



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA \* DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

**NUMBER:** 03-03-02

**ISSUE DATE:**  
May 12, 2003

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**  
June 1, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule for Dental Services Revisions

**BY:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole W. Rebert".

**Carole W. Rebert**  
**Official-In-Charge**  
**Office of Medical Assistance Programs**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue a revised Medical Assistance (M A) Program Fee Schedule for Dental Services, using the American Dental Association (ADA) *Current Dental Terminology, fourth edition, (CDT-4)* effective June 1, 2003.

**SCOPE:**

This bulletin applies to all dentists enrolled in the M A Program; however, the fees associated with codes may vary for dentists participating in Managed Care Organizations

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

*The Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature* has been designated as the national standard for reporting dental services by the Federal Government under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). HIPAA became public law on August 21, 1996 (P.L. 104-191). The primary goal of the law is to make it easier for people to keep health insurance and to help the industry control administrative costs by standardizing health care transactions for all health plans, clearinghouses and providers who submit claims electronically.

Consistent with the Department of Public Welfare's (Department's) goal to ensure access and the objective to implement administrative efficiencies to encourage dental provider recruitment and retention, the Department will require all paper and electronic claims to use HIPAA compliant codes.

**PROCEDURE:**

Effective **June 1, 2003** the Department will convert to the CDT-4 procedure coding system. The following attachments will assist you in the transition of converting from the CDT-3 codes to the CDT-4 codes.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- **Attachment A** - Procedure Code End- Effective **June 1, 2003** - This attachment identifies those procedure codes being end-dated and provides a crosswalk to the appropriate CDT- 4 codes.
- **Attachment B** - Revised Definitions Effective **June 1, 2003** - This attachment identifies those procedure codes with revised definitions under the CDT-4 procedure coding system.
- **Attachment C** - New Codes Effective **June 1, 2003** - This attachment identifies two procedure codes that are being added to the dental fee schedule to provide for better reporting and billing of restorative dental services.

**NOTE:** Procedure codes associated with orthodontia services remain unchanged. Orthodontia procedure codes will be revised at a later date.

- **Attachment D** - A revised M A Program Fee Schedule for Dental Services is attached for your information. The revised fee schedule includes all of the new CDT-4 procedure codes. Providers should replace pages 1 through 18 on your current fee schedule with the pages included with this M A Bulletin.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

**The appropriate toll-free telephone number for your provider type.**

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at [www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap).