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#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE DISCLAIMER:**

SummaCare posts policies relating to coverage and medical necessity issues to assist members and providers in administering member benefits. These policies do not constitute a contract or agreement between SummaCare and any member or provider. The policies are guidelines only and are intended to assist members and providers with coverage issues. SummaCare is not a health care provider, does not provide or assist with health care services or treatment, and does not make guarantees as to the effectiveness of treatment administered by providers. The treatment of members is the sole responsibility of the treating provider, who is not an employee of SummaCare, but is an independent contractor in private practice. The policies posted to this site may be updated and are subject to change without prior notice to members or providers.

Medical policies in conjunction with other nationally recognized standards of care are used to make medical coverage decisions.

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### **General Anesthesia for Dental Procedures Policy**

#### **Indication/Usage:**

Anesthesia services consist of the administration of an anesthetic agent in one of the following forms:

- General anesthesia administered by intravenous infusion of drugs or inhalation of anesthetic agents. Intravenous and oral produces a depressed level of consciousness and the patient retains the ability to independently and continuously maintain the airway.
- Regional anesthesia is the use of local anesthetic to produce circumscribed areas of loss of sensation. This includes nerve, spinal, epidural and field blocks.

- Local anesthesia is infiltration or topical application of an anesthetic into or onto the operative site. Most dental care is provided in a dental office setting using local anesthesia or local anesthesia supplemented with oral or intravenous sedation.

### **Medical Indications for Authorization Commercial Members**

SummaCare considers general anesthesia for oromaxillofacial surgery (OMS) and dental-type services administered in a hospital setting only medically necessary when any of the criteria below are met for commercial members. This policy applies only to the anesthesia and facility fees and excludes all dental supplies and procedures.

- The member is a child, up to and including 12 years old, with a dental condition that requires repairs of significant complexity. Examples include multiple amalgam and/or resin-based composite restorations, pulpal therapy, extractions or any combinations of these noted or other dental procedures; **or**
- Members who exhibit physical, intellectual, or medically compromising conditions, for which dental treatment under local anesthesia cannot be expected to provide a successful result. Conditions include but are not limited to intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, cardiac problems and severe hyperactivity; **or**
- Members who are extremely uncooperative, fearful, unmanageable, anxious, **or** uncommunicative members with dental needs of such magnitude that treatment should not be postponed or deferred and for whom lack of treatment can be expected to result in dental or oral pain, infection, loss of teeth, or other increased oral or dental morbidity; **or**
- Members for whom local anesthesia is ineffective, such as due to acute infection, anatomic variations or allergy; **or**
- Members who have sustained extensive oral-facial and/or dental trauma, for which treatment under local anesthesia would be ineffective or compromised.

### **CPT Codes**

- **00170- 00176:** Anesthesia for intraoral treatments, including biopsy; not otherwise specified
- **G0330:** Facility services for dental rehabilitation procedure(s) performed on a patient who requires monitored anesthesia (e.g., general, intravenous sedation (monitored anesthesia care) and use of an operating room

## Limitations

General Anesthesia for Dental Procedures for any indications other than the ones listed above are not considered medically necessary.

## Coverage Decisions

Coverage decisions made per CMS Guidelines, Hayes Research and industry standards research

## Plans Covered By This Policy

Commercial

Self-funded Commercial groups refer to plan document for coverage

## Sources Reviewed

American Dental Association (ADA) Guidelines for the use of sedation and general anesthesia by dentists. October 2016. Available online at:

<https://www.ada.org/searchresults#q=guidelines%20for%20the%20use%20of%20sedation%20and%20general%20anesthesia%20by%20dentists&sort=relevancy>

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American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD). General anesthesia. Patient Brochure. Chicago, IL: AAPD; 2005. Available at: <http://www.aapd.org/publications/brochures/anesthesia.asp>. Accessed July 8, 2005.

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