

# Dental office update

## 2014 CDT changes and processing policy updates

On Jan. 1, 2014, Delta Dental of Alaska will implement the new codes that the ADA has outlined in CDT-14. The chart below shows how the Delta Dental of Alaska standard contract will cover these new CDT-14 codes. When you enter the appropriate code, please refer to the group limitations of each patient's plan in Benefit Tracker for specific benefit information as some plans may handle the codes differently than the Delta Dental of Alaska standard contract.

Also, some codes are being deleted with CDT-14. Delta Dental of Alaska will no longer accept deleted codes after March 2014.

New code books can be purchased through the American Dental Association at [ada.org](http://ada.org).

### Help your patients better understand their treatment and costs

Today's dental consumers are much more engaged in their healthcare. This means they want to know the cost of their treatment beforehand. You can help your patients understand the services they need and the associated costs for those treatments through Benefit Tracker.

Using Benefit Tracker, you can see the benefit percent for the service and tell your patients in advance their estimated out-of-pocket costs. Don't forget to take into account any deductible, frequencies or limitations, which are all available on Benefit Tracker.

To learn more about Benefit Tracker or set up an account, please contact our Dental Professional Relations department toll-free at 888-374-8905. We thank you for partnering with us to help provide quality care for your patients.

**New CDT Codes covered under Delta Dental of Alaska Standard Commercial Plans. No other new codes will be covered by standard plans.**

Code	Description	Comments
D1999	Unspecified preventive procedure	By report
D2921	Reattachment of tooth fragment, incisal edge or cusp	Fees for the replacement of amalgam or composite restorations within 24 months are disallowed if done by the same dentist/dental office. Benefits may be allowed if done by a different dentist. Special consideration may be given by report.
D2941	Interim therapeutic restoration – primary dentition	1. Allow once per primary tooth. 2. DISALLOW D2941 in conjunction with definitive restoration within 24months.
D3427	Periradicular surgery without apicoectomy	Disallowed when performed on the same tooth by the same dentist/dental office on the same date as apicoectomy (D3410-D3426), retrograde filling (D3430), and root amputation (D3450)
D3428	Bone graft in conjunction with periradicular surgery - per tooth; first surgical site	Benefits for this procedure when billed in conjunction with periradicular surgery are not covered.
D3429	Bone graft in conjunction with periradicular surgery - each additional contiguous tooth in same surgical site.	Benefits for this procedure when billed in conjunction with periradicular surgery are not covered.
D3431	Biologic materials to aid in soft and osseous tissue regeneration in conjunction with periradicular surgery	Only when billed for natural teeth. Benefits for these procedures when billed in conjunction with periradicular surgery, are not covered.
D3432	Guided tissue regeneration, resorbable barrier, per site in conjunction with periradicular surgery	Only when billed for natural teeth. Benefits for these procedures when billed in conjunction with periradicular surgery are not covered.
D5863	Overdenture – complete maxillary	By report
D5864	Overdenture – partial maxillary	By report
D5865	Overdenture - complete mandibular	By report
D5866	Overdenture – partial mandibular	By report
D6013	Surgical placement of mini implant	Based on contract limitations. (If plan covers implants it is covered. If plan doesn't cover implants it is not covered)
<b>Deleted Codes</b> (Delta Dental of Alaska will no longer accept the following codes after March 2014).		
D0363; D3354; D5860; D5861		

For more information, please contact our Dental Customer Service department at 503-265-2967 or email us at [dental@odscompanies.com](mailto:dental@odscompanies.com).

## Expediting claims processing with accurate procedures codes

The processing of claims is often slowed due to the incorrect use of dental procedure codes, especially when multiple codes are required. When you submit claims for osseous grafting, please make sure you enter the appropriate code for the situation based on the complete description in the most current CDT code book. Visit [ada.org](http://ada.org) to obtain the current CDT code book. Per CDT 2013:

- › **D4263 bone replacement graft.** This procedure involves the use of osseous autografts, osseous allografts, or non-osseous graft to stimulate periodontal regeneration when the disease process has led to a deformity of the bone. Typically, D4263 is used when the natural teeth are still present and the goal is to preserve natural teeth.
- › **D7953 bone replacement graft for ridge preservation.** Osseous autograft, allograft or non-osseous 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). D7953 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.

## Help us maintain accurate records

To ensure timely and accurate processing of your claims, it is very important to notify Dental Professional Relations at 888-374-8905 if and when:

- › Your office changes its business name or tax identification number
- › A dentist joins or leaves your practice
- › You change your business or payment address
- › Your direct deposit account changes

We appreciate your help in keeping accurate, up-to-date records.

## How the Affordable Care Act affects you

With the healthcare exchange now in high gear, you may be wondering how it will affect you and your dental office. We're here to help answer some of those questions. Go to [modahealth.com/dental/ACA](http://modahealth.com/dental/ACA) to find answers to some of the most commonly asked questions by dentists such as:

- › What is the Affordable Care Act?
- › What are essential pediatric dental benefits?
- › What plans will Delta Dental of Alaska offer?
- › What does this all mean to me, the dental office?

## Simplify your payment process today – go digital!

At Delta Dental of Alaska, we want to make life easier for you. One way to do this is to simplify your payment process. By signing up for Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) and Direct Deposit (DD), your team will benefit from:

- › **No more trips to the bank.** Save time and gas.
- › **Eliminate the slow postal process.** Receive payments faster and reduce mail.
- › **Reduce administrative costs.** Reduced paperwork and manage accounts easier.

- › **Meet compliance.** ERA/EFT is becoming an insurance industry standard.

Here's what Heidi at Alaska Comprehensive Dental Center is saying after using ERA/DD:

*"I love how the remittance process reduces the human error factor. There are no transposed numbers from posting and the whole process is more streamlined. The EOB's are easily accessible as they are attached to each patients account in our practice management software. This*

*is so helpful when working with a patient over the phone. I can quickly pull up their EOB and answer their questions."*

Where can you sign up? Simply log on to [modahealth.com/pdfs/era\\_era\\_enrollment\\_form.pdf](http://modahealth.com/pdfs/era_era_enrollment_form.pdf), or call us toll-free at 888-374-8905. We can either email or fax you an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) enrollment form.

We look forward to hearing from you!