

Oklahoma Health Care Authority

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) values your feedback and input. It is very important that you provide your comments regarding the proposed rule change by the comment due date. Comments can be submitted on the OHCA's [Proposed Changes Blog](#).

OHCA COMMENT DUE DATE: February 16, 2018

The proposed policy is a Permanent Rule. The proposed policy was presented at the January 2, 2018 Tribal Consultation and is scheduled to be presented to the Medical Advisory Committee on March 15, 2018 and the OHCA Board of Directors on March 22, 2018.

Reference: APA WF # 17-14

SUMMARY:

Adult Dental Emergency Extractions - The proposed revision clarifies dental coverage for adults by amending the rule that limits dental services for adults to "emergency" extractions.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority Act, Section 5007 (F)(1) and (3) of Title 63 of Oklahoma Statutes; Section 5003 through 5016 of Title 63 of Oklahoma Statutes; The Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board; 42 CFR 483.55; Oklahoma Medicaid State Plan

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

STATE OF OKLAHOMA OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

TO: Tywanda Cox
Federal and State Policy

FROM: Sasha Teel
Federal and State Authorities

SUBJECT: Rule Impact Statement
APA WF # 17-14

A. Brief description of the purpose of the rule:

In an effort to clarify dental coverage for adults, the proposed revisions amend the rule that limits dental services for adults to "emergency" extractions. The policy was initially intended for emergency extractions and was later revised to medically necessary extractions. The intent of the

change was to ensure the emergency extractions were medically necessary; however, there was some confusion regarding interpretation. Therefore, the policy will revert back to the original language to include the term emergency along with reference to where emergency dental care is defined in policy. The proposed revisions also add new language regarding the medically necessary images and oral examination that can accompany an emergency extraction. A new definition for the images that can accompany an emergency extraction and a definition for emergency extraction were also added.

- B. A description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the cost of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities:

Adults, receiving non-emergency dental coverage, may be impacted; however, in order to comply with our current contract with the federal government (State Plan), these changes need to be made.

- C. A description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule:

No classes of persons will benefit from this proposed revision.

- D. A description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon the affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee changes:

There are no fee changes associated with the proposed rule revisions.

- E. The probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency:

Savings were approved during promulgation of the emergency rule; the PERM rule change will not result in any additional costs and/or savings to the agency.

- F. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule:

The proposed rule will not have an economic impact on any political subdivision or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule.

- G. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act:

This rule change could have some considerable implications on dental businesses serving the adult SoonerCare population; however, in order to comply with our current contract with the federal government (State Plan), these changes need to be made.

- H. An explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule:

Throughout the year, OHCA staff gathers relevant information through stakeholder involvement and public forums in order to communicate the planned actions concerning rulemaking, as well as other issues. While it is difficult to balance the needs of SoonerCare members with those of the various providers, we propose rules with each of these issues and interests considered.

- I. A determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk:

The OHCA anticipates that better clarifying SoonerCare's current dental coverage for adults will save the agency money and allow us to continue the SoonerCare program without exhausting additional dollars to dental services that were not intended to be covered.

J. A determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented:

If the rule is not implemented, the OHCA may have to rely on other rate reductions and elimination of some services.

K. The date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified:

The rule impact statement was prepared November 21, 2017.

**TITLE 317. OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY
CHAPTER 30. MEDICAL PROVIDERS-FEE FOR SERVICE**

SUBCHAPTER 5. INDIVIDUAL PROVIDERS AND SPECIALTIES

PART 79. DENTISTS

317:30-5-695. Eligible dental providers and definitions

(a) Eligible dental providers in Oklahoma's SoonerCare program are:

- (1) individuals licensed as dentists under 59 Oklahoma Statutes §§ 328.21, 328.22, and 328.23 (licensed dentists, specialty dentists and out of state dentists);
- (2) individuals issued permits as dental interns under 59 Oklahoma Statute § 328.26;
- (3) individuals who are third and fourth year dental students at an accredited Oklahoma dental college; and
- (4) any individual issued a license in another state as a dentist.

(b) All eligible providers must be in good standing with regard to their license. Any revocation or suspension status of a provider referenced in subsection (a) above renders the provider ineligible for payment or subject to recoupment under SoonerCare.

(c) Eligible providers must document and sign records of services rendered in accordance with guidelines found at OAC 317:30-3-15.

(d) The American Dental Association's version of Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature (CDT) is used by the ~~OHCA~~Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) to communicate information related to codes, and procedures for administration. Definitions, nomenclature, and descriptors as listed in the CDT will apply, with the exception of more specific definitions or limitations set forth.

(1) ~~"Decay"~~ **Decay** means carious lesions in a tooth; decomposition and/or dissolution of the calcified and organic components of the tooth structure.

(2) ~~"Emergency Dental Care"~~ includes **Emergency Dental Care** means, but is not limited to, the immediate service that must be provided to relieve the member from pain due to an acute infection, swelling, trismus or trauma.

(3) ~~"Emergency Extraction"~~ means, but is not limited to, an extraction of a tooth due to presence of pathology, trauma, severe periodontal involvement, significant caries or to relieve pain or infection.

(4) ~~"Images"~~ means radiographs and diagnostic imaging that are part of the clinical record. Images should only be taken for clinical reasons as determined by the dentist and must be of diagnostic quality, properly identified, and dated.

(5) ~~"Palliative Treatment"~~ **Palliative Treatment** means action that relieves pain but is not curative. Palliative Treatment is an all-inclusive service. No other codes are reimbursable on the same date of service.

(6) ~~"Radiographic Caries"~~ **Radiographic Caries** means dissolution of the calcified and organic components of tooth tissue that has penetrated the enamel and is approaching the dentinoenamel junction.

(7) ~~"Upcoding"~~ means reporting a more complex and/or higher cost procedure than actually performed.

(8) ~~"Unbinding"~~ means billing separately for several individual procedures that are included within one Current Dental Terminology or Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code.

(9) ~~"Unbundling"~~ means billing separately for several individual procedures that are included within one CDT or Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code.

(10) ~~"Upcoding"~~ means reporting a more complex and/or higher cost procedure than actually performed.

317:30-5-696. Coverage by category

Payment is made for dental services as set forth in this Section.

(1) **Adults.**

(A) Dental coverage for adults is limited to:

(i) ~~medically necessary extractions and approved boney adjustments. Emergency extractions, as defined in Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 317:30-5-695. Tooth extraction must have medical need documented;~~
(ii) ~~limited oral examinations and medically necessary images, as defined in OAC 317:30-5-695, associated with the emergency extraction or with a clinical presentation with reasonable expectation that an emergency extraction will be needed;~~
(iii) ~~Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling; and~~
(iv) ~~medical and surgical services performed by a dentist or physician to the extent such services may be performed under State law when those services would be covered if performed by a physician.~~

(B) Payment is made for dental care for adults residing in private Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) and who have been approved for ICF/IID level of care, similar to the scope of services available to individuals under age 21.

(C) Limited dental services are available for members who meet all medical criteria, but need dental clearance to obtain organ transplant approval. Providers must obtain prior authorization before delivery of dental service, with the exception of evaluation and extractions. All requests must be filed on the currently approved American Dental Association (ADA) form and must include diagnostic images, six-point periodontal charting, narratives and comprehensive treatment plans. The OHCA will notify the provider of determination using OHCA Prior Authorization Request Decision form. Prior authorized services must be billed exactly as they appear on the prior authorization request. The following dental services are available:

- (i) comprehensive oral evaluation,
- (ii) two image bitewings,
- (iii) prophylaxis,
- (iv) fluoride application,
- (v) limited restorative procedures, and
- (vi) periodontal scaling/root planing.

(2) ~~Home and community based waiver services (HCBWS) for the intellectually disabled.~~ Home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver for the intellectually disabled. All providers participating in the ~~HCBWS~~HCBS must have a separate contract with the OHCA to provide services under the ~~HCBWS~~HCBS. Dental services are defined in each waiver and must be prior authorized.

(3) **Children.** The OHCA Dental Program provides the basic

medically necessary treatment. The services listed below are compensable for members under 21 years of age without prior authorization. All other dental services must be prior authorized. Anesthesia services are covered for children in the same manner as adults. All providers performing preventive services must be available to perform needed restorative services for those members receiving any evaluation and preventive services.

(A) **Comprehensive oral evaluation.** This procedure should precede any images, and chart documentation must include image interpretations, caries risk assessment and both medical and dental health history of member. The comprehensive treatment plan should be the final results of this procedure.

(B) **Periodic oral evaluation.** This procedure may be provided for a member of record if not seen by any dentist for more than six months. An examination should precede any images, and chart documentation must include images interpretations, caries risk assessment and both medical and dental health history of member. The comprehensive treatment plan should be the final results of this procedure.

(C) **Limited oral evaluation.** This procedure is only compensable to the same dentist or practice for two visits prior to a comprehensive or periodic evaluation examination being completed.

(D) **Images.** To be SoonerCare compensable, images must be of diagnostic quality and medically necessary. A clinical examination must precede any images, and chart documentation must include member history, prior images, caries risk assessment and both dental and general health needs of the member. The referring dentist is responsible for providing properly identified images of acceptable quality with a referral, if that provider chooses to expose and submit for reimbursement prior to referral. Periapical images must include at least three millimeters beyond the apex of the tooth being imaged. Panoramic films and two bitewings are considered full mouth images. Full mouth images as noted above or traditional (minimum of 12 periapical films and two posterior bitewings) are allowable once in a three year period and must be of diagnostic quality. Individually listed intraoral images by the same dentist/dental office are considered a complete series if the number of individual images equals or exceeds the traditional number for a complete series. Panoramic films are only compensable when chart documentation clearly indicates reasons for the exposure

based on clinical findings. This type of exposure is not to rule out or evaluate caries. Prior authorization and a detailed medical need narrative are required for additional panoramic films taken within three years of the original set.

(E) **Dental sealants.** Tooth numbers 2, 3, 14, 15, 18, 19, 30 and 31 must be caries free on the interproximal and occlusal surfaces to be eligible for this service. This service is available through 18 years of age and is compensable once every 36 months if medical necessity is documented.

(F) **Dental prophylaxis.** This procedure is provided once every 184 days including topical application of fluoride.

(G) **Stainless steel crowns for primary teeth.** The use of any stainless steel crowns is allowed as follows:

(i) Stainless steel crowns are allowed if:

- (I) the child is five years of age or under;
- (II) 70 percent or more of the root structure remains; or
- (III) the procedure is provided more than 12 months prior to normal exfoliation.

(ii) Stainless steel crowns are treatment of choice for:

- (I) primary teeth treated with pulpal therapy, if the above conditions exist;
- (II) primary teeth where three surfaces of extensive decay exist; or
- (III) primary teeth where cuspal occlusion is lost due to decay or accident.

(iii) Preoperative periapical images and/or written documentation explaining the extent of decay must be available for review, if requested.

(iv) Placement of a stainless steel crown is allowed once for a minimum period of 24 months. No other restoration on that tooth is compensable during that period of time. A stainless steel crown is not a temporizing treatment to be used while a permanent crown is being fabricated.

(H) **Stainless steel crowns for permanent teeth.** The use of any stainless steel crowns is allowed as follows:

(i) Stainless steel crowns are the treatment of choice for:

- (I) posterior permanent teeth that have completed endodontic therapy if three or more surfaces of tooth is destroyed;
- (II) posterior permanent teeth that have three or more surfaces of extensive decay; or

- (III) where cuspal occlusion is lost due to decay prior to age 16 years.
- (ii) Preoperative periapical images and/or written documentation explaining the extent of decay must be available for review, if requested.
- (iii) Placement of a stainless steel crown excludes placement of any other type of crown for a period of 24 months. No other restoration on that tooth is compensable during that period of time.
- (I) **Pulpotomies and pulpectomies.**
- (i) Therapeutic pulpotomies and pulpal debridement are allowable once per lifetime. Pre-and post-operative periapical images must be available for review, if requested. Therapeutic pulpotomies and pulpal debridement is available for the following:
- (I) Primary molars having at least 70 percent or more of their root structure remaining or more than 12 months prior to normal exfoliation;
- (II) Tooth numbers O and P before age five years;
- (III) Tooth numbers E and F before six years;
- (IV) Tooth numbers N and Q before five years;
- (V) Tooth numbers D and G before five years.
- (ii) Therapeutic pulpotomies and pulpal debridement are allowed for primary teeth if exfoliation of the teeth is not expected to occur for at least one year or if 70 percent or more of root structure is remaining.
- (J) **Endodontics.** Payment is made for the services provided in accordance with the following:
- (i) This procedure is allowed when there are no other missing anterior teeth in the same arch requiring replacement.
- (ii) The provider documents history of member's improved oral hygiene and flossing ability in records.
- (iii) Prior authorization is required for members who have a treatment plan requiring more than two anterior and/or two posterior root canals.
- (iv) Pre and post-operative periapical images must be available for review.
- (v) Pulpal debridement may be performed for the relief of pain while waiting for the decision from the OHCA.
- (vi) Providers are responsible for any follow-up treatment required due to a failed root canal therapy for 24 month post completion.
- (vii) Endodontically treated teeth should be restored to limited occlusal function and all contours should be replaced. These teeth are not automatically approved for any type of crown.

(K) **Space maintainers.** Certain limitations apply with regard to this procedure. Providers are responsible for recementation of any maintainer placed by them for six months post insertion.

(i) **Band and loop type space maintenance.** This procedure must be provided in accordance with the following guidelines:

(I) This procedure is compensable for all primary molars where permanent successor is missing or where succedaneous tooth is more than 5mm below the crest of the alveolar ridge.

(II) First primary molars are not allowed space maintenance if the second primary and first permanent molars are present and in cuspal interlocking occlusion regardless of the presence or absence of normal relationship.

(III) If there are missing posterior teeth bilaterally in the same arch, under the above guidelines, bilateral space maintainer is the treatment of choice.

(IV) The teeth numbers shown on the claim should be those of the missing teeth.

(V) Post-operative bitewing images must be available for review.

(VI) Bilateral band and loop space maintainer is allowed if member does not have eruption of the four mandibular anterior teeth in position or if sedation case that presents limitations to fabricate other space maintenance appliances.

(ii) **Lingual arch bar.** Payment is made for the services provided in accordance with the following:

(I) Lingual arch bar is used when permanent incisors are erupted and the second primary molar (K or T) is missing in the same arch.

(II) The requirements are the same as for band and loop space maintainer.

(III) Pre and post-operative images must be available.

(L) **Analgesia.** Analgesia services are reimbursable in accordance with the following:

(i) **Inhalation of nitrous oxide.** Use of nitrous oxide is compensable for four occurrences per year and is not separately reimbursable, if provided on the same date by the same provider as IV sedation, non-intravenous conscious sedation, or general anesthesia. The medical need for this service must be documented in the member's record.

(ii) **Non-intravenous conscious sedation.** Non-intravenous conscious sedation is not separately reimbursable, if provided on the same date by the same provider as analgesia, anxiolysis, inhalation of nitrous oxide, IV sedation, or general anesthesia. Non-intravenous conscious sedation is reimbursable when determined to be medically necessary for documented handicapped members, uncontrollable members or justifiable medical or dental conditions. The report must detail the member's condition. No services are reimbursable when provided primarily for the convenience of the member and/or the dentist, it must be medically necessary.

(M) **Pulp caps.** Indirect and direct pulp cap must be ADA accepted calcium hydroxide or Mineral Trioxide Aggregate materials, not a cavity liner or chemical used for dentinal hypersensitivity. Indirect and direct pulp cap codes require specific narrative support addressing materials used, intent and reasons for use. Application of chemicals used for dentinal hypersensitivity is not allowed as indirect pulp cap. Utilization of these codes is verified by post payment review.

(N) **Protective restorations.** This restoration includes removal of decay, if present, and is reimbursable for the same tooth on the same date of service with a direct or indirect pulp cap, if needed. Permanent restoration of the tooth is allowed after 60 days unless the tooth becomes symptomatic and requires pain relieving treatment.

(O) **Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling.** Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling is covered when performed utilizing the five intervention steps of asking the member to describe his/her smoking, advising the member to quit, assessing the willingness of the member to quit, assisting with referrals and plans to quit, and arranging for follow-up. Up to eight sessions are covered per year per individual who has documented tobacco use. It is a covered service when provided by physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, Oklahoma State Health Department and FQHC nursing, and Maternal/Child Health Licensed Clinical Social Workers with a certification as a Tobacco Treatment Specialist Certification (CTTS) staff in addition to other appropriate services rendered. Chart documentation must include a separate note that addresses the 5A's, separate signature, and the member specific information addressed in the five steps and the time spent by the practitioner performing the counseling. Anything under three minutes is

considered part of a routine visit.

(P) **Diagnostic casts and oral/facial images.** Diagnostic casts or oral/facial images may be requested by OHCA or representatives of OHCA. If cast or images are received they will be considered supporting documentation and may be used to make a determination for authorization of services. Submitted documentation used to base a decision will not be returned. Providers will be reimbursed for either the study model or images.

(i) Documentation of photographic images must be kept in the client's medical record and medical necessity identified on the submitted electronic or paper claim.

(ii) Oral/facial photographic images are allowed under the following conditions:

(I) When radiographic images do not adequately support the necessity for requested treatment.

(II) When photo images better support medical necessity for the requested treatment rather than diagnostic models.

(III) If a comprehensive orthodontic workup has not been performed.

(iii) For photographic images, the oral/facial portfolio must include a view of the complete lower arch, complete upper arch, and left and right maximum intercuspatation of teeth.

(I) Maximum intercuspatation refers to the occlusal position of the mandible in which the cusps of the teeth of both arches fully interpose themselves with the cusps of the teeth of the opposing arch.

(II) Intercuspatation defines both the anterior-posterior and lateral relationships of the mandible and the maxilla, as well as the superior-inferior relationship known as the vertical dimension of occlusion.

(iv) Study models or photographic images not in compliance with the above described diagnostic guidelines will not be compensable. The provider may be allowed to resubmit new images that adhere to the diagnostic guidelines. If the provider does not provide appropriate documentation, the request for treatment will be denied.