This notice provides information of public interest regarding proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) 21-0001 by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), which will update the DHCS’ dental fee schedule and rate updates as published under Section 5, Manual of Criteria and Schedule of Maximum Allowances, of the Medi-Cal Dental Program Provider Handbook. The proposed SPA will implement the Current Dental Terminology (CDT) 2020 dental code set one release on July 1, 2021. The CDT-20 code set will replace the current CDT-19 code set, which is outdated and does not reflect current federal code standards and dental standards as defined by the American Dental Association. DHCS requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders concerning the proposed SPA 21-0001, which is enclosed.

For dates of service on and after July 1, 2021, the following CDT procedure codes will be removed and the associated Schedule of Maximum Allowances (SMA) rate/fee will no longer be payable:

Removed codes:

- D1550 re-cement or re-bond space maintainer replaced with D1551, D1552, D1553
- D1555 removal of fixed space maintainer replaced with D1556, D1557, and D1558
- D6059 abutment supported porcelain fused to metal crown - high noble metal
- D6061 abutment supported porcelain fused to metal crown - high noble metal
- D6062 abutment supported cast metal crown - high noble metal
- D6064 abutment supported cast metal crown - noble metal
- D6066 implant supported crown – porcelain fused to high noble alloys
- D6067 implant supported crown – high noble alloys
- D6069 abutment supported retainer for porcelain fused to metal [fixed prosthodontics] FPD - high noble metal
- D6071 abutment supported retainer for porcelain fused to metal FPD - high noble metal
- D6072 abutment supported retainer for cast metal FPD - high noble metal
- D6074 abutment supported retainer for cast metal FPD - high noble metal
- D6076 implant supported retainer for FPD – porcelain fused to high noble alloys
- D6077 implant supported retainer for cast metal FPD – high noble alloys
- D6094 abutment supported crown – porcelain fused to titanium and titanium alloys
- D6194 abutment supported retainer crown for FPD – titanium and titanium alloys
• D8691 repair of orthodontic appliance replaced with D8696 and D8697
• D8692 replacement of lost or broken retainer replaced with D8703 and D8704
• D8693 re-cement or re-bond fixed retainer replaced with D8698 and D8699
• D8694 repair of fixed retainers, includes reattachment replaced with D8701 and D8702

For dates of service on and after July 1, 2021, the following new CDT 20 procedure codes with the associated SMA rates/fee will be payable:

• D1551 re-cement or re-bond bilateral space maintainer – maxillary, SMA $30
• D1552 re-cement or re-bond bilateral space maintainer – mandibular, SMA $30
• D1553 re-cement or re-bond unilateral space maintainer – per quadrant, SMA $30
• D1556 removal of fixed unilateral space maintainer – per quadrant, SMA $30
• D1557 removal of fixed bilateral space maintainer – maxillary, SMA $30
• D1558 removal of fixed bilateral space maintainer – mandibular, SMA $30
• D8696 repair of orthodontic appliance – maxillary, SMA $50
• D8697 repair of orthodontic appliance – mandibular, SMA $50
• D8698 re-cement or re-bond fixed retainer – maxillary, SMA $30
• D8699 re-cement or re-bond fixed retainer – mandibular, SMA $30
• D8701 repair of fixed retainers, includes reattachment – maxillary, SMA $50
• D8702 repair of fixed retainers, includes reattachment – mandibular, SMA $50
• D8703 replacement of lost or broken retainer – maxillary, SMA $200
• D8704 replacement of lost or broken retainer – mandibular, SMA $200
• D6082 implant supported crown – porcelain fused to predominately base alloys, SMA “by report”
• D6086 implant supported crown – predominately base alloys, SMA “by report”
• D6098 abutment supported retainer – porcelain fused to predominately base alloys, SMA “by report”
• D6121 implant supported retainer for metal FPD – predominately base alloys, SMA “by report”
• D7922 placement of intra-socket biological dressing to aid in hemostasis or clot stabilization, per site, global procedure, SMA $0
• D9997 dental case management – patients with special health care needs, SMA “by report”

All Medi-Cal Dental Provider Bulletins related to these policy updates will be identified in section 5-1 of the Medi-Cal Dental Provider Handbook at


DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for the dental procedures listed above will have no cost impact to total funds. The added codes listed
above replace existing procedure codes for the same services and retain the same rate of payment as the previous codes. Other new codes added are paid “by report” and used on a case-by-case basis.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is July 1, 2021. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

The proposed changes included in draft SPA 21-0001 are enclosed in this notice for public comment. DHCS is requesting stakeholder input on the impact, if any, on access to services as a result of the proposed action.

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA 21-0001 will be published at the following internet address:

    https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending_2021.aspx

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 21-0001 or a copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 21-0001 by requesting it in writing to the mailing or email addresses listed below. Please indicate SPA 21-0001 in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

    Department of Health Care Services
    Medi-Cal Dental Services Division
    Attn: Alani Jackson
    P.O. Box 997413, MS 4900
    Sacramento, California 95899-7413

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA 21-0001 in the subject line or message.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of the SPA to CMS, comments must be received no later than March 15, 2021, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of SPA 21-0001 to CMS.