

The Registrar
Attention: The General Manager
Health Professions Council of South Africa
P O Box 205
Pretoria
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31 January 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: DENIS SUBMISSION ON THE PROPOSED GUIDELINE TARIFF FOR MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS.

Dental Information Systems is a registered Managed Care Administrator with Council for Medical Schemes under Act 31 of 1998 and administer the Dental Claims for various Medical Schemes.

Denis has found that certain procedure codes are being claimed incorrectly since the discontinuation of the NHRPL guidelines.

The following codes were found to be claimed incorrectly on a regular basis:

- 8104 is a limited oral examination. This code is used for full mouth exam, treatment plan and diagnosis. No other consultation code is supposed to be asked until the treatment plan is completed. Providers claim for code 8104 for all the follow up treatment (fillings) even if the treatment is still part of the original code 8101.
- 8108 is intraoral radiographs- complete series. This is applicable where more than 8 x-rays are taken. Providers will claim for this code and then claim for other x-rays (8107/8112) separately on the same day as well.
- 8137 is an emergency crown. This code is applicable when a provider does a temporary crown during an unplanned visit. We find that providers claim for code 8137 as part of a crown preparation. A temporary crown is included in the cost of a crown preparation visit when done as part of a planned procedure.

The following claiming patterns were found to also be of concern:

- Levies: providers claim for treatment and then charge an additional levy (separate code). Providers are supposed to include this levy in the treatment codes.
- Split billing: providers submit a claim to the medical aid. The procedure codes on the claim submitted to Denis will be claimed at the Scheme tariff. A separate claim will then be given to the member with higher rates and the member will be held liable for the difference. The provider is supposed to provide one account to the member with the correct treatment fees.

Denis would hereby like to offer their support to the HPCSA with the publishing of guidelines and claiming guidelines for Dental Practitioners.

Kind regards
P/p

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Swanevelder .



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