

Diagnostic Dental Services Policy

Texas Health Steps (THSteps) Diagnostic Dental Service Benefits to Change for Texas Medicaid October 1, 2015

Effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2015, benefit criteria for THSteps diagnostic dental services will change for Texas Medicaid.

A caries risk assessment procedure code (D0601, D0602, or D0603) will be required on the same claim when dental examination procedure code D0120, D0145, or D0150 is submitted for reimbursement.

The client's dental condition(s) that justifies the risk assessment classification submitted with the claim must be maintained by the provider in the client's medical record, and it must be clearly documented using a caries risk assessment tool or in narrative charting. The client's medical record is subject to retrospective review.

Procedure codes D0601, D0602, and D0603 are informational only, and are not payable. Informational-only procedure codes must be billed in the amount of at least \$0.01.

Note: Beginning January 1, 2016, procedure codes D0120, D0145, and D0150 will be denied if procedure code D0601, D0602, or D0603 is not submitted on the same claim.

Resources

The following professionally-developed caries risk assessment tools are available on the American Dental Association (ADA), American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), and Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Oral Health Program websites:

www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Member%20Center/Files/topics_caries_instructions.ashx

www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Member%20Center/Files/topics_caries_under6.ashx

www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Science%20and%20Research/Files/topic_caries_over6.ashx

www.aapd.org/media/Policies_Guidelines/G_CariesRiskAssessment.pdf

www.dshs.state.tx.us/dental/Caries-Risk-Assessment.shtm

Beginning October 1, 2015, providers may access a training PowerPoint on the DSHS online provider education website, www.txhealthsteps.com/cms/. In addition, a new module addressing preventive oral health visits and the use of caries risk assessments will be available in mid-November.