

Clarification for Preventive Dental Space Maintainers Lifetime Limitation for Texas Medicaid

Note: Texas Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) must provide all medically necessary, Medicaid-covered services to eligible clients. Administrative procedures such as prior authorization, pre-certification, referrals, and claims/encounter data filing may differ from traditional Medicaid (fee-for-service) and from MCO to MCO. Providers should contact the client's specific MCO for details.

Effective February 1, 2017, for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, one space maintainer per TID may be reimbursed per lifetime, per client for Texas Medicaid. Replacement space maintainers may be considered upon appeal with documentation supporting medical necessity. Space maintainers are designed to prevent tooth movement and are a benefit of Texas Medicaid for the situations outlined in the current *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual* and in the following additional situation:

- After premature loss of a deciduous/primary second molar (tooth identification [TID]: A, J, K, and T) for clients who are 3 through 7 years of age (procedure code D1575)

Refer to: The *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual Children's Services Handbook*, subsection 4.2.14, "Preventive Services," for the current situations for which space maintainers are a benefit of Texas Medicaid.

As a reminder, effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, space maintainer procedure code D1575 was added as a benefit of Texas Medicaid and may be reimbursed as follows for clients who are 3 through 7 years of age:

- To Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), THSteps dental, orthodontist, and oral maxillofacial surgeon providers for services rendered in the office and outpatient hospital settings.
- To THSteps dental, orthodontist, and oral maxillofacial surgeon providers for services rendered in the inpatient hospital setting.

Procedure code D1575 is limited to one per tooth ID, per lifetime, per client.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126.