

Health *through* Oral Wellness® (HOW®)

Suggested Procedure Documentation

The HOW program provides benefits for one oral hygiene instruction, nutritional counseling or tobacco counseling visit each year for patients assessed at moderate to high risk for dental caries or periodontal disease using the online PreViser® Risk Assessment. Moderate to high risk is indicated by a PreViser risk score of 3 or greater.

Clinical notes for the date of service should document the specific topics discussed with the patient. Submission of clinical notes or narratives is not required when claims are submitted, but may be requested for quality assurance purposes.

Oral hygiene instructions (D1330): Documentation should include instructions for home care including but not limited to tooth brushing technique, flossing, use of oral hygiene aids as well as use of prescription and over the counter antimicrobial rinses, irrigants or dentifrices for control of bacterial plaque or remineralization of tooth structure.

Nutritional counseling for control and prevention of oral disease (D1310): Documentation should include the patient's current dietary habits including consumption of sugared beverages and other cariogenic foods and counseling on food selection and dietary habits as a part of the treatment and control of periodontal disease and caries. Include any specific recommendations for diet changes including the use of sugar free alternatives such as xylitol gum.

Tobacco counseling for control and prevention of oral disease (D1320): Documentation should include information about the type and frequency of tobacco use and discussion of the increased risk for oral cancer, periodontal disease and other conditions. If the dentist is not providing direct tobacco counseling with follow up at subsequent appointments, the record should document that the patient was referred to medical tobacco cessation program or provided information about self-directed cessation program such as a Tobacco Quit Line. Document any prescriptions written or recommendations made for anti-smoking medications including nicotine patches or gum.

If you have questions or would like to contact us for more information about the Health *through* Oral Wellness program, please contact us by phone at (208) 489-3563 or by email at ProfessionalRelations@deltadentalid.com.