

Denti-Cal Bulletin



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IMPORTANT UPDATE: CHANGES IN ADJUDICATION PROCEDURES/REASON CODES FOR DENTAL RESTORATIONS IMPLEMENTED

In 2004, AB 1762 amended Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code 14132.88(f) to require pretreatment radiograph documentation for post treatment claims to establish the medical necessity for dental restorations (fillings and prefabricated/stainless steel crowns) and to reduce fraudulent claims for unnecessary restorative services. Additional and/or modified adjudication reason codes will clarify the reasons why Denti-Cal may disallow a request for treatment and/or payment.

Denti-Cal has created the following adjudication reason codes to present a more detailed explanation as to why a restoration has been disallowed:

- 121a** Neither radiographs nor photographs substantiate immediate need for restoration of surface(s) requested.
- 293d** Reevaluate for extraction of primary tooth. Radiolucency evident in periapical or furcation area.
- 271j** Primary tooth has deep caries that appears to encroach the pulp. Radiograph inadequate to evaluate periapical or furcation area.
- 266m** Current periapical radiographs of the tooth along with arch films to establish arch integrity are required.
- 029g** Payment/Authorization disallowed due to radiographs/photographs dated in the future.

Denti-Cal has modified the following adjudication reason codes for dental restorations and associated procedures to assist with processing of claims:

- 029e** Payment denied. Date(s) on radiographs/photographs are dated after the date of service.
- 121** Radiographs do not substantiate immediate need for restoration of surface(s) requested.
- 266g** Unable to evaluate treatment. Photographs, digitized images, paper copies, or duplicate radiographs are not labeled adequately to determine right or left or individual tooth numbers.
- 124a** Decay not evident on the requested surface(s), but decay evident on other surface(s).
- 271i** Permanent tooth has deep caries that appears to encroach the pulp. Periapical is required.

For additional information please telephone Denti-Cal toll-free at (800) 423-0507.