

NC Department of Health and Human Services

COVID-19 Guidance for Dental Professionals and NC Medicaid Non-Surgical Caries Management

May 6, 2020

Sarah Tomlinson, DDS – State Dental Director

Tim Wright, DDS, MS – UNC Adams School of Dentistry

Mark W. Casey, DDS, MPH – Medicaid Dental Director

Darlene P. Baker, RDH – Medicaid Lead Dental Policy Analyst

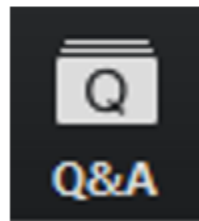
RCC (Relay Conference Captioning)

Participants can access real-time captioning for this webinar here:

<https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=4440880&CustomerID=324>

Logistics for today's COVID-19 Forum

Question during the live webinar



Technical assistance

technicalassistanceCOVID19@gmail.com

NC Board of Dental Examiners: Recent Statement

- <https://www.ncdentalboard.org/>

ADA: Toolkit

- <https://pages.ada.org/return-to-work-toolkit-american-dental-association>

CDC: Infection Control in Dental Settings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>

OSHA: Respirator Guidance and Dental Workers and Employers

- <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osha/osha20200424>
- <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/dentistry.html>

- **Rationale for Policy Changes**
- **Expansion of Application of Fluoride Varnish Services**
- **Expansion of Application of Silver Diamine Fluoride**
- **Effective Dates**
- **Reimbursement**
- **Claims Submission**
- **Teledentistry Review**
- **Contact Information**

Rationale for Policy Changes

- **CDC recommendations to restrict the use of aerosolizing equipment**
 - High speed handpiece, ultrasonic scaler, 3-way air/water syringe, etc.
- **Individual decisions of practice owners to take measures to reduce chance of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 virus in their office**
- **Lack of the availability of appropriate PPE**
- **Once restrictions are lifted, the demand for dental services outpacing available office hours**
 - Non-surgical caries management can be done to stabilize patients with disease

Existing Policy:

- Allowed for beneficiaries under age 21
- Allowed once per six calendar month period (approximately every 180 days)
- Must be applied to all teeth erupted on the date of service

Policy Changes Include:

- Allow for beneficiaries of all ages
- Allow once per three calendar month period (approximately every 90 days) for patients at high risk for caries (active disease or previous caries related treatment)

Application of silver diamine fluoride (interim caries arresting medicament application per tooth)

Existing Policy:

- Limited to beneficiaries ages 1 to 5
- Allowed once per six calendar month period (approximately every 180 days) per tooth
- Limited to a total of four applications per tooth prior to age 6
- Valid tooth numbers (A-T, 03, 14, 19, 30)

Policy Changes Include:

- Allow for all ages
- Allow for all permanent teeth (01-32)

Effective Dates for Policy Revisions

- Temporary changes are retroactive to March 10, 2020.
- Changes will end the earlier of the cancellation of the North Carolina State of Emergency Declaration or when the policy modification is rescinded.

Reimbursement

Procedure Codes	Description	Reimbursement
D1206	Topical application of fluoride varnish	\$16.78
D1354	Interim caries arresting medicament application per tooth (silver diamine fluoride)	\$11.00 (first tooth) \$5.50 (second, third and fourth tooth) \$27.50 (total reimbursement)



Prior Approval

Not Required

Claim

- Pending Status
- No action needed by the provider
- NCTracks will override the age limitation in 24-48 hours

Medicaid Prescription Fluoride Products

DRUG NAME	MANUFACTURER NAME	NATIONAL DRUG CODE (NDC)
SODIUM FLUORIDE 5000 PPM CREAM (TOOTHPASTE)	BUREL PHARMACEUTICAL	35573043451
SODIUM FLUORIDE 1.1% GEL	BUREL PHARMACEUTICAL	35573043556
SODIUM FLUORIDE 5000 PLUS CREAM (TOOTHPASTE)	METHOD PHARMACEUTICAL	58657049018
SODIUM FLUORIDE 1.1% GEL	METHOD PHARMACEUTICAL	58657049102
SF 5000 PLUS CREAM (TOOTHPASTE)	CYPRESS PHARMACEUTICAL	60258015001
SF 1.1% GEL	CYPRESS PHARMACEUTICAL	60258015101
DENTA 5000 PLUS CREAM (TOOTHPASTE)	RISING PHARMACEUTICAL	64980030550
DENTA 5000 PLUS CREAM (TOOTHPASTE)	RISING PHARMACEUTICAL	64980030650
DENTAGEL 1.1% GEL	RISING PHARMACEUTICAL	64980030760

Teledentistry

Temporary changes

Retroactive to March 10, 2020

Changes will end the earlier of the cancellation of the North Carolina State of Emergency Declaration or when the policy modification is rescinded.

Use of telehealth systems and methodologies in dentistry which allows patients to “see their dentist” without having to go to the dentist office.

It is a NC Medicaid covered benefit.

Procedure Codes

- D0999 Unspecified diagnostic procedure, by report**
- D9995 Teledentistry – synchronous; real-time encounter**
- D9996 Teledentistry – asynchronous; information stored and forwarded to dentist for subsequent review**
- D0140 Limited oral evaluation – problem focused**
- D0170 Re-evaluation – limited, problem focused (established patient; not post-operative visit)**

Dentists must report one of the oral evaluation codes (D0140 or D0170) if the synchronous or asynchronous transmission includes enough live video, recorded video or images communicated via a mobile communication device to allow the dentist to make a diagnosis.

Prior Approval – Not required

Place of Service – Telehealth 02

Reimbursement

Procedure Codes	Description	Reimbursement
D0999	Unspecified diagnostic procedure, by report	\$22.00
D9995	Teledentistry – synchronous; real-time encounter	\$62.50
D9996	Teledentistry – asynchronous; information stored and forwarded to dentist for subsequent review	\$22.00
D0140	Limited oral evaluation – problem focused	\$38.43
D0170	Re-evaluation – limited, problem focused (established patient; not post-operative visit)	\$30.05

Note: Dentists must bill the oral evaluation codes (D0140 or D0170) on detail line 1 of the claim and the teledentistry service (D9995 or D9996) on detail line 2 of the claim.

Questions

Sarah Tomlinson, DDS
State Dental Director
Sarah.Tomlinson@dhhs.nc.gov

Mark W. Casey, DDS, MPH
Medicaid Dental Director
Mark.Casey@dhhs.nc.gov

Darlene P. Baker, RDH
Medicaid Lead Dental Policy Analyst
Darlene.P.Baker@dhhs.nc.gov



NC Medicaid Dental and Orthodontic Services

<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/programs-services/dental-and-orthodontic>

Any Questions?