



# Dental Report



[www.ut.regence.com/physican/dental](http://www.ut.regence.com/physican/dental)

## National Provider Identifier—Share it!

Have you applied for your National Provider Identifier (NPI) yet? Hopefully you have taken care of the application process and now just need to share your NPI with the various carriers you file electronically with.

Regence must receive your NPI well before the May 23, 2007 mandated date in order for us to load it in our systems. This will allow us to recognize your office when you submit your electronic claims using your NPI as the sole identifier after this date.

After May 23, 2007, if you haven't previously notified us of your NPI using one of the methods below, your claim will be rejected at the clearinghouse level with an error message indicating you need to provide your NPI to Regence.

**In order to facilitate a smooth transition, it's extremely important that once you obtain your NPI you submit it to us. You can use one of these four submission methods:**

*continued on back cover*

## The Connection coming this spring

In June 2007, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah (Regence BCBSU) will change the name of our Dental Report newsletter to *The Connection*. *The Connection* will continue to provide the same helpful information you've come to expect from the Dental Report, including articles about policies and procedures, corporate news, products and networks, online resources and how to contact us.

*The Connection* will be the name of the provider newsletters across the four Regence Plans: Regence BlueShield of Idaho, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, Regence BCBSU and Regence Blue Shield (in Washington).

Look for *The Connection* in your mailbox this summer.

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## MedAdvantage benefit summary

Regence MedAdvantage is our Medicare Advantage preferred provider organization (PPO) option for Medicare eligible members. It includes benefits for preventive dental services. Members may go to any dentist, and are covered up to \$500 annually for preventive dental services such as routine cleanings, x-rays and exams.

2007 benefit limits have been established for the following:

Cleanings—two per calendar year

Bitewings—two complete sets per calendar year

Panoramic film—once every three years

Fluoride—two times per calendar year for members 17 and under

Exams—two per calendar year

Intraoral complete series—once every three years

Sealants, on permanent bicuspid and molars—only provided for members 17 and under

The following preventive services are eligible for reimbursement (routine and major services are not currently a benefit of the MedAdvantage member's contract):

D0120 Periodic oral evaluation

D0140 Limited oral evaluation, problem focused

D0150 Comprehensive oral evaluation—new or established patient

D0160 Detailed and extensive oral evaluation, problem focused

D0170 Re-evaluation, limited problem focused

D0180 Comprehensive periodontal evaluation

D0210 Intraoral—complete series (including bitewings)

D0220 Intraoral—periapical first film

D0230 Intraoral—periapical each additional film

D0240 Intraoral—occlusal film

D0270 Bitewing—single film

D0272 Bitewings—two films

D0274 Bitewings—four films

D0277 Vertical bitewings—7–8 films

D0330 Panoramic film

D1110 Prophylaxis—adult

D1120 Prophylaxis—child

D1201 Topical application of fluoride (including prophylaxis)—child

D1203 Topical application of fluoride (prophylaxis not included)—child

D1204 Topical application of fluoride (prophylaxis not included)—adult

D1205 Topical application of fluoride (including prophylaxis)—adult

D1351 Sealant

D4910 Periodontal maintenance

As a reminder, if you submit claims to Regence for your patient, reimbursement will be sent directly to your office unless you indicate otherwise.

## Bisphosphonates linked to osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ)

Several reports have appeared recently citing a possible link between the use of intravenous (IV) or oral bisphosphonates and osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ). IV bisphosphonates may be given to cancer patients to control hypercalcemia or the growth of certain bone cancers. Oral bisphosphonates may be given to patients suffering from osteoporosis. The greatest risk documented is in patients who have received the IV administration of the drug.

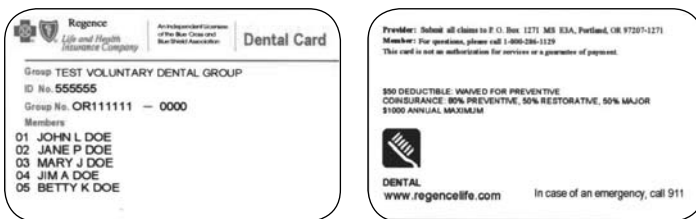
Recent studies indicate these patients may be at an increased risk to develop ONJ, particularly following dental extractions or other procedures that invade bony tissue.

Bisphosphonates slow down bone destruction, or resorption, and may inhibit the jaw from healing after some procedures. Symptoms include jaw pain or inflammation, gums that don't heal, loosening teeth, numbness or a feeling of heaviness in the jaw.

Complete information about this condition and the potential link may be found in an Oncology Drugs Advisory Committee briefing document available at: [www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/05/briefing/2005-4095B2\\_03\\_02-FDA-TAB1.doc](http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/05/briefing/2005-4095B2_03_02-FDA-TAB1.doc).

## Regence Life and Health launches new Voluntary Dental Product

Regence Life and Health Insurance Company has launched a new benefit known as Voluntary Dental, which can help families maintain good oral health and more. Regence Life and Health's new Voluntary Dental coverage offers a potential solution for employers seeking ways to balance health care costs with employees' health care needs and that of their families. Voluntary means that the employee pays for the majority of the premium, but they pay the less expensive, pre-tax group rates, making plans more affordable for both employers and their employees. As you can see in the example below, the member card is similar to the cards for Regence BCBSU members.



The back of the card indicates the coinsurance and deductible information above the icon as well as where to send claims. Please note that dental claims are to be sent to PO Box 1271 M/S E3A Portland, OR 97207-1271. Regence's new Voluntary Dental product features two benefit maximum options, both of which cover standard preventive services such as cleanings, x-rays and fluoride treatments for children. You may contact Regence Life and Health's customer service team for more information at 1 (800) 794-5390.

## Trading partner reminder

Do you file claims electronically? It's important to use the correct Regence Trading Partner Number (TPN) to ensure your claims are delivered to the correct entity. Please review the following list, and post it where you can conveniently refer to it:

**HT000001-005** Blues Dental (all lines of business except FEP)

**HT000001-015** FEP Dental

If you need further assistance with any facet of electronic filing, we encourage you to contact our EDI support team at: **edisupport@regence.com**, (801) 333-2900 or toll-free 1 (888) 344-5583.

## Office effective dates

This is to notify you that we will be changing our business practice regarding practice location start dates. In the past, when a provider added a new location or changed their tax identification (ID) number, the effective date would be the same as the **original** contract date. In the future, that will not be the case under this new business rule. The effective date of the new location or new tax ID number will be the same as the **actual** date of the change.

How will this impact your practice? It is now crucial that you submit the correct practice location and tax ID number according to the date of service. Your provider could be participating at one location for many years, and at their new location for only a few weeks. If claims are processed on the new location for dates of service prior to their address and/or tax ID effective date, the claims will be processed as out-of-network, and payment sent to the member. For instance:

- Your contract effective date is January 1, 1996 for your practice location of 1234 Elm Street, and you add an additional location of 4395 S 1600 E on June 24, 2006, but keep the same tax ID number. If the date of service was February 2, 2006, your 4395 S location would not be considered participating on that date of service because that location had not yet opened. The claim would be processed as out of network, and payment sent to the patient.
- Your contract effective date is January 1, 1996 for your practice location of 1234 Elm Street, and your tax ID number is 123-45-6789. On May 5, 2006, you change your tax ID number to 456-78-9012 even though your practice location has not changed. A claim with a February 2, 2006 date of service, but billed with your new tax ID number would still be processed as out of network because that tax ID was not valid on the date of service.

Please review your billing information with your office staff and billers to ensure the proper location and tax ID number are used for each location. If you have questions about the effective date of a location or tax ID number, please e-mail Provider Services at **utahprovrel@regence.com** or contact Provider Services at (801) 333-2600 or toll-free 1 (800) 621-2155 option 6 then option 2.

- **Online** submission is available in the Provider Library section under Forms on our *Provider Web Site* at [www.ut.regence.com/physician](http://www.ut.regence.com/physician). Complete the electronic Provider Information Update Form and submit it electronically.
- **Print** the Provider Information Update Form, located in the Provider Library section under Forms on our *Provider Web Site* (one form is print-friendly, the other is for electronic submission); complete it, and fax it to (801) 333-6558.
- **Call** your provider services representative.
- **Mail** your NPI to:  
Regence BCBSU  
Attn: Provider Services NPI  
PO Box 30270 M/S 26  
Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0270

Until May 23, 2007 you can submit claims with either your Regence provider number, or your Regence provider number and your NPI. During this transition period, please do not submit claims with only an NPI. After May 23, 2007 you must use only your NPI on electronic claims.

You can find the latest NPI information, including answers to frequently asked questions on our *Provider Web Site* under Claims and Billing, NPI at [www.ut.regence.com/physician](http://www.ut.regence.com/physician).

## New look for FEP member cards

Please be aware that member cards for the Federal Employee Program (FEP) have been redesigned. These new cards will be used effective January 1, 2007.

## Update on fee updates

This is to provide notice that Regence BCBSU will implement the annual adjustment to its fee schedule effective July 1, 2007. The adjustment is applicable to all Regence BCBSU provider networks, (i.e. Regence BCBSU Traditional, Regence ValueCare and Federal Employees Program). The fee schedule dated July 1, 2006 remains in effect until that time.

## New CDT 2007/2008 codes

New and revised Common Dental Terminology (CDT) codes went into effect January 1, 2007. A new coding book, CDT 2007/2008 is available from the American Dental Association (ADA). There are 23 new, 33 revised, and three deleted codes this year. Please be sure to submit only valid CDT codes on your claims to ensure proper processing.

Regence Dental Report is produced by the Marketing Communications Department of Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah, 2890 East Cottonwood Parkway, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121-7035. It contains information for Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah dental providers. Information is provided by the Provider Services Department. For questions or additional information, contact the Provider Services Department at (801) 333-2600, toll-free 1 (800) 621-2155 or e-mail [utahprovider@regence.com](mailto:utahprovider@regence.com). Editor: Carolyn Steele.

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