

Denti-Cal Bulletin



VOLUME 21, NUMBER 10 P.O. BOX 15609 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95852-0609 MARCH 2005

UPDATE! HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) TRANSACTIONS AND CODE SETS

What's New?

- ✓ Provider training sessions for CDT-4 and associated criteria will be scheduled two months prior to the October 1, 2005 implementation. Look for more information in an upcoming bulletin.
- ✓ To translate/convert from local codes to CDT-4 procedure codes, a tool (i.e., a crosswalk) is being developed, and will be made available in the second quarter of 2005.
- ✓ Look for a survey in an upcoming provider payment envelope. Answering those specific questions will ensure a smooth transition. Let your voice be heard!
- ✓ Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) providers should pay specific attention to the EDI box below.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Claim Format, Companion Guide and Certification Process

Denti-Cal is now able to accept the newer Version 4010A1 format for claims (ASC X12N 837) and claim status (ASC X12N 276) from certified trading partners.

A copy of the Denti-Cal EDI Companion Guide, as well as the Trading Partner Agreement, can be obtained by contacting Provider Services toll free at (800) 423-0507, or calling (916) 853-7373 and asking for EDI Support. Requests may also be sent by e-mail to denti-caledi@delta.org.

The requirement for the Medi-Cal Dental Telecommunications Provider and Biller Application/Agreement (hereinafter "Trading Partner Agreement") applies to ALL who submit claims and Treatment Authorization Requests (TARs) electronically, including those who utilize a clearinghouse. ***If you fail to submit the required Trading Partner Agreement, you will no longer be allowed to continue to submit EDI.*** If you utilize a clearinghouse to submit electronically, the clearinghouse will be unable to submit electronically on your behalf, if you have not submitted a Trading Partner Agreement. To avoid disruption to your EDI process, please sign the required Trading Partner Agreement.

EDI trading partners must be certified by Denti-Cal for the 4010A1 format before any claim data will be accepted. Providers who submit claims electronically through clearinghouses will not be required to individually undergo certification. Electronic claims will only be accepted from certified clearinghouses.

Both requirements, the Trading Partner Agreement and certification, if applicable, must be met in order to continue to submit electronically.

Important Reminders!

- Current Dental Terminology Version 4 (CDT-4) will be required for paper *and* electronic transactions.
- Changes to the Manual of Criteria will be implemented in conjunction with the CDT-4 codes.
- Scheduled implementation date is October 1, 2005.
- ***CDT-5 will be implemented shortly after CDT-4 and will have minimal changes.***
- Remember to review and retain all monthly Denti-Cal bulletins to remain on top of these important implementation details.

What Should Providers Be Doing?

- Prepare to submit claims using CDT-4 codes effective October 1, 2005.
- Continue to follow existing billing instructions until otherwise notified through future bulletin updates.
- CDT codes are not currently accepted by Denti-Cal and are considered invalid. Sufficient notification will be made prior to the transition to CDT-4 codes.
- Any claim service line (CSL) submitted with an invalid procedure code or a blank procedure code field will be denied, whether submitted electronically or as paper documents.
- Providers should review all monthly bulletins for updates on future CDT-4 implementation details.

For additional information regarding HIPAA, please refer to the following Web sites:

- ✓ www.medi-cal.ca.gov (Medi-Cal Web site)
- ✓ www.dhs.cahwnet.gov/hipaa (Department of Health Services, Office of HIPAA Compliance)
- ✓ <http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/index.shtml> (Department of Health and Human Services)

Direct emails to: DentiCal_HIPAA@delta.org. All emails will be responded to as quickly as possible.