

Codes and Coverage

This document is about coding. Coding and coverage are NOT the same. The existence of a code does not mean a patient has coverage under a policy. Yet without a code, no coverage could be offered. This is where confusion lies. Codes and coverage are related but not the same. Using the most accurate code and coding for all procedures is important for future structured data in electronic health records. It can also serve today as the most accurate documentation and *possible* coverage under a policy. Dental professionals are obligated to use the most accurate code available. Accurate coding does guarantee coverage under a particular policy.

CDT codes are risk and diagnosis based, not product based. Before specific codes suggestions are made to facilitate best coverage under a policy including dental/medical necessity data in Box 35 Remarks is important.

Medically Necessary Coding

Whether using dental or medical coding, all care must be medically necessary. Medical necessity is defined as the current diagnosis, risk and other factors creating the need for treatment.

Risk Assessment Codes

This code is for calibrated instruments that can better define the caries infection process and cavitation. These instruments do not use ionizing radiation.

D0600 non-ionizing diagnostic procedure capable of quantifying, monitoring and recording changes in the structure of enamel, dentin, and cementum.

Risk assessment will help determine diagnosis. These can be considered modifier codes that support WHY for other care. There may/may not be coverage for these codes but should be submitted in conjunction with other codes.

D0601 caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of low risk

D0602 caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of moderate risk

D0603 caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of high risk

Description for all 3 codes: Using recognized assessment tools.

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Profluorid Varnish

D1206 topical application of fluoride varnish. All age-based information has been removed from codes several years ago. Policies may differ. To optimize coverage, document dental-medical necessity in Box 35 Remarks.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description	31. Fee	
xx/xx/2019					D0602			caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of high risk		
xx/xx/2019					D1206			Topical application of fluoride varnish		
35. Remarks High risk per ADA risk assessment, restoration 2/11/16. (Note: on most RA systems, a single restoration in 3 years = high risk)										

Medical Necessity

Remin Pro

Option 1:

D9630 drugs or medicaments dispensed in the office for home use. This is probably the better option

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description	31. Fee	
xx/xx/2019		00			D9630			drugs or medicaments dispensed in the office for home use		
35. Remarks Cancer radiation therapy, sensitivity, and extreme oral dryness										

By report requires medical necessity

Option 2: D9910 application of desensitizing medicament: Includes in-office treatment for root sensitivity. Most accurate option is the patient chief complaint and medical necessity is sensitivity.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2019	00				D9910			application of desensitizing medicament		
35. Remarks Thermal sensitivity generalized										

Option 3: D1999 unspecified preventive procedure, by report *as noted above By Report codes require a narrative. **May NOT the best option but does qualify under code description.**

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		
xx/xx/2019		00			D1999			Unspecified preventive procedure, by report		
35. Remarks Early Childhood Caries care preventive product										

By report requires medical necessity

Profluorid L- Due to unique nature of this liquid resin-based product, several options are available.

Option 1: D2990 resin infiltration of incipient smooth surface lesions. Description: Placement of an infiltrating resin restoration for stabilizing and/or limiting the progression of the lesion. See narrative for dental-medical necessity.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2018					D0602			caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of high risk		
xx/xx/2018					D2990			resin infiltration of incipient smooth surface lesions		
35. Remarks High risk per diagnostic images showing incipient caries-see attached image										

Option 2: D9910 application of desensitizing medicament. Description: Includes in-office treatment for root sensitivity. Typically reported on a 'per visit' basis for application of topical fluoride. This code is not be used for bases, liners or adhesives used under restorations.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2019	00				D9910			application of desensitizing medicament		
35. Remarks Cancer radiation therapy, generalized sensitivity and extreme oral dryness										

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Option 3: D1354 interim caries arresting medicament application – per tooth. Conservative treatment of active, non-symptomatic carious lesion by topical application of a caries arresting or inhibiting medicament and without mechanical removal of sound tooth structure.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2019					D0602			caries risk assessment and documentation, with a finding of high risk		
xx/xx/2019		00			D1354			Interim caries arresting medicament application –per tooth		
35. Remarks Early Childhood Caries with high risk. Low ph. Incipient lesions #T-d and #30-m. White spot lesions maxillary anterior #7-10										

Medical necessity

***Note:** This code is **NOT** limited to the application of silver diamine fluoride.

Grandio Seal

To again emphasize-Codes are NOT product based. These sealants products have similar AND different properties. The selection for use is dependent on the risk assessment and diagnosis and is the difference there might in coding.

Option1: D1351 sealant – per tooth. Description: Mechanically and/or chemically prepared enamel surface sealed to prevent decay.

Option 2: D2940 protective restoration: Direct placement of a restorative material to protect tooth and/or tissue form. This procedure may be used to relieve pain, promote healing, or prevent further deterioration.

The most accurate coding is based on the risk assessment and diagnosis. Consistently documenting Caries Risk Assessment Codes and diagnosis which is the medical-dental necessity will help best facilitate submission. See previous examples.

Admira Protect -Nano-filled desensitizing product

Option 1: D9911 application of desensitizing resin for cervical and/or root surface, per tooth. Description: Typically reported on a 'per tooth' basis for application of adhesive resins. This code is not be used for bases, liners or adhesives used under restorations.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2019	14				D9911			application of desensitizing resin for cervical and/or root surface, per tooth		
35. Remarks Extreme thermal sensitivity										

D1999 unspecified preventive procedure, by report. Every procedure has a code. If no other code fits, CDT has a D_999 code for unspecified procedures. Note: By Report codes requires a narrative. B

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description		31. Fee
xx/xx/2019	00				D1999			Unspecified preventive procedure, by report		
35. Remarks Early Childhood Caries care preventive product										

By report requires medical necessity

Case Study Kelly

- History
 - Dental
 - No significant dental history
 - Gums bleeding
 - Some white spots
 - Cold sensitivity lower molars
 - Medical
 - Yaz, multi-vitamin
 - Possible pregnancy
 - 1-2 Red Bull's/day
 - Weekends adds vodka, cigarettes & vaping
- Oral Risk and Diagnosis
 - High risk caries fluorescence 1.5-2.5 and white spot lesions
 - Thermal sensitivity lower molars bilateral
 - Incipient lesion #13
 - 45% Type 2-3 inflammation. Dx: Gingivitis-dental biofilm induced mediated by systemic or local risk factors
- Caries Infection Treatment Plan
 - Desensitizing -ReminPro
 - Fluoride
 - Profluorid Varnish
 - Profluorid L
 - Sealants-Admira Protect
 - Sealants-Grandio Seal
 - Home self-care-ReminPro



Possible Coding for Kelly Illustration only, not all care included. Codes are NOT product specific. Listed here for illustration only. **NOTE:** This medically necessary treatment plan is incomplete, the medical necessity indicates the need for periodontal treatment in addition to caries management.

Sample Submission: (partial ADA 2012 Claim form)

RECORD OF SERVICES PROVIDED										
24. Procedure Date (MM/DD/CCYY)	25. Area of Oral Cavity	26. Tooth System	27. Tooth Number(s) or Letter(s)	28. Tooth Surface	29. Procedure Code	29a. Diag. Pointer	29b. Qty.	30. Description	31. Fee	
xx/xx/2019					D1206			Topical application of fluoride varnish (Profluorid Varnish)		
xx/xx/2019			2		1351			Sealant, per tooth (Grandio Seal)		
xx/xx/2019			15		1351			Sealant, per tooth (Grandio Seal)		
xx/xx/2019			30		D9911			application of desensitizing resin for cervical and/or root surface, per tooth (Admira Protect)		
xx/xx/2019			19		D9911			application of desensitizing resin for cervical and/or root surface, per tooth (Admira Protect)		
xx/xx/2019					D9630			drugs or medicaments dispensed in the office for home use (Remin Pro)		
xx/xx/2019			13		D2990			resin infiltration of incipient smooth surface lesions (Profluorid L)		
xx/xx/2019					D9630			D9630 drugs or medicaments dispensed in the office for home use (Remin Pro)		
xx/xx/19					D1330			Oral Hygiene Instructions		
35. Remarks Sinus issues, GERD, possibly pregnancy. High risk caries fluorescence 1.5-2.5. Thermal sensitivity, 45% Type 2-3 inflammation. Dx: Gingivitis-dental biofilm induced mediated by systemic or local risk factors										