



Anesthesia or Sedation for Dental Procedures

LOB(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicaid	State(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Idaho <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montana <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oregon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oregon <input type="checkbox"/> Washington
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Enterprise Policy

PacificSource is committed to assessing and applying current regulatory standards, widely-used treatment guidelines, and evidenced-based clinical literature when developing clinical criteria for coverage determination. Each policy contains a list of sources (references) that serves as the summary of evidence used in the development and adoption of the criteria. The evidence was considered to ensure the criteria provide clinical benefits that promote patient safety and/or access to appropriate care. Each clinical policy is reviewed, updated as needed, and readopted, at least annually, to reflect changes in regulation, new evidence, and advancements in healthcare.

Clinical Guidelines are written when necessary to provide guidance to providers and members in order to outline and clarify coverage criteria in accordance with the terms of the Member's policy. This Clinical Guideline only applies to PacificSource Health Plans, PacificSource Community Health Plans, and PacificSource Community Solutions in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Because of the changing nature of medicine, this list is subject to revision and update without notice. This document is designed for informational purposes only and is not an authorization or contract. Coverage determinations are made on a case-by-case basis and subject to the terms, conditions, limitations, and exclusions of the Member's policy. Member policies differ in benefits and to the extent a conflict exists between the Clinical Guideline and the Member's policy, the Member's policy language shall control. Clinical Guidelines do not constitute medical advice nor guarantee coverage.

Background

Pediatric patients and occasionally adults can present special circumstances that make routine in-office dental treatment difficult or impossible. In these cases, it may be necessary to use controlled anesthesia in order to perform necessary dental procedures safely. Facility charges (free standing or hospital based) licensed medical or dental providers, anesthesiologists, and assistant physicians may be coverable under the member's medical benefit if criteria is met.

This policy pertains to outpatient surgical procedures and settings either in an ambulatory surgical facility e.g., free standing or hospital based.

Criteria

Commercial

Prior authorization is required

- I. **Pediatric Medical/Dental Benefit:** This benefit is limited to one time per year (calendar or member benefit plan year). PacificSource considers pediatric anesthesia medical/dental benefit medically necessary when **ALL** of the following criteria is met:
 - A. Patient is under the age of eight (8), has a behavioral health diagnosis **OR** has a developmental disorder preventing the child from cooperating with dental treatment

- B.** Extensive treatment required (e.g., extraction, root or pulp procedures or deep drilling) during one visit due to ONE of the following:
 - 1. Severe infection
 - 2. tooth decay (cavities)
 - 3. gum (periodontal) disease
 - 4. root infection abscesses
- C.** Clinical documentation of failed treatment attempts utilizing behavioral interventions and/or conscious sedation.

Exclusions

Anesthesia secondary to the patient's apprehension or for convenience of dentist/family is not covered. See member benefit book for contract language exclusions.

II. Non-Pediatric Medical/Dental Benefit

PacificSource considers anesthesia Medical/Dental Benefit medically necessary when **ALL** of the criteria is met:

- A.** The member has a medical or physical condition that requires monitoring during dental procedures (e.g., coronary disease, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart failure, serious blood/bleeding disorder, unstable diabetes/hypertension, or developmental disability/autism).

Exclusions

Anesthesia secondary to the patient's apprehension or convenience is not covered. See member benefit book for contract language exclusions.

Medicaid

PacificSource Community Solutions (PCS) follows Oregon Health Plan (OHP) per Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 410-123-1000 through 1660, 410-141-3820 through 3830 and 410-151-0000 through 410-151-0003 for coverage of Anesthesia or Sedation for Dental Procedures.

PCS covers facility and anesthesia charges for children and adults with eligible plans as part of Hospital Dentistry cases, in accordance with OAR 410-123-1490 and in coordination with Dental Care Organizations (DCOs). Prior Authorization (PA) is required according to the following process:

- A.** The dental provider submits a first-level Hospital Dentistry PA request to the appropriate DCO.
- B.** The DCO reviews the request and any and all clinical documentation to ensure appropriateness and that the request meets the required criteria in OAR 410-123-1490.
- C.** The DCO then issues to the dental provider an approval or denial notice/letter.
- D.** The dental provider or facility submits the anesthesia PA, DCO approval notice/letter, and facility PA to PCS for final review.

PCS reviews, makes determination, and notifies the provider. If the PA request from the provider or facility does not include the DCO approval notice/letter, PCS will deny the PA request. Eligible DCOs do not require a letter.

Medicare

PacificSource Medicare follows Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15, §150 for coverage of Anesthesia of Sedation for dental procedures.

References

Coté, C. J., Wilson, S., AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS, & AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY (2019). Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients Before, During, and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures. *Pediatrics*, 143(6), e20191000. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31138666/>

Fiorillo L. (2019). Conscious Sedation in Dentistry. *Medicina (Kaunas, Lithuania)*, 55(12), 778. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31817931/>

Salerno, C., Cirio, S., Zambon, G., D'Avola, V., Parcianello, R. G., Maspero, C., Campus, G., & Cagetti, M. G. (2023). Conscious Sedation for Dental Treatments in Subjects with Intellectual Disability: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 20(3), 1779. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20031779> <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/20/3/1779>

Appendix

Policy Number:

Effective: 7/1/2020

Next review: 11/1/2025

Policy type: Enterprise

Author(s): Eric Lowery, Polly Watt-Geier

Depts: Health Services

Applicable regulation(s): Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15, §150; OARs 410-123-1000 through 1660, 410-141-3820 through 3830, 410-151-0000 through 0003

Commercial Ops: 5/2024

Government Ops: 6/2024

Modification History

Date	Modified By	Reviewed By	Modifications
5/23/2024	E. Lowery N. Williams M. Bach A. Prinzing K. Ash	PNP Committee Miriam McDonell, MD Jeffrey Davis, MD Mark Buchholz, MD	Annual Review, Added SOE statement, updated background to be more specific about coverage, updated age allowance in criteria to 8 years of age for 2024, changed "Hospitalization for Dental Procedures Benefit" to Non-Pediatric Medical/Dental Benefit to reflect coverage for older than 8 years of age criteria. Updated Medicare, Medicaid, references, and appendix. Approved as part of the consent agenda
11/15/2023	E. Lowery		Approved by Medicare Advantage UM Committee
10/26/2023	E. Lowery A. Prinzing D. Scantling P. Watt-Geier	PNP Committee Miriam McDonell, MD Amy Strachan, MD	Updated Medicare section, "PacificSource Medicare follows Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15, §150 for coverage of Anesthesia of Sedation for dental procedures. Updated Appendix. Approved as part of consent agenda.

5/18/2023	E. Lowery A. Prinzing J. Viola N. Williams K. Ash, DMD	PNP Committee Jeff Davis, MD Miriam McDonell, MD	Annual Update. Updated LOB header. Reorganized pediatric criteria to read easier- no change to criteria. Updated Medicare and Medicaid sections. Added references, updated appendix. Approved as part of consent agenda.
5/26/2022	J. Viola A. Prinzing M. Hodge K. Pittman	Kyle Ash, DMD Jeffrey Davis, MD	Annual review completed. Updated criteria with removing "age six (6) or younger", added "under the age of seven (7)" to align with benefit book language. Updated Medicare criteria by removing LCD L34574. Updated Appendix.
7/22/2021	K. McLean K. Ash, MD P. Watt-Geier K. Pittman	Kyle Ash, DMD Justin Montoya, MD	Updated subsection headings color to be consistent with template. Reworded initial criteria sentence for consistency of language. Reworded Section I, first bullet removing "behavioral issues" replaced with "behavioral health diagnosis OR developmental disorder." Section I, #2 be replacing "multiple procedures" with "Extensive treatment needs involving multiple quadrants and adding "acute abscess resulting in pain" after "severity of disease. Moved "Anesthesia secondary to the patient's apprehension or for convenience of dentist/family is not covered" and "Hospitalization secondary to the patient's apprehension or convenience is not covered" from being part of the criteria to exclusions that are not covered, added "See member benefit book for contract language exclusions." Formatted Medicaid process for flow. Replaced PacificSource Medicaid with PacificSource Community Solutions (PCS). Updated Appendix section to include Ops.
7/13/2020	H. Simmons M. Hodge L. LaFerriere	Justin Montoya, MD Alison Little, MD	Updated to an enterprise policy with the addition of Medicare and Medicaid sections. Added anesthesiologists to the background section and deleted "for patients aged 18 and younger, the Pediatric Medical/Dental Benefit should be exhausted prior to accessing the recurring hospitalization for dental procedures benefit" from the "Hospitalization for Dental Procedures Benefit" section.
8/26/2019	J. Viola R. Ferron G. Allen, DMD L. LaFerriere	Justin Montoya, MD	Deleted first paragraph in the background section and added "Pediatric patients (and occasionally adults) can present special circumstances that make routine in-office dental treatment difficult or impossible. In these cases, it may be necessary to use controlled anesthesia in order to perform necessary dental procedures safely. Facility charges (free standing or hospital based), licensed medical or dental providers, and assistant physicians may be coverable under the member's medical benefit if criteria is met." Deleted "As an alternative to hospitalization, dental treatment may be provided in an appropriately equipped dental office by a licensed medical or dental provider as allowed by state licensing rules" and deleted last paragraph. In background section. Added Prior authorization is required to the beginning of the criteria section. Reformatted criteria sections.
9/10/2018	R. Ferron G. Allen, DMD L. LaFerriere	Justin Montoya, MD	Added "and failed" to Dental office treatment has been attempted "and failed" to second bullet in criteria section. Dr. Allen requested the criteria section remain unchanged other than the edition of "and failed."
9/8/2017	R. Ferron G. Allen, DMD	Justin Montoya, MD	Gary Allen DMD requested the 2 and 3 rd bullet be combined: Dental office treatment has been attempted

	L. LaFerriere		utilizing behavioral interventions and/or pharmacological sedation AND three or more teeth require extensive and invasive/painful procedures such as extraction, root or pulp procedures or deep drilling. Added the child's health to last bullet: Multiple procedures are required at one session due to severity of disease, infection or near-term jeopardy to dental integrity and the child's health. Policy approved with requested changes.
04/29/2016	G. Allen, DMD, MS. M. Gabbard, R. Ferron, L. Mason, L. Berthold, L. Stern and C Segar	Justin Montoya, MD	Approved as written. Gary Allen DMD, MS requested that on page 2 1 st bullet be changed to "Three or more teeth require extensive and invasive/painful procedures such as extraction, root or pulp procedures or deep drilled" "OR" Three or more teeth require extensive and invasive/painful procedures such as extraction, root or pulp procedures or deep drilling.
04/24/2015	M. Gabbard, D. Roth, L. Mason,	Justin Montoya, MD	Approve policy as written.
03/19/2015	M. Gabbard	Daniel Roth, MD	Deleted dollar limit since no longer applies to most contracts. 3/15/2015 Dr. Roth reviewed anesthesia provider credentialing w/Carmel Anderson – no issues.
12/22/2014	M. Gabbard		12/22/2014 Kathleen Bevan email – general anesthesia in a dental office in conjunction with approved oral surgery is covered. 12/18/2014 Jami Thielman stated that individual plan benefits and overage in office setting not in current language. 12/03/2014 Greg Gosslee in underwriting is in agreement with Dr. Allen's recommended changes.
05/08/2014	M Gabbard L. Mason, R. Ferron	Jim Riopelle, MD, Gary Allen, DMD and Jim Gimarelli DMD	No changes
08/15/2013	Mindy Reeves		Updated to new template
06/11/2013	L. Mason	Gary Allen, DMD	Reviewed - no changes
10/25/2011	L. Mason	S. Marks, MD	Clarified criteria for the pediatric medical/dental benefit; Defined ages to which the benefit applies; changed dental director to dental consultant