Coverage of Dental Radiographs

Medical Strategy & Development

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Table of Contents:

1. Adjudication Rule Description & Version Control:

Category:	Dental
Reference No.:	2012-DN-0004
External Implementation Date:	01 June 2012
Related Adjudication Rule:	NA
Author:	MI&S - MSD

Version Control

Version No.:	Version Effective Date
1	01 June 2012

2. Chapter 1: Scope:

This adjudication rule addresses the coverage of Dental Radiographs by Daman for all plans with the optional benefit of dental and administered by Daman.

3. Chapter 2: Adjudication Policy

A. Eligibility / Coverage Criteria:

All dental radiographs to be claimed using the correct USCLS codes with a justifying ICD9-CM code for diagnosis, unless otherwise specified.

The plan wise coverage of dental radiographs is subject to availability of dental benefits and policy terms & conditions.

Plans	Coverage
Enhanced plans (with dental benefit and 20% co-pay), Aounak	80% with pre-authorization
Enhanced plans (with dental benefit and no co-pay), Reaaya	100% with pre-authorization
Premier Plus, Executive Plan,	100% covered without pre-authorization
Thiqa-UAE Nationals-Emirate of AD & Thiqa-UAE Nationals-NE & Dubai-residing in AD	50% covered in Private (with few services requiring pre-authorization) & 100% at SEHA providers (without pre-authorization)
Thiqa-UAE Nationals-NE & Dubai-not residing in AD (In SEHA providers only)	100% covered(without pre-authorization)
Abu Dhabi Plan & Enhanced plans (with no dental benefit)	Not covered

B. Requirements for Coverage:

ICD-9 CM codes to the highest specificity are to be reported.

C. Non-Coverage:

Dental radiographs are not covered for the Daman plans without the optional dental benefit (*refer to Eligibility Criteria*).

D. Payment and Coding Rules

- Panoramic X-Ray (02601) is limited to one per examination per year per policy, unless otherwise indicated. e.g. Post-op radiograph after implant placement.
- Occlusal X-Ray (02131) is covered only for: Canine Impactions, Oral Tumors & Salivary Stones.
- Bitewing X-Ray (02141) is covered in cases of dental caries for posterior teeth (provided the tooth number is mentioned), to detect pocket depths more than 3 mms and to detect open restoration margins. Max of 2 can be paid for an examination.
- Periapical X-Ray (02111) is limited to a max of 2/Restoration, 4/RCT and 8/Full mouth Examination.(Best Practice)
- Tomography (02931-02934-06931-06934) is covered for Implant cases in case of Loss of Teeth and Partial/Complete Edentulism. It can also be used in deep impaction cases related to vital structures, cysts or tumors.
- Computed Tomography (CPT 70486), for Thiqa, to be covered, when requested by a Specialist, as per the THIQA SOB.

4. Chapter 3: Adjudication Examples

Question 1: A claim received from a private dental clinic for a Thiqa card holder has the following details:

ICD 9 CM	521.00	Dental caries nos
USCLS	02601	Radiographs, Panoramic, Single film
	02601	Radiographs, Panoramic, Single film

How do you proceed?

Answer: Code 02601 will be paid once and the duplicate will be rejected with MNEC-005, as two panoramic radiographs are not justified.

Question 2: A claim received from a dentist at a Public Provider for a Thiqa card holder has all the permanent teeth numbers mentioned with the following details:

ICD 9 CM	521.00	Dental caries nos
USCLS	02102	Radiographs, Intraoral, Adult, Complete Series (minimum of 16 films incl. bitewings).
USCLS	02111	Radiographs, Intraoral, Periapical, Single film
USCLS	02141	Radiographs, Intraoral, Bitewings, Single film

How would you proceed?

Answer: Pay 02102 and reject both 02111 and 02141 with PRCE-002, as both are included in the code 02102.

5. Chapter 4: Denial Code:

Code	*Code Description*
MNEC-005	Service/supply may be appropriate, but too frequent
PRCE-002	Payment is included in the allowance for another service
MNEC-003	Service is not clinically based on good clinical practice

I. Appendix

A. Reference:

- A. Gahleitner, G. Watzek, H. Imhof. (2003). Dental CT: imaging technique, anatomy, and pathologic conditions of the jaws. EUR Radiol.
- A. G. Farman, W. C. Scarfe, B. S. Haskell. (2009). Seminars in Orthodontics. 15 (1),
- Schedule of benefits
- USCLS code list