

	<p>General Anesthesia for Dental Procedures in Members 6 years old and Younger</p>	
<p>Guideline # 8432</p>	<p>Categories Clinical → Care Management CM, TCHP Guidelines</p>	<p>This Guideline Applies To: Texas Children's Health Plan</p>
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GUIDELINE STATEMENT

Texas Children's Health Plan (TCHP) performs authorization of all requests for General anesthesia during dental procedures in members 6 years old and younger and the associated facility fees for members in the STAR/STAR Kids and CHIP products.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

1. TCHP does not require prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedure in members who are 7 through 20 years of age when it is provided by in-network practitioners/providers, unless the member scores less than 22 points on the Criteria for Dental Therapy Under General Anesthesia form or exceeds the need for general anesthesia more than once per 6 months.
2. All requests for prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedure are received via fax, phone, online submission or mail by the Utilization Management Department and processed during normal business hours.
3. The Utilization Management professional receiving the request evaluates the submitted information to determine if the documentation supports the request as an eligible service.
4. To request prior authorization for general anesthesia during dental procedures in members 6 years old and younger, the following documentation must be provided:
 - 4.1. Location where the procedure will be performed
 - 4.2. Narrative detailing the reason for the proposed level of anesthesia
 - 4.3. Proof of authorization for the dental services from the Dental maintenance organization (DMO) for STAR/STAR Kids members.

5. The use of general anesthesia services during the delivery of dental services is considered **medically necessary** when any of the following criteria are met:
 - 5.1. Children (up to 20 years of age) when in-office conscious sedation has failed or is clinically contraindicated; **Or**
 - 5.2. Medically compromised patients whose medical history indicates that the monitoring of vital signs or the availability of resuscitative equipment is necessary during dental procedures; **Or**
 - 5.3. Individuals requiring extensive dental procedures with a medical history of uncontrolled bleeding, severe cerebral palsy or other medical condition that renders conscious sedation in the office not medically appropriate; **Or**
 - 5.4. Individuals requiring extensive dental procedures who have documentation of significant behavioral health conditions or psychiatric disorders that require special treatment (for example, severe panic disorder); **Or**
 - 5.5. Cognitively disabled individuals requiring extensive procedures whose prior history indicates general anesthesia is appropriate; **Or**
 - 5.6. Children requiring repair of cleft lip or palate.

6. Scoring 22 points on the Criteria for Dental Therapy Under General Anesthesia form does not guarantee authorization or reimbursement for clients who are six years of age and younger.
 - 6.1. Proof of authorization from the Dental Maintenance Organization must be provided.

7. Requests that do not meet the criteria established by this procedure will be referred to a TCHP Medical Director/Physician reviewer for review and the Denial Policy will be followed.

8. Billing considerations: TCHP requires prior authorization for general anesthesia (00170) in advance of dental related anesthesia services and prior authorization for the facility fee (41899). Appropriate Modifiers should be used as per the current TMPPM at the time of the request.

9. Preauthorization is based on medical necessity and not a guarantee of benefits or eligibility. Even if preauthorization is approved for treatment or a particular service, that authorization applies only to the medical necessity of treatment or service. All services are subject to benefit limitations and exclusions. Providers are subject to State and Federal Regulatory compliance and failure to comply may result in retrospective audit and potential financial recoupment.

REFERENCES:

Government Agency and Medical Society, and Other Publications:

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- Medicaid Managed Care Contracts. Available at: <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/forms.shtml>
- Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. Anesthesia Privileges. Available at: <https://www.tsbde.texas.gov/AnesthesiaPrivileges.html>

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