Medical Policy
Oral Maxillofacial/Dental Treatment Setting

Document Number: 022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial and Connector/Qualified Health Plans</th>
<th>MassHealth</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorization required</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification within 24 hours of service or next business day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>No Prior Authorization</td>
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<td>Not covered</td>
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**Overview**
The purpose of this document is to describe the guidelines Neighborhood Health Plan (NHP) utilizes to determine the medical appropriateness for the setting in which oral maxillofacial surgery and/or dental procedures are to be provided. The treating specialist must request prior authorization.

**Coverage Guidelines**
NHP covers a medically necessary acute hospital or surgical day care (SDC) setting, including the administration of anesthesia by a licensed anesthesiologist or anesthetist when the setting is medically necessary for the safe delivery of oral maxillofacial surgery and/or dental procedures, except MassHealth members under age 21 requiring dental procedures. For dental procedures in a SDC, NHP’s coverage, if prior authorized, is limited to facility and anesthesia charges unless otherwise noted in the member’s materials.

Prior authorization for the acute hospital setting or SDC setting does not automatically include coverage for dental procedures. NHP does cover medically necessary oral/maxillofacial surgery procedures when the procedures are covered under the member’s NHP benefit plan and the relevant criteria outlined in the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Clinical Criteria is met; prior authorization is required.

NHP covers emergency dental procedures and setting only when there is a traumatic injury to sound, natural, and permanent teeth caused by a source external to the mouth, and the emergency dental procedures and setting are provided in a hospital emergency room or operating room within 72 hours following the injury.

**Acute Hospital setting or SDC setting for oral maxillofacial surgery and/or dental procedures**
NHP covers medically necessary acute hospital or SDC setting when the member has any of the indications listed below:
1. *Commercial Member up to age 48 months old*¹, when there is medical record documentation of the following:
   a. The member has rampant decay with a need for oral rehabilitation; and
   b. There has been at least one unsuccessful attempt to treat the member in the office setting.
2. Member with severe oppositional and uncooperative behavior due to medical/behavioral conditions, when there is medical record documenting the following:
   a. The member requires medically necessary treatment of dental needs of high complexity, or requires medically necessary oral maxillofacial surgery including the removal of impacted wisdom teeth¹;

¹ For MassHealth members less than 21 years of age requiring acute hospital setting or SDC setting for dental procedures, please refer to MassHealth for Authorization.
a. There have been two unsuccessful attempts to treat in the office setting, one of which includes an evaluation by an oral maxillofacial surgeon (OMFS) or dentist who is certified in office-based procedural sedation and analgesia; or
b. The PCP or attending practitioner’s reasoning of why the member’s functional or behavioral impairment inhibits the safe delivery of care in an office setting accounting for the level of dental needs.

3. Member with extreme apprehension and anxiety manifesting as significant oppositional and uncooperative behavior during treatment when there is medical record documentation of the following:
a. The member requires medically necessary treatment of dental needs of high complexity, or requires medically necessary oral maxillofacial surgery including the removal of impacted wisdom teeth;
And when;
b. There have been two unsuccessful attempts to treat in the office setting and a description of how the member’s functional or behavioral impairment inhibited the safe delivery of care in an office setting. One attempt must include an evaluation by an OMFS or dentist who is certified in office-based procedural sedation and analgesia.

4. Member with a co-existing medical condition that might inhibit the safe delivery of care in an office setting when there is medical record documentation of the following:
a. The member requires medically necessary treatment of a dental condition, or requires medically necessary oral maxillofacial surgery including the removal of impacted wisdom teeth;
b. The dental procedure oral maxillofacial surgery cannot be safely delayed to stabilize the medical condition in order to perform the procedure in an office setting; and

c. There is documentation of one or more of the following medical conditions, with a rationale from PCP or appropriate consultant as to why the procedure cannot be safely and effectively performed in an office setting:
   i. A severe medical condition(s) that results in the inability to walk up one 1 flight of stairs or two level city blocks, but stops en route because of distress;
   ii. Pulmonary disease with pulmonary function measurement of FEV1 < 60% of predicted;
   iii. Moderate to severe asthma that is poorly controlled;
   iv. Evidence of acute cardiac disease, current angina, patterns of CHF (class III or IV), moderate to severe aortic stenosis, symptomatic mitral stenosis, or an MI within 6 months;
   v. Poorly controlled hypertension;
   vi. Obesity with BMI>40;
   vii. Bleeding disorder that cannot be improved sufficiently to safely perform the procedure in an office setting;
   viii. Potential difficult airway management (i.e. history of difficult intubation, neuromuscular disease, significant cervical spinal disease, deformities of the mouth or jaw impeding airway);
   ix. History of adverse reaction to anesthesia or sedation;
   x. Other medical conditions felt to inhibit the safe delivery of care in an office setting with the clinical notes and rationale provided from the PCP and appropriate specialist as applicable.

5. Member requires medically necessary oral maxillofacial surgery whose complexity precludes the safe delivery in an office setting, when there is medical record documentation of the medical necessity for the procedure and one of the following:
a. Anticipated prolonged and/or complex oral and maxillofacial procedure; or
b. Impacted tooth that requires prolonged or complex surgery because of one the following characteristics: is adjacent to a neuro-vascular bundle, or is adjacent to a maxillary sinus at risk for fracture, or is associated with oral pathology (e.g., cyst, tumor), or is in an ectopic position.

Exclusions

1. Acute hospital setting or SDC setting for oral maxillofacial surgery and/or dental procedures when the criteria noted above are not met.

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1 For MassHealth members less than 21 years of age requiring acute hospital setting or SDC setting for dental procedures, please refer to MassHealth for Authorization
2. For a MassHealth member who is under age 21 and who needs a dental procedure including dental rehabilitation to be performed in an acute hospital setting or SDC setting.
3. For a member with anxiety only.
4. For members receiving non-medically necessary, discretionary or cosmetic procedures.
5. Dental services except when explicitly stated in the member handbook and when prior authorization has been obtained.

Related Policies
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Policy and Procedures

Effective
September 2016: Annual review
September 2015: Annual review.
October 2014: Effective date.

References


Independent Practitioner Review, In network provider 2014