



February 2019

policy update **bulletin**

Dental Clinical Policy & Coverage Guideline Updates

UnitedHealthcare respects the expertise of the physicians, health care professionals, and their staff who participate in our network. Our goal is to support you and your patients in making the most informed decisions regarding the choice of quality and cost-effective care, and to support practice staff with a simple and predictable administrative experience. The Policy Update Bulletin was developed to share important information regarding UnitedHealthcare Dental Clinical Policy and Coverage Guideline updates.*

*Where information in this bulletin conflicts with applicable state and/or federal law, UnitedHealthcare follows such applicable federal and/or state law

Dental Clinical Policy & Coverage Guideline Updates

Overview

This bulletin provides complete details on UnitedHealthcare Dental Clinical Policy, Coverage Guideline, and Utilization Review Guideline (URG) updates. The inclusion of a dental service (e.g., procedure or technology) in this bulletin indicates only that UnitedHealthcare has recently adopted a new policy and/or updated, revised, replaced or retired an existing policy; it does not imply that UnitedHealthcare provides coverage for the dental service. In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between the information provided in this bulletin and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted policy will prevail. Note that most benefit plan documents exclude from benefit coverage health services identified as investigational or unproven/not medically necessary. Physicians and other health care professionals may not seek or collect payment from a member for services not covered by the applicable benefit plan unless first obtaining the member's written consent, acknowledging that the service is not covered by the benefit plan and that they will be billed directly for the service.



A complete library of Dental Clinical Policies & Coverage Guidelines is available at UHCprovider.com > *Policies and Protocols* > *Dental Clinical Policies and Coverage Guidelines*.

Tips for using the Policy Update Bulletin:

- From the table of contents, click the policy title to be directed to the corresponding policy update summary.
- From the policy updates table, click the policy title to view a complete copy of a new, updated, or revised policy.

Policy Update Classifications

New

New clinical coverage criteria and/or documentation review requirements have been adopted for a health service (e.g., test, drug, device or procedure)

Updated

An existing policy has been reviewed and changes have not been made to the clinical coverage criteria or documentation review requirements; however, items such as the clinical evidence, FDA information, and/or list(s) of applicable codes may have been updated

Revised

An existing policy has been reviewed and revisions have been made to the clinical coverage criteria and/or documentation review requirements

Replaced

An existing policy has been replaced with a new or different policy

Retired

The health service(s) addressed in the policy are no longer being managed or are considered to be proven/medically necessary and are therefore not excluded as unproven/not medically necessary services, unless coverage guidelines or criteria are otherwise documented in another policy

Note: The absence of a policy does not automatically indicate or imply coverage. As always, coverage for a health service must be determined in accordance with the member's benefit plan and any applicable federal or state regulatory requirements. Additionally, UnitedHealthcare reserves the right to review the clinical evidence supporting the safety and effectiveness of a medical technology prior to rendering a coverage determination.

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- Dental Policy Template Update 4

Utilization Review Guideline (URG) Updates**UPDATED**

- National Standardized Dental Claim Utilization Review Criteria – Effective Feb. 1, 2019 4

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Take Note

DENTAL POLICY TEMPLATE UPDATE

On Feb. 1, 2019, the UnitedHealthcare Dental Clinical Policies and Coverage Guidelines were transferred to a more streamlined template; changes include:

- Simplification and relocation of the *Instructions for Use*
- Removal of the *Benefits Considerations* section

Policy guidelines have not been modified in any way as a result of this template update.

Policy Title	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
UPDATED		
National Standardized Dental Claim Utilization Review Criteria	Feb. 1, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated list of related policies for D7295; removed reference link to the Dental Clinical Policy titled <i>Oral Surgery: Orthodontic Related Procedures</i>