to be articulated and must include bases.  <i>Diagnostic casts are authorized only when required by Medicaid.</i>	Yes

### Preventive Services

Dental prophylaxis includes scaling and/or polishing utilizing a dental prophylaxis cup. Providers should not bill for a "tooth brush prophylaxis". When billing for prophylaxis and fluoride treatment provided on the same date of service for a recipient, use D1110 and D1204 for adults and D1120 and D1203 for children through age 12.

### Topical Fluoride Treatment (Office Procedure) D1203, D1204 & D1206

Prescription strength fluoride product designed solely for use in the dental/medical office, delivered to the dentition under the direct supervision of a dental professional. Fluoride must be applied separately from prophylaxis paste.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D1110	<p><b>Prophylaxis - Adult (over 12 years of age)</b></p> <p>Limited once every 6 months. (A full six-month period between oral exams is not required. Example: if a recipient received an oral exam on January 15 2002, the recipient is eligible for another exam any time in July 2002 (the sixth month)).</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as: D4341, D4355, or D4910</p>	No
D1120	<p><b>Prophylaxis - Child (up to and including 12 years of age)</b></p> <p>Limited once every 6 months (A full six-month period between oral exams is not required. Example: if a recipient received an oral exam on January 15 2002, the recipient is eligible for another exam any time in July 2002 (the sixth month)).</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as D4341, D4355, or D4910</p>	No
D1203	<p>Topical application of fluoride (excluding prophylaxis)</p> <p><b>Child (up to and including 12 years of age)</b></p> <p><b>Fluoride must be applied separately from prophylaxis paste. Application does not include fluoride rinses or "swish".</b></p> <p>Limited once every 6 months (A full six-month period between oral exams is not required. Example: if a recipient received an oral exam on January 15 2002, the recipient is eligible for another exam any time in July 2002 (the sixth month)).</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as: D1206</p>	No
D1204	<p>Topical application of fluoride (excluding prophylaxis)</p> <p><b>Adult (over 12 years of age)</b></p> <p><b>Fluoride must be applied separately from prophylaxis paste. Application does not include fluoride rinses or "swish".</b></p> <p>Limited once every 6 months (A full six-month period between oral exams is not required. Example: if a recipient received an oral exam on January 15 2002, the recipient is eligible for another exam any time in July 2002 (the sixth month)).</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as: D1206</p>	No
D1206	<p>Topical Fluoride Varnish, Therapeutic Evaluation for Moderate to High Risk Caries</p> <p>In order to bill this code the patient must have documented evidence of moderate to high risk caries.</p> <p>This procedure can only be billed once annually beginning age 3.</p> <p>Not allowed on the same date of service as D1203</p>	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
	(topical application of fluoride – child); D1204 (topical application of fluoride – adult);  <b>NOTE:</b> For the 1 <sup>st</sup> Look Program: D1206 will be limited to 3 per calendar year, regardless of the provider (medical or dental) not to exceed 6 fluoride varnish applications for children ages 6 months through 35 months.	
D1351	Sealant, per tooth  <b>Only covered for teeth: 02,03,14,15,18,19,30,31, on children aged 5 through 13 years)</b>  Teeth to be sealed must be free of proximal caries, and there can be no previous restorations on the surface to be sealed. Sealant material must be ADA approved opaque or tinted.  Limit one per tooth per lifetime	No

**NOTE:**

Multiple visits needed to accomplish an exam, prophy; fluoride and sealants must have documented medical necessity in order for Medicaid payment to be allowable. Payment will be subject to recoupment if documentation does not support the medical necessity for multiple visits to accomplish an exam, prophy; fluoride and sealants.

It is considered fraudulent practice for a provider to intentionally schedule multiple appointments for no medical reason in order to maximize their reimbursement.

Added: NOTE**Space Maintainers**

Effective July 1, 2003, space maintainers are covered on the following missing teeth ONLY:

1. Premature loss of second primary molar (A,J,K,T)
2. Premature loss of first primary molar (B,I,L,S) except in mixed dentition with normal class I occlusion
3. Premature loss of primary canines (C,H,M,R)

Space maintainers are NON-COVERED in the following instances:

- For premature loss of primary incisor teeth or as "pedo bridges"
- Space maintainers placed greater than 180 days after the premature loss of a primary tooth
- More than once per recipient's lifetime for a given space(tooth) to be maintained
- Space maintainers for the loss of permanent teeth

**NOTE:****Contraindications to Space Maintainers According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry:**

A space maintainer is usually not necessary if there is a sufficient amount of space present to allow for eruption of permanent tooth/teeth.

A space maintainer may not be recommended if severe crowding exists, such that space maintenance is of minimal effect and subsequent orthodontic intervention is indicated.

A space maintainer may not be necessary if the succedaneous tooth will be erupting soon.

Space maintainers, when indicated, should be placed as soon as possible after early primary tooth loss, but no later than 180 days after extraction or loss. On the 181<sup>st</sup> day, the space maintainer procedure will deny. The claim or prior authorization form must indicate the primary tooth letter that has been prematurely lost/extracted. If more than one deciduous tooth is lost, show the letter of the most recent tooth lost, which will be replaced by the space maintainer. The first two space maintainer procedure codes billed regardless of tooth (i.e. two per mouth) do not require prior authorization, but must meet coverage requirements. Prior authorization with justification is required for the billing of each additional space maintainer procedure code after the first two.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D1510	Space maintainer- fixed, unilateral	Yes (See above)
D1515	Space maintainer- fixed, bilateral	Yes (See above)
D1520	Space maintainer – removable, unilateral	Yes (See above)
D1525	Space maintainer- removable, bilateral	Yes (See above)
D1550	Re-cement space maintainer (re-cementing is limited to two times for a given space maintainer (tooth)	Yes (See above)

**Restorative Services**

Fee for restorative service includes: all adhesives including amalgam or resin bonding agents, lining or base, restoration, and local anesthesia or analgesia, if necessary. Amalgam or resin restorations are not covered on a tooth receiving any of the following procedures: stainless steel crowns (D2930, D2931), resin crowns (D2932), core buildups (D2950), post & cores (D2952, D2953, D2954, D2957), or crowns (D2750, D2751, D2752, or D2792).

Amalgam or resin codes (D2140 – D2394) may not be billed in substitution for a core buildup (D2950). Primary tooth restorations are not allowed when normal exfoliation is imminent. **Multiple restorations with at least one surface touching each other will be considered one restoration.** (Example: OL-OB will be BOL and MO-OD will be MOD). All cervical restorations will be considered as a single surface restoration. Effective July 1, 2005 restorations (D2140 – D2394) on primary teeth are not covered unless there is greater than one-third of the original root length remaining.

**Amalgam Restorations (Including Polishing)**

<i>Procedure Code</i>	<i>Description of Procedure</i>	<i>Prior Authorization Required</i>
D2140	Amalgam – one surface, primary or permanent	No
D2150	Amalgam – two surfaces, primary or permanent	No
D2160	Amalgam – three surfaces, primary or permanent	No
D2161	Amalgam – four or more surfaces, primary or permanent	No

**Composite Restorations**

Resins are not allowed for preventive procedures or cosmetic purposes (e.g. diastema closure, discolored teeth, correction of developmental anomaly, etc.). Resins are used to restore a carious lesion into the dentin or a deeply eroded area into the dentin. Composite restorations are now authorized for all surfaces including occlusal surfaces. Preventive resins (resins placed on any surface without documented caries into dentin) are not covered.

<i>Procedure Code</i>	<i>Description of Procedure</i>	<i>Prior Authorization Required</i>
D2330	Resin – one surface, anterior	No
D2331	Resin – two surfaces, anterior	No
D2332	Resin – three surfaces, anterior	No
D2335	Resin – four or more surfaces or involving incisal (anterior) angle	No
D2391	Resin - one surface, posterior	No
D2392	Resin - two surfaces, posterior	No
D2393	Resin - three surfaces, posterior	No
D2394	Resin - four or more surfaces, posterior	No

**Crowns, Single Restorations Only**

Medicaid covers crowns, post & cores, and core buildups **only** following root canal therapy (D3310, D3320, D3330) which must qualify for Medicaid coverage. Effective July 1, 2003, crowns (excluding stainless steel or resin crowns), core buildups and post & cores are limited to the permanent teeth on eligible recipients age 15 years or older following root canal therapy. Limited to one per tooth per lifetime. Crowns, post & cores, and buildups on 3<sup>rd</sup> molars are not covered.

**NOTE:**

Exception: When the second molar is missing and the third molar has moved into the second molar's space and is a functioning tooth, the provider must submit a radiograph with a prior authorization request for consideration of payment.

Effective April 1, 2006, permanent, stainless steel or resin crowns are limited to 6 per date of service individually or in combination when performed in an office setting. These procedure codes include D2750, D2751, D2752, D2792, D2930, D2931, and D2932.

Amalgam or resin restorations or sedative fillings are not authorized on teeth being crowned with or without a core buildup or post and core.

\*No prior authorization is required for crowns, core buildups, or post & cores. If no root canal is in Medicaid's history, send a diagnostic postoperative periapical x-ray after crown is seated showing completed root canal and crown (bitewings are not acceptable) with completed claim form directly to: AL Medicaid Agency ATTN: Dental Program, 501 Dexter Ave, P.O. Box 5624 Montgomery, AL 36103-5624.

Effective January 1, 2005 reimbursement fees for crown (D2750 – D2792) procedures include any: crown follow up appointments, pre and post radiographs, equilibration, or recementation within 6 months of insertion.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D2750	Crown – porcelain fused to high noble metal (limited to age 15 or older, on endodontically treated teeth only)	No*
D2751	Crown – porcelain fused to predominantly base metal (limited to age 15 or older, on endodontically treated teeth only)	No*
D2752	Crown – porcelain fused to noble metal (limited to age 15 or older, on endodontically treated teeth only)	No*
D2792	Crown – full cast metal (limited to age 15 or older, on endodontically treated teeth only)	No*

### Incomplete Procedures

Effective July 1, 2003 for multiple appointment procedures, payment will be made to the provider that started the procedure. **Documentation that several attempts were made to complete the procedure** (i.e. phone calls, certified letters) must be supported in the medical record. If no documentation can be provided to support multiple attempts were made to complete the procedure, the starting provider will not be reimbursed. **Billing should only occur after documentation of failed attempts is complete.** If the recipient is treated by a subsequent provider for the same procedure, same tooth, the services are considered non-covered.

### Other Restorative Services

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D2920	Re-cement crown - Limit 2 per lifetime per tooth  None allowed within the first six months of placement	No
D2930	Prefabricated stainless steel crown, primary tooth  The following are indications for placement of stainless steel crowns (prefabricated crown forms) for fitting on individual teeth:  For the restoration of primary and permanent teeth with caries, cervical decalcification, and/or development defects (hypoplasia and hypocalcification)  When the failure of other restorative materials is	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
	<p>likely with interproximal caries extended beyond line angles</p> <p>Following pulpotomy or Pulpectomy</p> <p>For restoring a primary tooth being used as an abutment for a space maintainer, or</p> <p>For restoring fractured teeth when the tooth cannot be restored with other restorative materials.</p> <p>Effective July 1, 2003 amalgam or resin restorations, sedative (temporary) fillings, core buildups, pin retention, or post and cores are not authorized on primary or permanent teeth receiving a stainless steel crown.</p>	
D2931	<p>Prefabricated stainless steel crown, permanent tooth.</p> <p>See indications and limitations listed under D2930 above.</p>	No
D2932	<p>Prefabricated resin crown Amalgam or resin restorations, sedative (temporary) fillings, core buildups, pin retention, or post and cores are not authorized on primary or permanent teeth receiving a prefabricated resin crown.</p> <p><b>Allowable on anterior teeth only.</b></p>	No
D2940	<p>Sedative fillings - temporary restoration intended to relieve pain.</p> <p>Not to be used as liners or bases under restorations.</p> <p>Not allowable with: amalgam or resin restoration, endodontically treated teeth, core buildups, posts and cores, done on same tooth, same DOS.</p> <p>Limit one per tooth.</p>	No
D2950	<p>Core buildup, including any pins.</p> <p>Not covered on primary teeth.</p> <p><b>Limited to age 15 or older</b></p> <p>Not allowable on the same tooth with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amalgam or resins (D2140 – D2394)</li> <li>• Posts &amp; Cores (D2952, D2953, D2954, D2957)</li> </ul> <p>Sedative (temporary) fillings (D2940) Pins (D2951)</p>	No
D2951	<p>Pin retention – per tooth in addition to restoration.</p> <p>Not allowable with D2950</p>	No
D2952	<p>Post and core in addition to crown, indirectly fabricated</p> <p>Not billable with D2950</p> <p><b>Limited to age 15 or older</b></p>	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
	Posts which extend less than one-half the distance of the root length measured from the cementoenamel junction to the anatomic root apex are not covered.	
D2953	Each additional indirectly fabricated post – same tooth - (maximum of 2)  Not billable with D2950  <b>Limited to age 15 or older</b>  Posts which extend less than one-half the distance of the root length measured from the cementoenamel junction to the anatomic root apex are not covered.	No
D2954	Prefabricated post and core in addition to crown - (maximum of 1)  Not billable with D2950  <b>Limited to age 15 or older</b>  Posts which extend less than one-half the distance of the root length measured from the cementoenamel junction to the anatomic root apex are not covered.	No
D2957	Each additional prefabricated post – same tooth – (maximum of 1)  Not billable with D2950  <b>Limited to age 15 or older</b>  Posts which extend less than one-half the distance of the root length measured from the cementoenamel junction to the anatomic root apex are not covered.	No

Effective April 1, 2006, core buildups (D2950) and post and cores (D2952, D2954) are limited to 6 per date of service individually or in combination when performed in an office setting. Post and cores, each additional (D2953, D2957) are limited to 2 per date of service individually or in combination when performed in an office setting.

Effective July 1, 2003, the following codes require at a minimum a diagnostic pre-treatment periapical radiograph be taken and maintained on file: D2750, D2751, D2752, D2792, D2952, D2953, D2954, and D2957.

Effective July 1, 2004, to qualify for coverage: posts must be radiographically visible and distinct from the obturation material. "So-called Posts" made in the office solely by flowing or compacting materials into the canal(s), such as resins, polymers, acrylics, amalgams, etc., are not covered. In order to qualify for coverage, posts must be fitted and cemented within the prepared root canal, and be attached to the core in order to retain the core. Posts which do not meet criteria for coverage will not be covered as core buildups. Core buildups and posts & cores are only covered on teeth which are receiving crowns and are limited to once per eligible tooth per lifetime.

## Endodontics

### Pulp Capping

Bases and sedative fillings do not qualify as pulp caps. Pulp caps without a protective restoration are not covered.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D3110	Pulp cap, Direct (excluding final restoration)  Covered for permanent teeth only. Pulp cap must cover a documented exposed pulp.  <u>Limit one per tooth</u>	No
D3120	Pulp cap, Indirect (excluding final restoration)  Covered for permanent teeth only.  Effective January 1, 2005, indirect pulp caps are only covered for documented treatment of <b>deep</b> carious lesions near the dental pulp with a protective dressing over the remaining carious dentin to prevent operative pulp exposure.  <u>Limit one per tooth</u>	No

### Pulpotomy/Pulpectomy

Only the single most appropriate endodontic code should be billed. It is not appropriate to bill pulpotomy/pulpectomy (D3220) and pulpal therapy on primary teeth (D3230 or D3240) for the same tooth. D3220 must not be billed with D3310, D3320, D3330 or D3332 for the same tooth, as these four codes already include a pulpotomy or pulpectomy. Pulpotomies are not covered for permanent teeth effective July 1, 2003.

Effective April 1, 2006, the following limitations apply for endodontic procedures when performed in an office setting. Pulpotomies (D3220) and Pulpal Therapy (D3230, D3240) are limited to 6 per date of service individually or in combination.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D3220	Therapeutic pulpotomy  <u>Covered for primary teeth only, excluding final restoration</u>	No

### Primary Endodontics

<i>Procedure Code</i>	<i>Description of Procedure</i>	<i>Prior Authorization Required</i>
D3230	Pulpal therapy, anterior primary tooth	No
D3240	Pulpal therapy, posterior primary tooth	No

D3230 and D3240 would be covered ONLY when all of the following documented indications exist: the primary tooth is restorable and must be saved until the permanent tooth erupts, **the pulp is non-vital** with no radiographic signs of internal or external root resorption, and a succedaneous tooth is present. **These procedures requiring a complete pulpectomy, require diagnostic pre-treatment and post-treatment periapical films be taken and maintained on file.** These radiographs must show successful filling of canals with a resorbable filling material without gross overextension or underfilling. Follow up evaluations with radiographs to assess condition, including possible breakdown of supporting tissues, must also be documented.

### Endodontics on Permanent Teeth

Root canal therapy applies to permanent teeth only. Root canal therapy for permanent teeth includes diagnosis, extirpation of the pulp, shaping and enlarging the canals temporary fillings, filling and obliteration of root canal(s), progress radiographs, including a root canal fill radiograph and follow-up care. Endodontics on third molars is not a covered procedure. Effective April 1, 2006, Root canal treatment on anterior (D3310) and premolars (D3320) are limited to 6 per date of service individually or in combination when performed in an office setting. Molar root canals (D3330) are limited to 2 per date of service in an office setting. One molar root canal can be performed with 3 anterior or premolar root canal procedures in an office setting.

The following codes are covered only on permanent teeth and require a diagnostic pre-treatment and post-treatment periapical radiograph be taken and maintained on file: D3310, D3320, D3330, D3351, D3410, and D3430. Endodontics (D3310 – D3430) are **only** covered when there are documented tests performed (electrical pulp tests, thermal, percussion, palpation) in the record consistent with radiographic findings and symptoms which support a documented pulpal pathology diagnosis of an irreversible nature on a specific restorable tooth and one of the following procedures are indicated: D3310, D3320, or D3330. When reviewing a radiograph, canals must be filled at approximately 1mm or less from the apex of the root and have no voids in material. There should be a sealing material between the root canal filling material and restorative material.

Intentional endodontics performed for reasons other than documented irreversible pulpal pathology of a specific restorable tooth, such as, but not limited to: prosthetics, bleaching, orthodontics, non-covered periodontal or oral surgery procedures, pain of undetermined origin, preference of the recipient or provider, etc. are not covered.

Deleted: Therapy includes treatment plan, clinical procedures, radiographs, temporary fillings.

Added: Root canal therapy...canal fill radiograph

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D3310	Anterior, excluding final restoration (age 6 or older)	No
D3320	Bicuspid, excluding final restoration (age 9 or older)	No
D3330	Molar, excluding final restoration (age 6 or older)	No
D3332	Incomplete endodontic therapy; inoperable or fractured tooth (age 6 or older)	No
D3351	Apexification, per treatment visit ( <b>nonvital permanent teeth only</b> )  This procedure is only covered after apical closure is obtained and demonstrated with a postoperative periapical radiograph maintained in the record.  This postoperative film must be taken after apexification is completed but before canal obturation is performed. Usually several treatments are required.  Treatment performed in less than 180 days after apexification with Calcium Hydroxide is not covered.  When using Mineral Trioxide Aggregate (MTA) for apexification, the 180 days does not apply.	No

### Periapical Services

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D3410	Apicoectomy - Anterior, per tooth - Limit 1 per tooth per lifetime	Yes
D3430	Retrograde filling - <b>Limit 1 per tooth per lifetime</b>  Covered only in conjunction with D3410 on anterior teeth	Yes

D3310, D3320, D3330, D3410 and D3430: **require diagnostic pre-treatment and post-treatment periapical films be taken and maintained on file.** In addition, follow up evaluations with radiographs to assess condition, including possible breakdown of supporting tissues, must also be documented.

Prior Authorization requests for D3410 and D3430 require a postoperative endodontic periapical film with the history and examination findings to include: symptoms, periodontal probings, palpation, percussion, mobility, presence of swelling or sinus tract, etc. and an explanation of why re-treatment is not being considered.

### Periodontics

Periodontics requires prior authorization. Prior authorization for periodontal therapy codes, D4341 or D4910 requires the following:

- Complete periodontal charting (including probing depths) and free gingival margins in relation to Cementoenamel Junctions(CEJs)
- Posterior bitewing radiographs and any involved anterior periapical or bitewing radiographs to be submitted with the prior authorization request

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D4341	<p>Periodontal scaling and root planing, per quadrant            Prior authorization for scaling and root planing requires documentation of pocket depths as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients <b>over</b> 12 years old must have a generalized pocket depth <b>greater than 4 mm</b>, with demonstrable radiographic evidence of generalized periodontitis. (This procedure involves instrumentation of the crown and root surfaces of the teeth to remove plaque from these surfaces.)</li> <li>• For patients <b>under</b> 12 years old, this procedure is ordinarily not indicated unless some unusual circumstance requires a more in-depth review and documentation (for example, familial juvenile periodontitis.)</li> <li>• This procedure will not be authorized for treatment of pseudopockets.</li> <li>• This procedure requires that radiographs (posterior bitewings and anterior periapicals or bitewings) and complete periodontal charting (including probing depths, free gingival margins in relation to CEJs, etc.) be provided with the request.</li> </ul> <p>A limit of no more than <b>two quadrants</b> of scaling and root planing will be permitted for each date of service, except for patients treated as inpatient/outpatient hospitalization cases.</p> <p>This procedure not allowed for same quadrant, same date of service with: D1110, D1120, D1201, D1205, D4355, or D4910.</p>	Yes
D4355	<p>Full mouth debridement</p> <p>Covered only when subgingival and/or supragingival plaque and calculus obstruct the ability to perform a comprehensive oral evaluation. This is a preliminary procedure and does not rule out the need for other procedures.</p> <p>This procedure requires that appropriate radiographs (bitewings, periapicals) be sent with the request.</p> <p>Clinical photographs/images may be required upon request.</p> <p>This procedure is not allowed on the same date of service or within 21 days of scaling and root planing. If prior approved, this procedure must be performed before a comprehensive evaluation is done.</p> <p>This procedure is not allowed on same date of service or within 6 months of : D1110, D1120, D4341, or D4910</p>	Yes
D4910	<p>Periodontal maintenance procedures            Prior authorization for Periodontal/Special Maintenance following active therapy requires the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clinical description of the service</li> <li>• Procedure recommendations</li> <li>• X-rays</li> <li>• Complete periodontal charting (probing depths, free gingival margins in relation to CEJs)</li> </ul>	Yes

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current CDT procedure code</li> <li>• The number of units or visits</li> </ul> <p>This procedure is not allowed on same date of service with: D1110, D1120, D4341 or D4355</p>	

## Oral Surgery

### Extractions

Extractions include local anesthesia, aveoloplasty, suturing if needed and routine postoperative care. Extractions of exfoliating primary teeth will not be covered unless there is a valid indication (e.g. pain, eruption interference, abscess, etc.) documented in the dental record.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7140	Extraction, erupted tooth or exposed root (elevation and/or forceps removal)	No

### NOTE:

Payment for extraction is for the complete removal of tooth (clinical crown and roots). Partial extraction of a tooth is subject to recoupment.

### Surgical Extractions

Effective July 1, 2003, surgical extractions include and require documentation of local anesthesia, alveoloplasty, mucoperiosteal flap elevation, osseous removal, sectioning and removal of tooth structure, sutures, and routine postoperative care. Radiographs are required with PA request for procedure codes D7240 and D7241. D7241 requires a report by tooth number of actual unusual surgical complication(s). The following codes are only covered for permanent teeth: D7210, D7220, D7230, D7240, D7241, and D7250.

**Exception: Ankylosed or impacted primary teeth may be submitted by report with radiographs.** To be reimbursed, providers must send a diagnostic x-ray of primary tooth, report and completed claim form directly to: AL Medicaid Agency ATTN: Dental Program, 501 Dexter Ave, P.O. Box 5624 Montgomery, AL 36130-5624.

Extractions due to crowding to facilitate orthodontics are not covered unless the orthodontics is covered meeting Medicaid criteria.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7210	<p>Surgical removal of erupted tooth, requiring elevation of mucoperiosteal flap and removal of bone and/or section of tooth.</p> <p>Requires documentation of cutting of both gingival and bone, removal of tooth structure, and closure.</p> <p><b>Covered for permanent teeth only</b></p>	No
D7220	Removal of impacted tooth – soft tissue occlusal surface must be covered by soft tissue, requires documentation of mucoperiosteal flap elevation.	No

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
	<b><u>Covered for permanent teeth only.</u></b>	
D7230	Removal of impacted tooth – partially bony a portion of the crown must be covered by bone, requires documentation of mucoperiosteal flap elevation and bone removal.  <b><u>Covered for permanent teeth only.</u></b>	No
D7240	Removal of impacted tooth – completely bony <b>most or all of the crown must be covered by bone</b> , requires documentation of mucoperiosteal flap and bone removal.  <b><u>Covered for permanent teeth only.</u></b>	Yes
D7241	Removal of impacted tooth – completely bony, with unusual surgical complications most or all of the crown must be covered by bone, requires documentation of mucoperiosteal flap and bone removal.  Covered for <b>actual</b> complications only by report.  <b><u>Covered for permanent teeth only.</u></b>	Yes
D7250	Surgical removal of residual tooth roots must require documentation of cutting of both soft tissue and bone and removal of tooth structure.  Not covered if a portion or all of crown is present.  <b><u>Covered for permanent teeth only.</u></b>	No

Procedures: D7210, D7220, D7230, D7240, D7250 requirements listed above (i.e. flap, bone removal, sectioning, etc.) must be documented in the dental record to be covered.

#### Other Surgical Procedures Applied To Teeth

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7270	Tooth re-implantation and/or stabilization of accidentally evulsed or displaced tooth and/or alveolus.  This fee includes any composite or bonding attachment to evulsed or displaced tooth and adjacent teeth as well as any brackets, wire or line used.	No
D7280	Surgical exposure of impacted or unerupted tooth to aid eruption	No
D7285	Biopsy of oral tissue, hard (bone, tooth)	No
D7286	Biopsy of oral tissue, soft (all others)	No

**Removal of Tumors, Cysts, and Neoplasms**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7410	Excision of benign lesion up to 1.25 cm	No
D7450	Removal of odontogenic cyst or tumor, lesion diameter up to 1.25 cm	No
D7451	Removal of odontogenic cyst or tumor, lesion diameter greater than 1.25 cm	No
D7460	Removal of non-odontogenic cyst or tumor, lesion diameter up to 1.25 cm	No
D7461	Removal of non-odontogenic cyst or tumor, lesion diameter greater than 1.25 cm	No

**Excision of Bone Tissue**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7471	Removal of exostosis – per site	No
D7510	Incision and drainage of abscess, intraoral soft tissue.  Requires documentation of incision through mucosa, area of incision, presence of any purulence from the abscess, use of any drain or sutures.  Not allowed in same site as a surgical tooth extraction.  Incisions through the gingival sulcus are not covered.	No
D7520	Incision and drainage of abscess, extraoral soft tissue.  Requires documentation of incision through skin and area of incision, type of drain (if any) and sutures (if closed)	No

**Treatment of Fractures - Simple**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7610	Maxilla - open reduction (teeth immobilized if present)	No
D7620	Maxilla - closed reduction (teeth immobilized if present)	No
D7630	Mandible - open reduction (teeth immobilized if present)	No
D7640	Mandible - closed reduction (teeth immobilized if present)	No

**Reduction of Dislocation - Management of Other Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunctions**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7820	Closed reduction of dislocation	No

### Other Repair Procedures

Excision of hyperplastic tissue (D7970) requires:

- Complete periodontal charting (including probing depths and free gingival margins in relation to CEJs)
- Medical documentation, that the hyperplasia is drug-induced
- Possible oral images/photographs (if required by Medicaid)

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D7911	Complicated suture, up to 5 cm.	No
D7960	Frenulectomy (frenectomy or frenotomy), separate procedure	No
D7970	Excision of hyperplastic tissue; per arch (covered for drug-induced cases only)	Yes
D7971	Excision of pericoronal gingival.  Covered for partially erupted or impacted teeth only.  Use for operculectomy.  Not allowed for crown lengthening or gingivectomy.	No

### Orthodontics

Orthodontic services require prior authorization. Orthodontic services must be requested through a multidisciplinary clinic administered by Alabama Children's Rehabilitation Service or another qualified clinic enrolled as a contract vendor in the Medicaid Dental Program. See Section 13.5.1 of this chapter entitled *Orthodontic Services* for more details.

### Adjunctive General Services

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D9110	Palliative (emergency) treatment of minor dental pain.  This procedure requires documentation in the record of: symptoms, findings, tests (if performed), radiographs if taken, diagnosis, and description of emergency treatment.  Cannot be billed with the following definitive or emergency procedures: D0210, D0350, D0470, D1110 through D7970, D7971, D9220 and D9610.  This is a specific code and must not be used to bill for any procedure that has its own unique code, even if the most appropriate code is not covered. Always bill the most appropriate and current CDT code  <b><u>Limit one per visit.</u></b>	No

**Procedures**

The following procedures are limited to one per visit when not covered by separately listed procedures.

**Anesthesia**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D9220	General anesthesia  <b>Requires current state board GA permit</b>	No
D9230	Analgesia, anxiolysis, inhalation of nitrous oxide or similar analgesia is authorized for payment in special cases such as mentally retarded or extremely uncooperative patients, or patients that are extremely nervous or have strong anxiety.  Effective April 1, 2004, documentation of medical necessity, written informed consent, and nitrous oxide dosage (% nitrous oxide and/or flow rate, duration), must be in the medical record.  The provider or recipient's desire to use this procedure, by itself, does not qualify it as medically necessary.	No
D9241	Intravenous sedation/analgesia  <b>Requires current state board IV or GA permit</b>	No

**Drugs**

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description of Procedure</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
D9610	Therapeutic parental drug, single administration, by report billable only when no definitive treatment rendered in same visit	Yes
D9612	Therapeutic parenteral drugs, two or more administrations, different medications	Yes

**Periodicity Schedule****NOTE:**

The periodicity schedule below is only a guideline to help practitioners make clinical decisions concerning preventive oral health interventions, including anticipatory guidance and preventive counseling, for infants, children, and adolescents. Please refer to policy and procedures within "Chapter 13 Dental" governing reimbursement for dental procedures.

ALABAMA MEDICAID'S EPSDT PERIODICITY SCHEDULE

AGE	Infancy							Early Childhood							Middle Childhood					Adolescence								
	Newborn <sup>1</sup>	3-5 days <sup>2</sup>	By 1 Mo	2 Mo	4 Mo	6 Mo	9 Mo	12 Mo	18 Mo	24 Mo	30 Mo	3 Yr	4 Yr	5 Yr	6 Yr	7 Yr	8 Yr	9 Yr	10 Yr	11 Yr	12 Yr	13 Yr	14 Yr	15 Yr	16 Yr	17 Yr	18 Yr	19 Yr
Clinical oral examination <sup>1,2</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assess oral growth and development <sup>1</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Caries-risk assessment <sup>1</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Radiographic assessment <sup>2</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Prophylaxis and topical fluoride treatment <sup>4,5</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O
Fluoride supplementation <sup>6,7</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Anticipatory guidance/counseling <sup>8</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Oral hygiene counseling <sup>1</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dietary counseling <sup>10</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Injury prevention counseling <sup>11</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Counseling for nonnutritive habits <sup>1,2</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Counseling for speech/ language development <sup>13</sup>						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Alcohol and drug use assessment <sup>13</sup>						←→	←→																					
Counseling for intraoral/perioral piercing																X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assessment and treatment of developing malocclusion						←→	←→	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assessment for pits and fissure sealants <sup>14</sup>								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assessment and/or removal of third molars																							X	X	X	X	X	X
Transition to adult dental care																												

NOTES:

- X To be performed
- O Perform when necessary
- ←→ Perform within indicated timeframe
- 1 First examination at the eruption of the first tooth and no later than 12 months. Repeat every 6 months or as indicated by child's risk status/susceptibility to disease.
- 2 Includes assessment of pathology and injuries.
- 3 By clinical examination.
- 4 Must be repeated regularly and frequently to maximize effectiveness.
- 5 Timing, selection, and frequency determined by child's history, clinical findings, and susceptibility to oral disease.

- 6 Consider when systemic fluoride exposure is suboptimal.
- 7 Up to at least 16 years of age.
- 8 Appropriate discussion and counseling should be an integral part of each visit.
- 9 Initially, responsibility of parent; as child develops, jointly with parent; then, when indicated, only child.
- 10 At every appointment; initially discuss appropriate feeding practices, then the role of refined carbohydrates and frequency of snacking in caries development and childhood obesity.
- 11 Initially play objects, pacifiers, car seats; then learning to walk, sports and routine playing.

- 12 At first discuss the need for additional sucking: digits vs pacifiers; then the need to wean from the habit before malocclusion or skeletal dysplasia occurs. For school-aged children and adolescent patients, counsel regarding any existing habits such as fingernail biting, clenching, or bruxism.
- 13 Referral to a Pediatrician, if necessary.
- 14 For caries-susceptible primary molars, permanent molars, premolars, and anterior teeth with deep pits and fissures; placed as soon as possible after eruption.

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### Tooth Numbers and Letters

- Enter the tooth number or letter for the appropriate tooth. Use the letters and/or numbers shown on the dental chart. Additional tooth designations are listed below. Insert these in the “Tooth # or Letter” block on the claim when indicated.
- Tooth Numbers should include for Permanent dentition: 01 through 32
- Tooth Numbers should include for Primary dentition: A through T
- Supernumerary are as follows:

A supernumerary tooth for Permanent Dentition (Tooth numbers 01-32) would have 50 added to its tooth number. Therefore if a patient had an extra tooth number 30 it would be coded as tooth number '80' (30 + 50 = 80). Valid numbers would be 51 through 82.

A supernumerary tooth for Primary Dentition (Tooth numbers “A” through “T”) would place an 'S' after the tooth code. If a patient had an extra 'A' tooth, it would be coded 'AS'. Valid letters would be 'AS' through 'TS'.

The following codes may be used in conjunction with those listed on the claim form:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Designation</i>
00	Full mouth	30	Lower Left Quadrant
01	Upper Arch	40	Lower Right Quadrant
02	Lower Arch		
10	Upper Right Quadrant	L	Left
20	Upper Left Quadrant	R	Right

### Surface

Please bill the single most appropriate surface involved using the following abbreviations:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Designation</i>
B	Buccal; Labial	L	Lingual
D	Distal	M	Mesial
I	Incisal	O	Occlusal
F	Facial; Labial		

When more than one surface on the same tooth is affected, use the following combinations:

<i>2 Surfaces</i>			<i>3 Surfaces</i>				<i>4 Surfaces</i>			<i>5 Surfaces</i>	
MO	IF	ML	MOD	IFL	BOL	MID	MODB	MIFL	<i>MODBL</i>	<i>MODFL</i>	
DB	IL	OB	MOB	MIL	DOB	MIF	MODL	DIFL	<i>MIDBL</i>	<i>MIDFL</i>	
MB	DI	DO	MOL	DIL	DOL	DIF	MOBL	MIDL			
DL	MI	OL	MBD	MLD			MIDF				

### 13.8.3 *Place of Service Codes*

The following place of service codes apply when filing claims for dental services:

<i>Place of Service Codes</i>	<i>Place of Service</i>
11	Dental office
15	Mobile Clinic
21	Inpatient hospital
22	Outpatient hospital
31	Skilled nursing facility or nursing facility

#### **NOTE:**

Place of service codes other than 11 and 15 require prior authorization before delivery of the service, unless recipient is less than 5 years old.

### 13.8.4 *Required Attachments*

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Medicaid processing, your attachments should be limited to the following circumstances:

- Claims With Third Party Denials

#### **NOTE:**

When an attachment is required, a hard copy claim form must be submitted.

Refer to Chapter 5 Filing Claims, Section 5.8, Required Attachments, for more information on attachments

## 13.9 For More Information

This section contains a cross-reference to other relevant sections in the manual.

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Where to Find It</b>
ADA Dental Claim Form Instructions	Section 5.4
Electronic Media Claims (EMC) Submission Guidelines	Appendix B
AVRS Quick Reference Guide	Appendix L
Alabama Medicaid Contact Information	Appendix N
Dental Prior Authorization Form	Section 5.4

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