

Handicapping Malocclusion Benefit Guidance

Fee-for-service reimbursement, prior authorization, and billing for orthodontic services under the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). Also refer to the [Dental Services Oregon Administrative Rules](#) and [Guideline Note 169](#).

Eligibility

Orthodontic treatment is available for members with Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefits, whose handicapping malocclusions meet the automatic qualifying criteria or a score of 26 or higher on the Handicapping Labiolingual Deviation (HLD) Index California Modification Score Sheet, with prior authorization.

If members are undergoing orthodontic surgical corrections while an EPSDT beneficiary, orthodontic treatment is available after the corrections, with prior authorization.

Pre-orthodontic examinations (CDT code D8660)

Licensed dentists (including general dentists and specialists) may provide pre-orthodontic examinations. These examinations:

- Do not require prior authorization (PA).
- Are for members whose clinical presentation and preliminary findings strongly suggest that they may qualify for orthodontic treatment according to the criteria of the HLD Index California Modification Score Sheet.

Billing

D8660 is billable once (1) per member, per provider, in a twelve (12)-month period (not on the same day as another routine or general dental evaluation or examination).

Claims for CDT code D8660 must include the following supporting documentation:

- The [HLD Index California Modified Scoring Form](#) (scored and signed).
- Intraoral and extraoral photographs of diagnostic quality capturing key aspects.
- Panoramic radiographs or cephalometric images including tracings that show the skeletal and dental relationships crucial for evaluating the severity of malocclusion.
- A comprehensive narrative of medical necessity that clearly states how the malocclusion significantly impacts the member's oral health, airway, or overall functional capacity.

Comprehensive orthodontic treatment (CDTs D8070, D8080, D8090, D8091)

Licensed dentists may provide comprehensive orthodontic treatment if they:

- Are orthodontic specialists or
- Have either completed a minimum of 30 hours of orthodontic continuing education in the past three years or completed five comprehensive orthodontic treatment cases in the past three years.

Orthodontic treatment for handicapping malocclusions requires PA. See Oregon Administrative Rules [410-123-1260](#) and [410-123-1160](#).

Orthodontic providers may also submit PA requests for extractions and/or bond surgeries.

Upon the beginning of treatment, OHP pays in one lump sum, which includes all appliances and follow-up visits.