How to order CDT-2013 for your office

It’s important that your office stay current on the 2013 code changes to minimize any disruption to your practice. To learn more about CDT-2013 or to order new CDT materials for your office, visit adacatalog.org.

Reminder: Delta Dental’s Utilization Review Guidelines Online

As a reminder, Delta Dental of Rhode Island’s detailed Utilization Review Guidelines, which include policies and procedures for submitting claims as well as our treatment guidelines, are available in the “Dentists” section of our website at: deltadentalri.com.

See the enclosed insert for a complete list of the policy changes effective January 1, 2013.

CDT 2013 features the following changes:

- 35 new codes
- 37 revised codes
- 7 changes to subcategories
- 12 deleted codes

New CDT Codes take effect January 1

Learn more about upcoming code changes to minimize disruption to your practice

CDT 2013 is the reference manual published by the American Dental Association (ADA) that contains the Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature (CDT Code). This version of the CDT Code is effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2013.

We’d like to focus on several key changes that may impact your claim submissions to Delta Dental, as well as other insurance carriers:

• NEW: D1208 – Topical application of fluoride: This code replaces procedure codes D1203 (Topical application of fluoride – child) and D1204 (Topical application of fluoride – adult). Please note: The same Utilization Review Guidelines apply to D1208 that previously applied to codes D1203 and D1204.

(continued inside)
New CDT Codes take effect January 1, 2013

Continued from Front Page...

- **NEW: D4277** – Free soft tissue graft procedure (including donor site surgery), first tooth or edentulous tooth position in graft: This code replaces code D4271 (free soft tissue graft procedure, including donor site surgery). Please note: Code D4277 applies to the first tooth position in the quadrant.

- **NEW: D4278** – Free soft tissue graft procedure (including donor site surgery), each additional contiguous tooth or edentulous tooth position in same graft site: This means that each additional contiguous tooth should be submitted as a D4278. **Delta Dental will disallow submissions for more than two sites per quadrant under code D4278.**

Please note: The fee for D4277 will remain the same as the current allowable fee for D4271. The fee profile for D4278 is equivalent to half the allowable fee of D4271.

Here’s an example of how a pre-treatment estimate will be processed for a soft tissue graft in the lower right quadrant for dates of service on or after 1/1/13:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tooth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDT Code</th>
<th>Dentist’s Charge</th>
<th>Allowable Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D4277</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4278</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4278</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4278</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>Disallow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donated Dental honors long-time benefactor Delta Dental

Donated Dental Services Rhode Island recently honored Delta Dental of Rhode Island with an award of appreciation for its contributions to the organization, which provides free dental care and lab work to citizens with disabilities, and the elderly, medically fragile or those who otherwise do not have access to dental care.

“Delta Dental’s annual gift has become imperative to sustain the program throughout the years,” said Donated Dental’s Dr. Nager. “On behalf of the thousands of people served through Donated Dental, we want to thank Delta Dental. Their annual sponsorship is truly an investment in the restoration of health and dignity of thousands of Rhode Island citizens.”

Since 2003, Delta Dental has donated more than $100,000 through its Challenge Grant Program. Above, from left: Donated Dental Board President Dr. Martin C. Nager; Delta Dental of Rhode Island President & CEO Joseph A. Nagle; Donated Dental Board Member Valeria G. Celentano; Rhode Island Dental Association President Dr. Steven Brown; Donated Dental Board Member Dr. A. Thomas Correia and Delta Dental’s Vice President of External Affairs Kathryn Shanley.
Rhode Island Mission of Mercy 2013
Delta Dental re-commits as primary funding sponsor

Earlier this year, the state’s first-ever Mission of Mercy free dental clinic treated more than 800 Rhode Islanders and provided more than $290,000 in donated dental services at no cost to adults and children who could not afford dental care. Delta Dental of Rhode Island was proud to serve as the primary funding sponsor, and recently announced that we are re-committing as primary sponsor for this signature public health event in 2013. Delta Dental will provide $50,000 to RI MOM 2013 through our charitable endowment fund.

“We were honored to be part of the inaugural Mission of Mercy event,” said Joseph A. Nagle, Delta Dental President & CEO. “The need for access to dental services has never been greater, and the Delta Dental Fund was established to improve access to dental care for all Rhode Islanders, not just our members. We expect the 2013 Mission of Mercy clinic to serve even more people in need.”

Nagle also cited the overwhelming volunteer support for the two-day clinic, as more than 650 community and health professionals came together to make the event a success. “It was heartening to see so many community and dental volunteers turn out to support their fellow Rhode Islanders,” said Nagle.

Dr. Jeffrey Dodge, chairman of the Rhode Island Oral Health Foundation which sponsors the RI MOM, said that Delta Dental’s early commitment to RI MOM 2013 helps ensure that next year’s event is off to a smooth start. “Delta Dental and its employees were early and enthusiastic supporters of RI MOM, and we’re pleased that this valuable partnership will continue in 2013.”

Save the Date!
June 1 & 2, 2013
Rhode Island Mission of Mercy 2013
CCRI Lincoln Campus

To learn more about RI MOM 2013, visit the Foundation’s website at: rimom.org, or talk to your colleagues and friends who volunteered this year. Volunteer registration opens in February 2013.
Administrative Reminders

BE SURE TO ASK FOR PICTURE ID AND A DELTA DENTAL IDENTIFICATION CARD AT EVERY VISIT

Protect yourself and your patients!

If a Delta Dental member changes jobs or moves to a new division within the same employer, he or she may have a new identification card. Submitting the incorrect Delta Dental identification number delays claims processing. In addition, we have seen more examples of members “loaning” their Delta Dental ID cards to friends and family. You can protect your office from this type of fraud by always asking for a Delta Dental identification card and a photo ID for new patients. We suggest you make copies and place them in the patient’s chart.

(Note: If payment is made to your office for a claim to a non-member using a Delta Dental card fraudulently, Delta Dental of Rhode Island will recover the money from a future settlement check.)

2013 CREDENTIALING MEETING SCHEDULE

If you anticipate adding a new dentist to your practice, please keep the following dates in mind:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Application Due By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 27, 2013</td>
<td>February 20, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20, 2013</td>
<td>March 13, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24, 2013</td>
<td>April 17, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22, 2013</td>
<td>May 15, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 26, 2013</td>
<td>June 19, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 31, 2013</td>
<td>July 24, 2013</td>
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<td>August 28, 2013</td>
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<td>October 23, 2013</td>
<td>October 16, 2013</td>
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<td>November 27, 2013</td>
<td>November 20, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 18, 2013</td>
<td>December 11, 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed applications must be received seven days prior to the scheduled meeting date. Only completed applications will be reviewed. Incomplete applications will be considered at the next available meeting date and only when all required documentation has been submitted.

CHANGES TO YOUR PRACTICE

You can find application forms and other important office forms on the Delta Communications link in the Dentists section of our website: deltadentalri.com. Contact Professional Relations at 401-752-6402, via email at mmitchell@deltadentalri.com or fax 401-752-6070; if and when the following occurs:

- A dentist joins or leaves your practice
- You change your business or payment address
- You’re buying, selling or retiring from a practice

REMINDER:

As a participating dentist, you agree to collect patient co-payments, co-insurances or deductibles. Failing to do so is a violation of your participation agreement. If you have questions regarding the terms of your participation, contact Monique Mitchell at 401-752-6402 or via email at mmitchell@deltadentalri.com.
The following policy changes are not related to CDT 2013. They are required by the Delta Dental Plans Association to ensure consistent claims processing standards and will be effective January 1, 2013. In accordance with RI Law, the policy changes are presented in a “red line” version. New language is underlined and deleted language is shown as a strikethrough.

Procedure Code D2950 – Core buildup, including any pins
A core buildup only qualifies for benefits when it is necessary to retain a cast restoration due to extensive loss of tooth structure from caries or fracture. If the procedure does not qualify, DISALLOW-participating dentist/DENY-non-participating dentist.

A tooth does not automatically qualify for a core buildup although it qualifies even though it may qualify for a crown, deny disallow the core buildup in these instances.

If the crown and buildup are submitted on the same claim/pre-treatment and both do not qualify; deny the crown and disallow the D2950 core buildup.

Procedure Code D2952 – Post and core in addition to crown, indirectly fabricated and Procedure Code D2954 – Prefabricated post and core in addition to crown
A post & core on an endodontically treated anterior tooth will be reviewed to determine if an access prep only will be allowed. If the Dental Consultant finds the tooth does not qualify for the post & core, an alternate benefit of proc D2330 to repair the access opening should be benefited. Patient is responsible for the difference up to dentist’s charge. (Tooth does not qualify for a crown in these cases.) If a crown is also submitted, in this case, it should be denied by the Consultant.

A post and core only qualifies for benefits when it is necessary to retain a cast restoration due to extensive loss of tooth structure from caries or fracture. If the procedure does not qualify, DISALLOW-participating dentist/DENY-non-participating dentist.

PLEASE NOTE: For procedure codes D2950, D2952 and D2954, we have analyzed the effect this might have on Rhode Island dentists. Our research shows that less than 200 claims per year might be impacted by these policy changes.

Procedure Code D2799 – Provisional crown further treatment or completion of diagnosis necessary prior to final impression.
Not to be used as a temporary crown for a routine prosthetic restoration.

If a temporary crown is placed for an extended period of time (e.g., 6 months or longer), this is considered a provisional crown. The dentist may submit a claim for Dental Consultant review to determine whether the dentist can bill the patient as opposed to including the provisional crown as part of the greater procedure, and therefore disallowed. Circumstances that would be considered include a patient in perio treatment or undergoing extensive prosthodontic work, orthodontic cases in conjunction with crown and bridge, and lab processed temporary crowns for long-span bridges. If the Dental Consultant...
determines that the treatment plan is appropriate and a provisional bridge is warranted, the claim should be denied as a patient responsibility.

1. Temporary (interim) or provisional restorations are not separate benefits and should be included in the fee for the permanent restoration. Benefits are disallowed.

2. When a temporary (interim) or provisional crown is billed as a therapeutic measure for a fractured tooth, benefits are denied.

3. Temporary or provisional fixed prostheses by the same dentist/dental office are not separate benefits and should be included in the fee for the permanent prosthesis. Fees are disallowed upon submission.

Procedure Code D2955 – Post removal
Removal of posts is included in the fee for a retreatment if done by the same dentist performing the retreatment. A separate charge may not be made to the patient; disallow par dentist/deny non-par dentist. If no other procedure is performed with D2955, allow.

Benefit as submitted, by report.

The fee for post removal when the procedure is rendered by the same dentist/office rendering retreatment is DISALLOWED within 30 days prior to endodontic retreatment as a component of the fee for the retreatment.

Procedure Code D6253 – Provisional pontic further treatment or completion of diagnosis necessary prior to final impression.
Not to be used as a temporary pontic for routine prosthetic fixed partial dentures.

If a temporary bridge is placed for an extended period of time (e.g., 6 months or longer), this is considered a provisional bridge. The dentist may submit a claim for Dental Consultant review to determine whether the dentist can bill the patient as opposed to including the provisional bridge as part of the greater procedure, and therefore disallowed. Circumstances that would be considered include: a patient in periodontal treatment or undergoing extensive prosthodontic work, orthodontic cases in conjunction with crown and bridge, and lab processed temporary crowns for long-span bridges. If the Dental Consultant determines that the treatment plan is appropriate and a provisional bridge is warranted, the claim should be denied as a patient responsibility.

Temporary and interim fixed prostheses are not separate benefits and should be included in the fee for the permanent prosthesis. Separate fees by the same dentist/dental office are disallowed upon submission.

Procedure Code D6793 – Provisional retainer crown – further treatment or completion of diagnosis necessary prior to final impression.
Not to be used as a temporary retainer crown for routine prosthetic fixed partial dentures.

If a temporary bridge is placed for an extended period of time (e.g., 6 months or longer), this is considered a provisional bridge. The dentist may submit a claim for Dental Consultant review to determine whether the dentist can bill the patient as opposed to including the provisional bridge as part of the greater procedure, and therefore disallowed. Circumstances that would be considered include: a patient in periodontal treatment or undergoing extensive prosthodontic work, orthodontic cases in conjunction with crown and bridge, and lab processed temporary crowns for long-span bridges.

Temporary or provisional fixed prostheses are not separate benefits and should be included in the fee for the permanent prosthesis. Separate fees to the same dentist/dental office are disallowed upon submission.