

Non-Insured Health Benefits

Orthodontic Policy

October 2005

The Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program covers a limited range of orthodontic benefits for First Nations and Inuit clients. Clients must meet the clinical criteria (a severe and functionally handicapping malocclusion) and guidelines established by the NIHB Program for their orthodontic treatment to be funded. Health Canada relies on practitioners to assist individuals submit the required information in order for a review to take place.

A severe and functionally handicapping malocclusion is characterized as:

- dento-facial anomalies such as cleft lip and palate. No age restriction.
- a combination of marked skeletal discrepancy (Antero-posterior (AP), transverse, and/or vertical), with associated severe functional limitations.

The purpose of the treatment must be to resolve the identified discrepancies. Age restriction of under 18 years at the time of the case being submitted for assessment.

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT FUNDING REQUESTS SUBMITTED TO THE ORTHODONTIC REVIEW CENTRE MUST INCLUDE:

A. Narrative

- identify the condition for which the treatment is being requested;
- explain diagnosis and prognosis;
- note basic treatment completed to date, including patient's oral hygiene status and motivation;
- include detailed treatment plan;
- estimate duration of active and retention phases of treatment and cost(s); and
- identify additional relevant supporting information.

B. Complete Diagnostic Records

- diagnostic orthodontic models (trimmed);
- cephalometric radiographs(s) and tracing;
- photographs, 3 intra oral, 3 extra oral; and
- panoramic radiograph or full mouth survey

One of the following forms is to be submitted with the funding request; a Standard Dental Claim Form, l'Association des chirurgiens dentistes du Québec (ACDQ) Dental Claim and Treatment Form, computer generated form, or NIHB DENT-29 form for all dental services.

INTERCEPTIVE TREATMENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

As a prevention initiative, funding will be considered for the provision of interceptive orthodontic treatment (8000 series procedures) in the mixed dentition phase of dental development.

Interceptive funding request submitted to the Orthodontic Review Centre must include:

- diagnostic records including working models and a panoramic radiograph;
- a narrative indicating treatment objectives(s), a treatment plan, projected active treatment time and anticipated fee; and
- appropriate form as above.