



Janice K. Brewer, Governor
Anthony D. Rodgers, Director

Our first care is your health care
ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

801 East Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85034
PO Box 25520, Phoenix, AZ 85002
Phone: 602 417 4000
www.azahcccs.gov

DATE: August 13, 2009

TO: AHCCCS Contracted Health Plans
Dental Program Managers
Medical Directors

FROM: Robert L. Birdwell, D.D.S., Dental Director

SUBJECT: Medical Management Changes to the Dental Program

Effective October 1, 2009, the AHCCCS Administration will be implementing medical management changes to the dental program. These changes include the following:

- The minimum age for complete x-ray series, including bitewings (D0210) will be increased to 6 years old;
- The minimum age for panoramic x-rays (D0330) will be increased to 5 years old;
- The minimum age for bitewing x-rays, two films (D0272) will be increased to 2 years old;
- The minimum age for bitewing x-rays, three or four films (D0273, D0274) will be increased to 10 years old;
- The maximum age for dental sealants (D1351) will be lowered to age 15 years; and
- Behavior management by report (D9920) will be eliminated as a covered benefit.

Despite these modifications, the AHCCCS Administration recognizes that there may be exceptions when reimbursement is appropriate based on medical necessity due to the unique circumstances in a particular case. AHCCCS has emphasized to the health plans the importance of maintaining a high level of communication with their dental networks in order to maintain the quality of dental services for their enrolled members and ensure that their members receive appropriate services.