



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Med-QUEST Division  
Clinical Standards Office  
P. O. Box 700190  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

December 27, 2018

MEMORANDUM

MEMO NO.  
FFS 18-09  
CTR 1806

TO: Fee-for-Service Dental Providers and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)

FROM:  Judy Mohr Peterson, PhD  
Med-QUEST Division Administrator

SUBJECTS: TOPICAL APPLICATION OF FLUORIDE - D1206 AND D1208  
INTERIM CARIES ARRESTING MEDICAMENT APPLICATION - D1354

The Med-QUEST Division (MQD) is issuing this memorandum to inform all eligible dental providers of the following changes to Medicaid dental benefits effective January 1, 2019:

- 1) Reimbursement rate change for D1206 and D1208.
- 2) Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) – New benefit for age 21 years and under.

A. Topical Application of Fluoride Varnish and Topical Application of Fluoride

The reimbursement rate for Topical Application of Fluoride Varnish (D1206) and Topical Fluoride Application (D1208) will increase from \$4.16 to \$14.16 on Oahu and \$5.37 to \$15.37 on the Neighbor Islands. Frequency and age limits will remain unchanged.

B. Silver Diamine Fluoride

SDF is an antimicrobial agent considered to be a temporary measure to arrest and delay the progression of caries. It can be used when traditional methods of restoration are not available or are contraindicated due to patient safety or behavioral concerns (e.g., combative/uncooperative/extremely apprehensive pediatric patient, cognitive disabilities, etc.). It is within this context that reimbursement will be denied or recouped when D1354 is used in conjunction with any definitive restorative procedures placed on the same tooth within 30 days of application.

Conditions for reimbursement for SDF are as follows:

1. Billing
  - a. Use Current Dental Terminology (CDT) code D1354 - Interim caries arresting medicament.
  - b. The D1354 code is limited to the use of SDF only.
  - c. Reimbursement for D1354 is allowable for eligible beneficiaries up to 21 years old.
  - d. D1354 is reimbursed per tooth. Tooth/teeth number(s) must be indicated on the claim form.
  - e. Eligible teeth: A-T; 2-15, 18-31 (teeth 1, 16, 17, and 32 are only permitted if functional)
  - f. Reimbursement for D1354 is limited to one application/tooth/day and allowed up to two times per tooth within a 12-month period.
  - g. Per tooth reimbursement for D1354 is \$6.33 (Oahu) and \$6.96 (Neighbor Islands)
2. Limitations:
  - a. Benefit may only be allowed on functional third molars when clinically necessary. A narrative is required in those situations.
  - b. Reimbursement for D1354 will be recouped when a restoration (e.g., D2140 – D2954) is placed on the same tooth within 30 days of the date of service. SDF is not meant to be billed when used as a liner, indirect medicament, or when traditional methods of restoration are practical.
  - c. Fluoride varnish if billed when used in conjunction with SDF, remains subject to age (up to 21 years old and under) and annual beneficiary topical fluoride frequency limitation of twice per year.
  - d. Reimbursement for D1354 will be denied when performed on patients undergoing general anesthesia on the same day in conjunction with other definitive restorative services in a hospital or surgical center.

FQHCs are being provided this memo to inform them of changes to benefit coverage and limits.

Please refer any questions to Dan Fujii, DDS, MQD Dental Consultant, at [dfujii@dhs.hawaii.gov](mailto:dfujii@dhs.hawaii.gov).