

Enhanced dental benefit provider directions

(Effective January 1, 2022)

You are receiving this information because you have a patient who has a qualifying special health care need and their Delta Dental group benefits give them access to enhanced dental benefits.



For 6.5 million people in the U.S. with intellectual or developmental disabilities, oral health care can be inaccessible or overwhelming.

Together we are changing that.

Beginning January 1, 2022, the below services will be covered under this enhanced benefit for eligible members. Use the accompanying procedure codes when submitting a claim.

Providers must include remarks regarding the special health care need benefit on applicable claims to indicate that treatment was provided for a patient with special health care needs.

What is included in the benefit?

- Additional visits to the dentist's office and/or consultations that can be helpful prior to the first treatment to help patients learn what to expect and what is needed for a successful dental appointment. Additional exam benefits will be allowed for this purpose. (Procedure codes D0120, D0145, D0150, D0160 and D0180)
- Up to four total dental cleanings in a benefit year. (Procedure codes D1110, D1120, D4910, D4346 and D4355)
- The use of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) that can be applied to cavities for patients who can't tolerate the use of dental instruments. (Procedure code D1354)
- Treatment delivery modifications necessary for dental staff to provide oral health care for patients with sensory sensitivities, behavioral challenges, severe anxiety or other barriers to treatment. (Procedure code D9997)

Benefit verification

Before rendering services, providers should check the member's eligibility file in the Dental Office Toolkit® to verify coverage. If the member has coverage through the enhanced benefits, you will see that a "Special Health Care Needs" attribute is checked in their file. There is no age limit on these benefits.

If a member says they are eligible but the attribute is not checked, the subscriber must work with their group to have the member's file updated accordingly.

Additional resource

With support from the Delta Dental Foundation, Penn Dental Medicine has established a free continuing education series aimed at building awareness of the barriers to equitable oral health care for individuals with disabilities, and developing competency to provide oral health care to this vulnerable population.

Learn more about the Center for Persons with Disabilities Presentation Series by visiting www.deltadental.foundation/ce-courses-seminars.