



February 6, 2018

NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM PARTIAL DENTURE TRIAL PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program, in consultation with the Canadian Dental Association (CDA), the Association des chirurgiens dentistes du Québec (ACDQ), and The Denturist Association of Canada (The DAC), is initiating a nationwide eight year partial denture trial project. The project will assess the merits, feasibility and appropriateness of a streamlined predetermination (PD) submission process for partial dentures under the NIHB Program's dental benefit.

Start date: February 19, 2018

For NIHB clients: please send your trial project predetermination requests
by fax to 1-833-517-0378.

For FNHA clients: please **call** First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) for information on their partial denture trial project process at toll-free line **1-888-321-5003.**

General Trial Conditions:

- Please read the NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project Form as it contains all the requirements under the project, including the criteria for coverage and consequence of non-compliance.
- The trial project is open to all dentists and denturists enrolled with the NIHB Program.
- Participation in the trial project is voluntary. Providers can decide to participate by submitting qualifying partial denture cases to the dedicated fax line. Providers who choose not to participate are to submit their partial denture cases through the regular predetermination (PD) process instead.
- Under the trial project, NIHB will accept faxed PD submissions at the dedicated toll free number for new or replacement partial dentures meeting the frequency requirements as outlined in the NIHB Removable Prosthodontic Policy.
- Each PD submitted under the trial project must be accompanied by a completed and signed NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project Form. The form is available to download and print at provider.express-scripts.ca/dental/forms.
- All other dental services requiring PD must follow the regular PD process and are not to be faxed to the dedicated project fax line. This includes partial denture cases that do not meet frequency requirements. Any such PD requests submitted to the trial project fax will not be processed and the provider will be notified.

Please note: The Program reserves the right to make changes to the trial project and to discontinue it at any time. Providers will be informed in a timely manner of such changes.

The following table summarizes and compares the trial project submission process to the regular PD process for partial dentures under the NIHB Program:

	ACCEPTED CASES UNDER THE PARTIAL DENTURE TRIAL PROJECT	ALL OTHER CASES MUST FOLLOW THE REGULAR PD SUBMISSION PROCESS
Type of cases submitted	Eligible partial dentures meeting frequency requirements	All other eligible services requiring PD, including partial dentures not meeting frequency requirements
PD request must be submitted by:	FAX: 1-833-517-0378	MAIL: Dental Predetermination Centre 200 Eglantine Driveway Address Locator 1902D Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9
NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project Form	Required for each case; FAX: 1-833-517-0378	Not required
Supporting Documentation	Do not send documentation; Keep it on file for the duration of the project	MAIL documentation to the DPC
Periodontal criteria	The periodontal criteria below will <u>not</u> be applied for the duration of the project	The periodontal criteria below will <u>not</u> be applied for the duration of the project
<p>Periodontal criteria:</p> <p>“All abutment teeth must have: adequate periodontal support, based on alveolar bone levels (crown to root ratio of at least 1:1) visible on submitted radiographs; and absence of active periodontal disease”.</p> <p>“If there is evidence of periodontal disease, the NIHB Program will not consider coverage for a cast partial denture. However, in such situations, the Program may consider coverage for an acrylic partial denture.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(References from Dental Benefits Guide, section 8.6.2.)</i></p>		

Compliance Monitoring

During the trial project, the NIHB Program will conduct compliance monitoring with the criteria described in section A of the NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project Form, which includes the following measures:

- Providers may be randomly selected and requested to submit to the Program supporting documentation pertaining to selected trial project cases.
- A NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project Committee will be established to assess selected paid partial dentures against the trial criteria.
- Failure to submit the required documentation when requested or non-compliance with the NIHB Partial Denture Trial Project criteria will result in recovery of 100% of the provider’s professional fee paid by the NIHB Program per partial denture. Where funds have been recovered, the provider cannot bill the client for these recovered amounts. Note that laboratory fees will not be subject to recovery.
- Repeated non-compliance with the trial project criteria may result in the provider being removed from the trial project, and therefore the provider will need to submit all cases through the regular PD submission process.