

Dental office *update*

File your fees online through Benefit Tracker

As a participating provider with Delta Dental of Alaska, you have the opportunity to file your fees annually. You can either fax or email a paper Survey of Charges to Dental Professional Relations or file your fees online. We strongly encourage all participating dentists to file their fees online through our Electronic Fee Filing System.

You can access this by visiting modahealth.com/dental and registering for a Benefit Tracker account.

By filing online you receive immediate feedback on the fees you have updated. You can also view your current accepted fees at any time and see your next eligible date to update fees.

You may also view member eligibility on Benefit Tracker. To preview how each plan will display in Benefit Tracker when verifying member eligibility online, visit modahealth.com/dental/ACA/.

Working hard to be better for you

The onset of Health Care Reform has sparked huge interest in our plans over the first quarter of 2014. As we continue to experience a high volume of claims, we are taking steps to provide you with the best customer service possible.

We've aligned our resources to manage call volumes and are bringing on additional staff to make sure we provide accurate eligibility and benefit information to our provider community. We know you depend on our representatives

to answer your calls in a timely manner. For that reason, we want to extend our apologies for any service delays you have experienced.

We take pride in our ability to promptly respond to your telephone inquiries and pay claims quickly and accurately. That's why we will continue to implement several operational and technical updates to deliver the level of service you've come to expect from Delta Dental of Alaska. We thank you for your patience.

Free educational webinar coming soon

Looking for ways to save your practice time and money? Delta Dental of Alaska will soon be teaming up with Medical Electronic Attachment (MEA)/National Electronic Attachment (NEA) for a free online educational webinar. While the dates have not been determined, here's a sneak peek at what you'll learn.

Who should attend?

- If your office is still 100 percent paper and interested in moving to electronic claims and attachments
- If your office sends some claims electronically, but print and mail claims that require additional documentation
- If your office sends 100 percent of your claims and attachments electronically

Participants will learn how to:

- Eliminate lost attachments
- Eliminate duplication of x-rays, perio-charts, EOBs, etc.
- Save your practice time and money
- Improve reimbursements
- Plus much more

If your office would like to attend, please contact Kristin Nistler at kristin.nistler@odscompanies.com or 503-382-5368. Let her know the best day and time that would work for you. Once we've established a date and time, we'll provide you with more details.

Tips to help expedite claims processing

Processing claims can be delayed when the incorrect use of dental procedure codes are applied. This often happens when multiple codes are required.

When you are submitting claims for osseous grafting, please make sure to use the appropriate code for the situation based on the complete description in the most current CDT code book.

Per CDT 2014

D4263 – bone replacement graft
This procedure involves the use of grafts to stimulate periodontal regeneration when the disease process has led to a deformity of the bone.

Typically this code would be used when the natural teeth are still present and goal is to preserve natural teeth.

D7953 – bone replacement graft for ridge preservation

Graft is placed in an extraction or implant removal site at the time of the extraction or removal to preserve ridge integrity (e.g., clinically indicated in preparation for implant reconstruction or where alveolar contour is critical to planned prosthetic reconstruction).

This would be submitted when an extraction or implant removal is completed on the same date of service.

New code

D6104 – bone graft at time of implant placement

This would be submitted when implant codes D6010-D6050 are placed on the same date of service.

Say goodbye to paper!

Email dpr@odscompanies.com and request this newsletter electronically.

Dental plans in Alaska provided by Delta Dental of Alaska. 6833315 (5/14)



A word about intraoral photography

Utilization of intraoral photography for quick and accurate claim adjudication is win-win-win.

It benefits the patient, the treating dentist, and the insurance company. Photos add documentation, which goes beyond what's produced by a radiograph alone. It can also offer support for demonstrating hard and soft tissue pathology and its extent.

Producing superior diagnostic intra and extraoral photographic images can be obtained with equipment costing around \$3,000.

An attempt was made by a colleague using a "point and shoot" type camera to see if it was possible to obtain lesser quality, but still diagnostic

images. A Canon SX 5000IS, retail cost \$250, was used. The instrument is equipped with a macro 30x optical zoom lens that focuses from 4.3-129 mms. In its adjustable mode, it can be set for aperture or shutter speed priority.

In performing this experiment the results were completely camera dependent. No computer was used for image enhancement.

The results were disappointing. A dentist and a professional photographer spent two hours without producing diagnosable images.

The greatest obstacle encountered was related to lighting. Since the desired 1:1 image is produced at 4.3 mms, it was necessary to

place the terminus of the lens inside the mouth. This obscures the light from the flash, and an underexposed image is produced.

If anyone reading this article has had success using a "point and shoot" camera for intraoral photography, sharing the camera name and technique employed would be greatly appreciated.

Please send your experiences or suggestions to dpr@odscompanies.com.



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Thanks for helping update our provider directory

We'd like to thank each dental office who responded to our information request. This helps us make sure our provider directory is up-to-date. Having your current information in our provider directory makes it easier for patients to search for you.

We appreciate everything you do to help us provide our members with the highest quality of dental care throughout the state.