



August 2005

ATTENTION PROVIDERS

Dental Bulletin
05-001

Dental Services

Indirect Pulp Caps—D3120

The ADA defines this procedure as a “Procedure in which the nearly exposed pulp is covered with a protective dressing to protect the pulp from additional injury and to promote healing and repair via formation of secondary dentin.” Most of the literature on this subject suggests or implies that the procedure even involves placing calcium hydroxide over caries and then subsequently removing the caries before final restoration of the tooth after secondary dentin formation. It would not be appropriate in a tooth where caries is barely perceptible radiographically.

The CDT codes, used by EqualityCare and other third-party payers in determining claim payment, also states that, “Tooth preparation, all adhesives (including amalgam bonding agents), liners and bases are included as part of the restoration. If pins are used, they should be reported separately.” A “Dycal” base is not an “indirect pulp cap” and cannot be billed as such.

Please review your billing procedures and make sure that calcium hydroxide bases are not being incorrectly billed as direct pulp caps.



Documentation Requirements

It has been observed, through recent documentation reviews, that the patient's name has not always been present on the documentation for services. Below is a list of the minimum documentation for dental services:

- Patient's name
- Date of service
- Tooth letters/numbers, if applicable
- Tooth surfaces, if applicable
- Services provided

Also included in the patient's chart should be:

- Documentation of clinical diagnoses
- Pertinent medical and dental history
- Treatment plan
- Complete anesthesia record, if applicable
- Radiographs used to facilitate the development of the plan



Two Codes No Longer Require Prior Authorization

As of 06/01/05 CDT codes D8050 and D8060, interceptive orthodontic treatment, no longer require prior authorization.

If you have additional questions regarding billing or covered services, please contact the ACS Provider Relations Unit at (307) 772-8401 or toll free at (800) 251-1268. Call center hours are Monday through Friday from 9am-5pm.



Wyoming Department of Health
Public Health Insurance Program



Pharmacy
Group
6530

Important Changes! Please read!



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