

Denti-Cal Bulletin



VOLUME 23, NUMBER 6

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FEBRUARY 2007

RATE INCREASE FOR DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Effective October 1, 2006, determination of anesthesia time has changed. There is no longer a fee paid for anesthesia “start up” (equivalent to five units), however, the per-unit reimbursement rate for dental anesthesiologists (Procedure 998 - Unlisted Therapeutic Service) has been increased to levels equal to their medical counterparts. In order to be reimbursed for services rendered, dental anesthesiologists should submit the Operating Room (OR) report or anesthesia report, indicating the start and stop time for the administered anesthesia.

For anesthesia services rendered beginning October 1, 2006 which have already been paid, providers may submit a Claim Inquiry Form (CIF) with an OR report attached for revised payment.

Dental anesthesiologists billing for Procedure 998 are reminded of the following:

- ◆ Anesthesia services are *only* payable at the higher rate when performed in a hospital, surgicenter, or the treating provider’s office.
- ◆ Anesthesiologists may not be the same providers who are rendering the treatment services.
- ◆ Always submit usual, customary, and reasonable (UCR) fees.

CHANGES TO THE CHILDREN’S TREATMENT PROGRAM (CTP)/ CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION (CHDP) PROCESS

Providers who render services to children eligible for CTP/CHDP will no longer receive a cancelled Treatment Authorization Request (TAR). Instead, effective immediately a Notice of Authorization (NOA) will automatically be mailed. The following message will now be printed on the NOA:

Please submit a current PM 160 form with NOA when requesting payment.

REMINDER: When submitting a TAR or a claim for services provided to children eligible for CTP/CHDP *always check “Yes” in Field 16* on the TAR or claim and include proof of Medi-Cal eligibility.

DENTI-CAL SEMINARS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY

D086/Basic Seminar	February 1, 2007	San Luis Obispo
D087/Advanced Seminar	February 2, 2007	San Luis Obispo
D088/Workshop	February 8, 2007	Santa Ana
D089/Advanced Seminar	February 9, 2007	Santa Ana
D090/Workshop	February 16, 2007	Fairfield

Please refer to Denti-Cal Bulletin Volume 22, Number 33 for additional details.

If there are any questions, please call Denti-Cal toll-free at (800) 423-0507.