

Dental office update

Winter 2016

2016 CDT changes and processing policy updates

On January 1, 2016, Delta Dental of Alaska (DDAK) will implement the new codes that the ADA has outlined in CDT-16. The chart below shows how the DDAK standard contract will cover these new CDT-16 codes.

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 DDAK standard contract.

Also, some codes are being deleted with CDT-16. DDAK will no longer accept deleted codes after March 31, 2016.

CDT-2016 code books can be purchased through the American Dental Association at ada.org.

Delta Dental of Alaska will also adopt a new processing policy for procedure code D4341. Beginning with dates of service 1/1/2016 and after, we will not allow more than two quadrants of root planing and scaling on the same date of service.

Due to time involved and need for local anesthesia, it is uncommon to do all four quads on the same date of service. We do realize it may be necessary in certain circumstances to perform four quadrants of SRP due to a medical condition (e.g. patient taking a blood thinner) or some other extenuating circumstance.

If that is the case we ask that you please forward complete chart notes, including the general or intravenous record, the medical condition and length of the appointment with your claim. In these cases, the claim will be reviewed.

Questions?

Please contact the Delta Dental of Alaska Dental Customer Service department toll-free at 888-374-8906 or email us at dental@modahealth.com.

New CDT codes covered under DDAK Standard Commercial plans. No other new codes will be covered by Standard plans.

Code	Description	Comments
D4283	Autogenous connective tissue graft procedure (including donor and recipient surgical sites) each additional contiguous tooth, implant or edentulous tooth position in same graft site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow up to two teeth soft tissue grafts per quadrant. Benefits for GTR and or bone grafts, in conjunction with soft tissue grafts in the same surgical area are denied. Fees for frenulectomy D7960 or frenoplasty D7963 are disallowed when performed in conjunction with soft tissue grafts.
D4285	Non-autogenous connective tissue graft (including recipient surgical site and donor material) each additional contiguous tooth, implant, or edentulous tooth position in same graft site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow up to two teeth soft tissue grafts per quadrant. Benefits for GTR and or bone grafts, in conjunction with soft tissue grafts in the same surgical area, are denied. Fees for a frenulectomy D7960 or frenoplasty D7963 are disallowed when performed in conjunction with soft tissue grafts contiguous tooth position in same graft site.
D5221	Immediate maxillary partial denture – resin base (including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth)	Same frequency limits as prosthetics should be applied – allow once in a 7-year period.
D5222	Immediate mandibular partial denture – resin base (including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth)	Same frequency limits as prosthetics should be applied – allow once in a 7-year period.
D5223	Immediate maxillary partial denture – cast metal framework with resin denture bases (including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth)	Same frequency limits as prosthetics should be applied – allow once in a 7-year period
D5224	Immediate mandibular partial denture – cast metal framework with resin denture bases (including any conventional clasps, rests and teeth)	Same frequency limits as prosthetics should be applied – allow once in a 7-year period.
D7881	Occlusal orthotic device adjustment	<p>Benefits for occlusal orthotic device adjustments are denied unless covered by group/individual contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When covered by contract all adjustments within six months are disallowed. Allow one per year following six months from initial placement.
D9223	Deep sedation/general anesthesia – each 15 minute increment	Deep sedation/general anesthesia is a benefit when submitted in conjunction with a covered surgical service(s).
D9243	Intravenous moderate (conscious) sedation/analgesia – each 15-minute increment	Intravenous moderate (conscious) sedation/analgesia is a benefit when submitted in conjunction with a covered surgical service(s).
D9943	Occlusal guard adjustment	<p>Benefits for occlusal guard adjustments are denied unless covered by group/individual contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When covered by contract, all adjustments within 6 months are disallowed. Allow one per year following six months from initial placement.
Deleted codes – DDAK will no longer accept the following codes after March 31, 2016		D0260, D0421, D2970, D9220, D9221, D9241, D9242, D9931

Say goodbye to paper!

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

Dental plans in Alaska provided by Delta Dental of Alaska. 12319128-AK (12/15)

Help your patients find affordable dental plans

Has a patient without dental insurance ever asked where he or she can find affordable dental plans? Delta Dental of Alaska offers affordable, standalone dental plans for both individuals and families. Our plans offer Alaska residents:

- ▶ Access to the largest network of contracted dentists throughout the U.S.
- ▶ Preventive dental benefits with no waiting period
- ▶ Basic and major services, subject to a six- or 12-month waiting period

If you'd like to help give your non-insured patients access to affordable individual dental plans, please contact us toll-free at 855-718-1767. Or, email individualplans@modahealth.com for more plan options.

Thank you for partnering with us!

We'd like to thank all of our participating dentists in Alaska! Your efforts and contributions to our network make a huge impact on our members. We are very proud to have partners like you.

Because we're always looking for ways to be better and provide a well-rounded panel of dental specialists for our members to access, let us know if there are specialists in your area that you would like us to contact to become a participating provider with Delta Dental of Alaska.

To nominate your specialist, please contact Kristin Nistler at 888-374-8905 ext. 5368, or email her at kristin.nistler@modahealth.com.

Thanks for helping update our dental provider directory

We'd like to thank each dental office that responded to our dental provider accuracy update request. Your participation is very important to helping us meet our goal of 100 percent accuracy so patients can easily find you. We appreciate your time and thank you for helping us provide our members access to the highest quality of dental care throughout the state.

See you at the Alaska Dental Society annual meeting!

The 2016 Alaska Dental Society annual meeting is quickly approaching, February 19-20 at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage. While you are there, be sure to swing by and visit with your Dental Professional Relations service team. We look forward to seeing you there!



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Winter 2016

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