December 29, 2021

Dear Vermont Medicaid Orthodontist Provider,

As you are aware, the 2022 CDT code book has been published by the ADA. Among the changes made are the deletion of codes D8050 and D8060 (Interceptive Orthodontic Treatment) as of 1/1/2022.

This deletion has resulted in the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) needing to make changes in the way you bill for these services. In the past, you have been able to file prior authorization requests for Interceptive treatment and would be approved for 1, 2 or 3 units of Interceptive depending on the complexity of the case. These cases did not meet the criteria for comprehensive treatment but surpassed the criteria for Limited treatment.

The coding options have changed, but your patients have not. To address this issue, DVHA has decided to use the same criteria as always to assess the member patients and then reimburse in a similar manner paying 1, 2 or 3 units of Comprehensive Treatment code D8070, D8080 or D8090 for qualifying cases. Patients who meet the old Comprehensive criteria will receive 4 units. The difference is that codes D8070, D8080 and D8090 will be re-valued at one quarter of their former dollar amount. $3925 divided by 4 equals $981. This represents an increase in reimbursement for cases formerly classified as Interceptive.

At this time, DVHA is complying with the Federal Public Health Emergency that remains currently in effect and is responding to this dental code change. Please note the Comprehensive Prior Authorization (PA) Request form has been modified to reflect these changes and will serve as a clinical resource until PAs resume. A sample form is enclosed. This change will take effect as of 1/1/2022.

Thank you for your continued contribution to the health of Vermont’s youth.

Department of Vermont Health Access