



# Dental Clinical Policy

**Subject:** Implant Maintenance Procedures  
**Guidelines #:** 06-102  
**Status:** Revised

**Publish Date:** 01/01/2021  
**Last Review Date:** 12/05/2020

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## Description

This document addresses the implant maintenance procedures when prostheses are **removed and reinserted**, including cleansing of prostheses and abutments.

The plan performs review of treatment of implant maintenance procedures due to contractual requirements that necessitate benefits for dental services meet specific contract requirements. For example, plan contract(s) may require the provision of benefits for services that meet generally accepted standards of dental care at the lowest cost that properly addresses the patient's condition. The conclusion that a particular service is medically or dentally necessary does not constitute an indication or warranty that the service requested is a covered benefit payable by the dental plan.

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## Clinical Indications

Implant success is mainly dependent upon the patient's effective home care as well as professional prophylaxis procedures in the dental office. The therapeutic goal of implant maintenance procedures is to minimize the incidence of implant loss by preventing peri-implant pathology.

Dental review as it applies to accepted standards of care means dental services that a Dentist, exercising prudent clinical judgment, provides to a patient for the purpose of evaluating, diagnosing or treating a dental injury or disease or its symptoms, and that are: in accordance with the generally accepted standards of dental practice; in terms of type, frequency and extent and is considered effective for the patient's dental injury or disease; and is not primarily performed for the convenience of the patient or Dentist, is not cosmetic and is not more costly than an alternative service.

For dental purposes, "generally accepted standards of dental practice" means:

- Standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed, dental literature generally recognized by the practicing dental community
- specialty society recommendations/criteria
- the views of recognized dentists practicing in the relevant clinical area
- any other relevant factors from credible sources

## Criteria

As implants are not anchored to the socket via a periodontal ligament, which has an inherent protective defense mechanism, they require intensive care beyond mere brushing. Implant maintenance procedures include:

1. Documentation of removal and reinsertion of the implant prosthesis is required
2. Cleansing and decontamination of implant prosthesis
3. Active debriding of the implants
4. Examination of all aspects of the implant system including the occlusion and stability of the superstructure
5. Review of home care instructions

## Coding

*The following codes for treatments and procedures applicable to this document are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure, diagnosis or device code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement policy. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage of these services as it applies to an individual member.*

**CDT** including but not limited to:

D6080 Implant maintenance procedures when prostheses are removed and reinserted, including cleansing of prostheses and abutments

**IDC-10 CM** Diagnoses for Dental Diseases and Conditions: See the current CDT code book for details

## References

1. Gulati, Minkle et al. Implant Maintenance: A Clinical Update. International Scholarly Research Notices Volume 2014 Article ID 908534
2. R. E. Cohen, "Position paper: periodontal maintenance," *Journal of Periodontology*, vol. 74, no. 9, pp. 1395–1401, 2003.
3. G. M. Kurtzman and L. H. Silverstein, "Dental implants: oral hygiene and maintenance: implant," *Dentistry Today*, vol. 1, no. 3, pp. 48–53, 2007.
4. L. D. T. Mortilla, C. E. Misch, and J. B. Suzuki, "The dental hygienist's role in implant evaluation & assessment," *Journal of Practical Hygiene*, vol. 17, pp. 15–17, 2008.

## History

Revision History	Version	Date	Nature of Change	SME
	Initial	4/8/2020	Initial	Committee

	Revised	12/05/2020	Annual Review	Committee

Federal and State law, as well as contract language, and Dental Policy take precedence over Clinical UM Guidelines. We reserve the right to review and update Clinical UM Guidelines periodically. Clinical guidelines approved by the Clinical Policy Committee are available for general adoption by plans or lines of business for consistent review of the medical or dental necessity of services related to the clinical guideline when the plan performs utilization review for the subject. Due to variances in utilization patterns, each plan may choose whether to implement a particular Clinical UM Guideline. To determine if review is required for this Clinical UM Guideline, please contact the customer service number on the member's card.

Alternatively, commercial or FEP plans or lines of business which determine there is not a need to adopt the guideline to review services generally across all providers delivering services to Plan's or line of business's members may instead use the clinical guideline for provider education and/or to review the medical or dental necessity of services for any provider who has been notified that his/her/its claims will be reviewed for medical or dental necessity due to billing practices or claims that are not consistent with other providers, in terms of frequency or in some other manner.

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