Dental services - cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) scan for medically-related dental services

These services may or may not be covered by your HealthPartners plan. Please see your plan documents for your specific coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and your plan documents, your plan documents will be used to determine your coverage.

Administrative Process

Prior authorization is required for cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), a specialized 3D x-ray scan, for medically-related dental services.

Coverage

Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) for medically-related dental services is generally covered subject to the indications listed below and per your plan documents.

Indications that are covered

Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) is covered for the following indications:

1. Evaluation of dental implants when coverage criteria under the accidental dental medical coverage policy are met.
2. Evaluation prior to one of the following oral surgery indications:
   A. Removal of maxillo-facial tumors (tumors within the jaw or jaw joint structures), non-odontogenic cysts (cysts not originating from a tooth or the closely surrounding tissues), or neoplasms (abnormal growths) that, due to their size and/or location, appear to negatively impact critical anatomic structures (such as inferior alveolar nerves which supply sensation to the teeth or maxillary sinuses located above the teeth on either side of the nose);
   B. Surgical reconstruction or replacement of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ)
   C. Developmental mid-face syndromes (such as cleft palate or Treacher-Collins syndrome)
   D. Surgical reconstruction after severe oral-facial trauma (such as injuries resulting from motor vehicle accidents, gunshot wounds, boating accidents or other disfiguring trauma).

In addition, when CBCT is requested prior to an oral surgery listed as A-D above, one of the following must also be satisfied:

E. The panoramic x-ray indicates that a deviation from a routine surgical approach is probable and further data are necessary to plan such an approach; or
F. Information obtained by CBCT is considered critical in determining a surgical plan for the avoidance of disruption, invasion, or fracture of a surrounding, critical oral-facial structure.

3. Evaluation prior to orthognathic (jaw) surgery when coverage criteria under the orthognathic surgery coverage policy are met and information obtained by CBCT is considered critical in determining a surgical plan for the avoidance of disruption, invasion or fracture of a surrounding, critical oral-facial structure.

Indications that are not covered include but are not limited to

1. Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) when used in conjunction with non-covered dental procedures including but not limited to dental implants or bone grafting in preparation for dental implants that are not accident related, tooth extractions, and the removal of dental cysts (cysts which contain teeth or appear on exam to arise out of tissues that create teeth).
2. CBCT for other medically-related dental indications not listed above as covered.

Definition

Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) refers to a cone-shaped tomographic imaging beam that is rotated around a patient’s head to obtain concentrated images of a narrow field of the body, as in the case of dental views. These images are then processed by software programs that generate a 3-D image of the following regions of patient’s anatomy: dental (teeth); oral and maxillofacial (mouth, jaw, and neck); and ears, nose and throat (ENT) which are used in diagnosis and treatment planning for the patient.

Products
This information is for most, but not all, HealthPartners plans. Please read your plan documents to see if your plan has limits or will not cover some items. If there is a difference between this general information and your plan documents, your plan documents will be used to determine your coverage. These coverage criteria may not apply to Medicare Products if Medicare requires different coverage. For more information regarding Medicare coverage criteria or for a copy of a Medicare coverage policy, contact Member Services at 952-883-7979 or 1-800-233-9645.


References