

# This Computes!



Department of Health Care Services  
Children's Medical Services Network  
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #246

## New Denti-Cal Procedure Codes and Orthodontic HLD Form

Effective March 1, 2008, Denti-Cal converted the 3 digit local codes to Current Dental Terminology, CDT-4 procedure codes. See [Denti-Cal Bulletin, Volume 24, Number 5, February 2008](#). Denti-Cal will accept either code and has agreed to cross reference the 3 digit local codes to the appropriate CDT-4 code for now.

The CDT-4 codes are currently not in the CMS Net system. These codes will be available in the CMS Net system by the end of March 2008. Although the Denti-Cal Bulletin states that only CDT-4 codes will be accepted, the previous "local codes" are still active and can be used by CCS County and Regional Offices until the CDT-4 codes are active in our system.

Refer to the Denti-Cal website for the new Provider Handbook, [Special Programs](#), page 9-5 or the [CCS website](#) for Service Code Groupings (SCGs) with the new codes. The SCGs remain the same, only the codes have changed.

If CDT-4 codes are received for which there is no SCG, check the CCS website for the [Dental Crosswalk – CDT-4 Codes](#) for a listing of individual codes.

Note: All requests for orthodontics utilize the same codes. The American Dental Association writes the CDT codes and has no differentiation between straight malocclusion, cleft palate orthodontics, or facial growth management for craniofacial anomalies. Therefore, CCS offices will need to review history for these cases in order to authorize the correct SCG for orthodontics, i.e., if the last SCG that was authorized was SCG S04 for Mixed Dentition for Cleft Palate, then the next phase will be SCG S05 for Permanent Dentition for Cleft Palate. If history does not clearly reveal the SCG to be authorized, the provider office will need to be contacted. If there is no history, it may be assumed that the request is for SCG S02 for "Orthodontic Services for Medically Handicapping

Malocclusion” unless there has been a referral to a Craniofacial Center or Cleft Palate Panel.

Also, effective March 1, 2008, is a new orthodontic Handicapping Labiolingual Deviation (HLD) Index score sheet from Denti-Cal. The following changes are in effect:

1. Score sheet includes #2. “Cranio-facial anomaly” as a category of an automatic qualifying condition. This category will now be used instead of “Severe traumatic deviation” when a craniofacial anomaly is present.
2. Orthodontic providers do not need to get a separate authorization for study models if the HLD shows a score of 26 or more points or has an automatic qualifying condition, however, there will be no reimbursement for study models if the child is not found medically eligible by Denti-Cal.
3. There is no Client Index Number or other identifying number on the new HLD form. Therefore, if these are faxed or mailed to your office, the provider will need to be contacted if other identifying information is not also included with the fax or mail.