




HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY

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Letter of Direction #17

Date: September 27, 2024

To: Turquoise Care Managed Care Organizations

From: Dana Flannery, Director, Medical Assistance Division 

Subject: New Procedure Code (0792T)- Application of Silver Diamine Fluoride

Title: Silver Diamine Fluoride (0792T) by a physician or other qualified health care professional

The purpose of this letter of direction is to provide the Turquoise Care Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) with information on supplemental reimbursement guidance for the procedure code 0792T for the **application of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) 38% Silver, by a physician or other qualified health care professional.**

The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has designated SDF as a breakthrough therapy for the arrest of caries in children and adults. The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code approval for SDF will benefit patients by providing many new points of access for treating tooth decay, helping MCO members achieve better oral health that will impact their overall health.

1. **Member Eligibility Requirements:** MCOs must allow and reimburse services for members with the following requirements. Requirements and indications must be documented in the member's medical record.
 - a. With clinical evidence of caries assessed by a physician, certified nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
 - i. For children who are too young to receive conventional restorative treatment in a dental chair.
 - ii. For members of any age who are unable to undergo conventional dental treatment.
 - iii. For older adults who have limited access to dental facilities.
 - iv. For people with special needs who are unable to cooperate with dental treatment.
2. **Criteria for application of SDF 38% Silver, by a physician or other qualified health care professional:** This code allows for compensation to a medical service provider who is treating

persons with a conservative treatment of an active, non-symptomatic carious lesion with no pulpal exposure by topical application of a high caries arresting or inhibiting medicament and without mechanical removal of sound tooth structure, example: xerostomia, severe early childhood caries.

- a. Maximum of 2 treatments per tooth per 12-month period.
 - b. May use on up to 5 teeth per session with only one bill.
 - c. Maximum of 4 treatments per tooth in a lifetime.
3. **Provider Requirements:** New Mexico medical assistance division (MAD) pays for medically necessary health care services furnished by a New Mexico Medicaid enrolled provider. [NMAC [8.310.3](#)]. Eligible providers are physicians or other qualified health care professionals [Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNP), Certified Nurse Specialist (CNS) & Physician Assistants (PA)]. This guidance does not apply to dental providers.
4. **Prior Authorization:** Prior authorization is not required.
5. **Billing and Coding:** MCOs must allow and reimburse procedure code 0792T - application of silver diamine fluoride 38% Silver, by a physician or other qualified health care professional.
- a. Independent practice may bill using CMS 1500 using procedure code 0792T, the provider must follow the eligibility requirements (as described in bullet #1 above) and are reimbursed at no less than the Fee Schedule rate published at <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-schedules/>
 - i. Some providers are reimbursed of percentage of the fee schedule as stated in [NMAC [8.310.3](#)].
 - b. Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), non-hospital based Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), Indian Health Service (IHS) & eligible Tribal 638 may bill using the UB 04 Institutional claim with the appropriate revenue code and procedure code 0792T as part of their visit/encounter. SDF application services must follow the eligibility requirements (as described in bullet #1 above) and will bill be reimbursed using their appropriate encounter/Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rates.
 - c. The MCOs must allow and reimburse providers who have met the requirements and provide SDF services from October 1, 2024. MCOs are directed to implement changes associated with these instructions, including system changes and provider contract negotiations as needed, no later than 90 days from the date of issuance of this directive.
 - i. For Centennial Care 2.0, MCOs should not recoup SDF services, D1354, associated with these instructions for dates of service July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

This LOD will be sunset upon inclusion in the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) [8.310.2](#).