

To: AmeriHealth Caritas DC Dental Providers

Date: December 4, 2025

**Subject:** Sleep Apnea Appliance Policy

Dear Provider,

The updated DC Medicaid Fee Schedule, effective October 1, 2025, includes CDT procedure codes related to sleep apnea. Specifically, these include D9947 (custom sleep apnea appliance fabrication and placement), D9948 (adjustment to a sleep apnea appliance), and D9949 (repair of a sleep apnea appliance). The following policy is provided for informational purposes for the AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia (DC) dental provider network.

There are limitations configured into the authorization process and claims processing. To avoid unnecessary delays in authorization approvals, claims processing, and reimbursement, the following requirements must be met:

## D9947

A sleep apnea appliance may be approved when all of the following records are submitted:

- 1. A physician's prescription with diagnosis.
- 2. A narrative of medical necessity, including the device description and arch.
- 3. A full mouth X-ray.
- 4. Periodontal charting.
- 5. A certificate of provider training.

We want to ensure that a proper sleep apnea diagnosis has been made by a physician. We also need to confirm that any untreated dental conditions have been addressed prior to appliance fabrication, and that the dental provider has received appropriate training to fabricate the appliance in the interest of patient safety.

## D9948

Adjustments are often needed to provide for patient comfort when an appliance has been fabricated. Any adjustments made within the first three months of the placement are included in the reimbursement of D9947.

## D9949

Repairs to a sleep apnea appliance require a narrative describing how the breakage occurred and the date of initial placement.

For greater detail on these guidelines please refer to page 56 on the DC Medicaid Dental Utilization Review Criteria Guidelines, January 2025: <a href="https://comagine.org/sites/default/files/resources/dc-um-dental-guidelines.pdf">https://comagine.org/sites/default/files/resources/dc-um-dental-guidelines.pdf</a>

Sincerely,

Nathan Fletcher, DDS Dental Director

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