

Dental Clinical Policy: Oral Hygiene Instruction

Reference Number: CP.DP.47

Last Review Date: 12/25

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Description

Because of the oral health implications of poor oral hygiene, dental practices provide a uniquely effective setting for educating and demonstrating appropriate ways to maintain a healthy environment for teeth and gums. Dentists and support staff can help patients to create a healthy oral environment and prevent tooth and gum diseases. Oral hygiene instruction helps reduce patient risks of developing oral diseases and conditions and improves prognosis for certain dental therapies.

Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of Centene Dental Services™ that oral hygiene instruction (D1330) is medically necessary when all of the following conditions are met:
 - A. When the patient has self-identified as having difficulty keeping teeth clean and eliminating food and plaque between their teeth or the dentist and/or support staff have identified signs of poor oral hygiene;
 - B. When the patient is six months of age or older;
 - C. When the parent or guardian of a minor child has executed written consent for oral hygiene instruction; and,
 - D. When the oral hygiene instruction is provided by a dentist or appropriately licensed/certified support staff;
 - E. When none of the following contraindications apply:
 - 1. When the member is edentulous;
 - 2. When the parent or guardian of a minor child has not executed written consent to provide oral hygiene instruction;
 - F. Required documentation to support medical necessity include the following:
 - 1. Clinical chart and treatment notes documenting conditions listed in the indications for use of oral hygiene instruction;

Coverage Limitation/Exclusions

- 1. One D1330 per visit;
- 2. Must be submitted in conjunction with a valid D0120 or D0150 CDT code;
- 3. Must be accompanied by an applicable ICD-10 diagnosis code in addition to Z71.3;
- 4. Limited to patients six months of age or older,
- 5. Subject to state-specific regulations.

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Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Dental Terminology (CDT®). CDT® is a registered trademark of the American Dental Association. All CDT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2025, American Dental Association. All rights reserved. CDT codes and CDT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

Retrospective review/analysis or fraud, waste and abuse initiatives that identify mis-coding (upcoding) resulting in higher reimbursement than allowed for the correctly coded service, or does not provide documentation supporting performing and/or completing claimed services may result in the recoupment of the identified monetary variance by any of the following means: a) from the payment for other claimed services; or b) directly from the provider.

CDT® Codes	Description
D1330	Oral hygiene instruction

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes that Support Coverage Criteria

ICD-10-CM Code	Description
Z33.1	Pregnancy state, incidental
Z91.842	Risk for dental caries, moderate
Z91.843	Risk for dental caries, high
K02.7	Dental root caries
K02.9	Dental caries, unspecified
K03.6	Deposits (accretions) on teeth
K03.7	Post-eruptive color changes of dental hard tissues

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Policy developed	4/24	4/24
Annual Review	12/24	12/24

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Annual Review	12/25	12/25
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References

1. American Dental Association. CDT 2025: Dental Procedure Codes. American Dental Association, 2025.
2. 2022 Current Policies: Dental Care and Dental Health – pages 92-96. Content last reviewed April 2024. American Dental Association, Chicago, IL. https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/about/governance/current_policies.pdf?rev=f8a6561f9da4421387a6c8c982a118f8&hash=9DED0F6E09C155240CCF6007A4B70

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of dental practice; peer-reviewed dental/medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national dental and health professional organizations; views of dentists practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. Centene Dental makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of dental practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Centene Dental” means a dental plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Envolve Benefit Options, Inc, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to dental and medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Centene Dental administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by Centene Dental. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. Centene Dental retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

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This clinical policy does not constitute dental or medical advice, dental treatment or dental care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice dentistry. Providers are expected to exercise professional dental and medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the dental and medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating dentist in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom Centene Dental has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of Centene Dental.

This clinical policy is the property of Centene Dental. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs, and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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