

HSB FOLLOW UP

Dental Q&A

UHC Dental HMO: In-network providers may not charge for PPE. However, as a dental HMO all care should be through an in-network provider making the point moot.

Delta Dental

1. What are the protocols the dentist will follow to administer non-IV conscious sedation or nitrous oxide?

DD Response: Oral conscious sedation would not be nitrous oxide.

2. What drugs are being used for non-IV sedation? Is it Inhalation of nitrous oxide/analgesia, anxiolysis?

DD Response: Drugs used for oral conscious sedation can include Diazepam, Triazolam, Zaleplon, Lorazepam, Hydroxyzine, Midazolam.

3. How is Delta Dental and the treating dentist monitoring the administration of this benefit?

DD Response: Delta does not establish the protocols for monitoring, the provider is expected to follow the appropriate standards. The American Dental Association and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry have guidelines for the use of sedation. In California, a provider must have a separate certificate to provide oral conscious sedation and must have completed either a postgraduate program in oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, or periodontics; a general practice residency; or of a Board-approved educational program on oral medications and sedation.

4. What steps will the treating dentist take to supervise the patient/member who has been under non-IV sedation, before releasing them from the dentist office?

DD Response: See response to #3.

5. For dentists practicing in California, does Delta Dental standardly collect a separate certificate to provide oral conscious sedation and documentation the dentist had completed either a postgraduate program in oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, or periodontics; a general practice residency; or of a Board-approved educational program on oral medications and sedation?

DD Response: We collect the oral conscious sedation certification as well as any specialty certification during the credentialing process. This information can also be found on the license.

6. Would Delta Dental provide the appropriate training to our PPO and DHMO dentists, noted within the CA certification, or is this training the responsibility of the dentist who has elected to become certified in administering Nitrous Oxide or non-IV sedation?

DD Response: Delta would not provide any training or certifications to dentists to administer nitrous oxide or oral conscious sedation. These courses require strict oversight by regulators and the dental board and are the responsibility of the dentist to take the required courses before attempting to administer to the patient.

7. What is Delta paying for PPE?

In-network providers may not charge patients separately for PPE, this includes both PPO and Premier network providers.

Delta Dental is providing \$10 each visit linked to certain CDT codes.

8. What would a reasonable and customary fee for PPE be from an OON provider?

Out-of-network providers may charge separately for PPE, there is no limit to the amount an out-of-network provider may charge.

Delta reports out-of-network providers are charging between \$10-\$25.