

NEW INFORMATION
2016 NIHB Dental Fee Updates

The NIHB Regional Dental Benefit Grids for General Practitioners (GP), Specialists (SP), Oral Surgeons (OS) and Denturists (DN) contain eligible NIHB procedure codes and fees used for the submission of dental claims. The procedure codes listed in the grids are based on the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) Uniform System of Coding and List of Services, Association des chirurgiens dentistes du Québec (ACDQ) and Fédération des dentistes spécialistes du Québec (FDSQ) Fee Guides, and the Denturists Association of Canada (DAC) Guide.

The 2016 NIHB dental fee updates are planned for the following dates:

NIHB Dental Fee Updates	Province/Territory
April 1	Saskatchewan Northwest Territories Nunavut Yukon
May 1	New Brunswick Newfoundland & Labrador Nova Scotia Prince Edward Island
June 1	Alberta Ontario
July 1	Quebec Manitoba
August 1	British Columbia

NIHB Regional Dental Benefit Grids are located on the NIHB Claims Services Provider Website (www.provider.express-scripts.ca) along with the latest updates, errata and amendments. Upon entering the Dental section, select **Dental Benefit Grids** and then choose the current year and the desired province/territory.

Change to Procedure Codes and Descriptives for Denturists

There are changes regarding specific procedure codes and their descriptives, as well the addition of a new procedure code, as introduced by the Denturist Association of Canada in December 2015. These changes will be reflected in the 2016 NIHB regional fee grids, and are planned to be released starting April 2016.

Procedure Code	Current Descriptive	Previous Descriptive
46310	Partial Maxillary – addition of tooth or clasp	Partial Maxillary - additions/teeth/clasps
46320	Partial Mandibular – addition of tooth or clasp	Partial Mandibular - additions/teeth/clasps
71313	New Tooth (each)	Additional Tooth (each)
New: 71309	Matrix – Lab produced, no impression	N/A

Frequency Change for Removable Acrylic Partial Dentures

Following a review of the NIHB Program’s coverage for removable acrylic partial dentures, the frequency in which the Program will consider coverage for replacement has been updated. As of January 4, 2016, the Program considers requests for coverage for removable acrylic partial dentures, once in any five (5) year period, per arch.

The Removable Prosthodontic Policy will be updated to reflect this change. The current Removable Prosthodontic Policy (section 8.6 of the Dental Benefits Guide) can be consulted and downloaded, in its entirety, at the following address: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/pubs/nihb-ssna/_dent/2014-guide/index-eng.php.

Revised Restorability Criterion within the Crown Policy

As part of its continuous cycle of policy reviews, the NIHB Program has revised the restorability criterion within its Crown Policy, to more clearly reflect current adjudication practices. This aligns with current internal adjudication practices and enhances transparency and clarity.

The revised restorability criterion now outlines that the NIHB Program will consider coverage of a single unit crown on endodontically and non-endodontically treated teeth when the following criteria are met:

- o An extensively restored tooth where the existing tooth structure can no longer support a direct restoration. The Program defines an extensively restored tooth as follows:
 - For all anterior teeth (endodontically and non-endodontically treated): restoration/loss of tooth structure involves the entire incisal edge, from mesial to distal and extends cervically to both interproximal contacts.
 - For endodontically treated premolars and molars: restoration/loss of tooth structure involves three or more continuous surfaces and involves either both mesial and distal marginal ridges, or the entire destruction of a cusp, as demonstrated with radiographs. In addition, providers have the option to submit photographs (if available).
 - For non-endodontically treated premolars and molars: restoration/loss of tooth structure involves five continuous surfaces.

Note: To be considered for coverage, a request must also meet all of the other criteria and guidelines of the Crown Policy.

The Crown Policy will be updated to reflect this change. The current Crown Policy (section 8.3.5 of the Dental Benefits Guide) can be consulted and downloaded, in its entirety, at the following address: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/pubs/nihb-ssna/dent/2014-guide/index-eng.php.

The New NIHB Oral Health Advisory Committee (NOHAC)

The NIHB Program will be establishing a new external advisory committee to support the improvement of oral health outcomes for First Nations and Inuit clients. The NIHB Oral Health Advisory Committee (NOHAC) will be comprised of qualified oral health professionals and academic specialists. These oral health professionals and academic specialists will bring impartial and practical expert opinions, and provide evidence-based recommendations. The focus will be on clinical and oral health care delivery and disease prevention best practices in the context of a public health program. The management of the NIHB Dental Benefits List, including existing and newly introduced procedure codes, will be included in the NOHAC recommendations. NOHAC is expected to commence meetings in 2016.

Assembly of First Nations Survey for NIHB Providers

Please be advised, NIHB is collaborating with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) on a joint review of the Program, with the goal of identifying and implementing actions that enhance client access to benefits and increase Program efficiencies. As part of this work, the AFN has created web-based surveys to gather feedback from health providers who provide services to NIHB clients. You are invited to visit the following link to participate in the NIHB provider survey: <http://health.afn.ca/en/highlights/general/community-stakeholder-outreach-for-the-afn-fnihb-nihb-joint-review>.

New Dental Fillable Claim Forms

For easy and convenient claims submission, fillable claim forms will be available on the provider website on April 1, 2016 (www.provider.express-scripts.ca/documents/Dental/Forms/English/NIHB_Dental_Claim_Form.pdf). Please download and use the updated forms when submitting manual claims.

REMINDERS

Clarification Regarding the Frequency Requirements for Roots Canal Treatments

Dental providers are reminded that there is a frequency limitation of three root canal treatment (RCT) procedures in any three year period for all teeth. Once the frequency has been reached, subsequent RTC procedures require a predetermination. This frequency applies to all standard (uncomplicated) and non-standard (difficult access, exceptional anatomy and calcified canals) RCT procedures.

Enrolling Additional Dental Offices

Providers practising at more than one office must enrol **each** office with Express Scripts Canada in order to avoid disruption of service for claims processing and/or payment. If you have not enrolled your new office, please complete and sign a *Dental Provider Enrolment Form* and **fax it to Express Scripts Canada's Provider Relations Department at 1-855-622-0669**. The enrolment form can be downloaded from the NIHB Claims Services Provider Website at www.provider.express-scripts.ca/documents/Dental/Forms/English/Dental_Provider_Enrolment_Form.pdf.

NIHB PROGRAM AND EXPRESS SCRIPTS CANADA CONTACT INFORMATION

EXPRESS SCRIPTS CANADA

Provider Claims Processing

Call Centre

Please have your Provider Number readily available

Inquiries and Password Resets
1-888-511-4666

Extended Hours
Monday to Friday:

6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Excluding Statutory Holidays

Dental Claims

Mail Dental claims to:
Express Scripts Canada

NIHB Dental Claims
3080 Yonge Street, Suite 3002,
Toronto, ON M4N 3N1

Dental Provider Relations

Department & Provider Enrolments

Each additional Dental office must be enrolled with the NIHB Program with its own Office ID prior to services being rendered

Fax Completed

Dental Provider Enrolment Form to:
Toll Free Fax No.: 1-855-622-0669

Other Correspondence

Mail to:

Express Scripts Canada
5770 Hurontario St., 10th Floor,
Mississauga, ON L5R 3G5

NIHB Forms

Download from the
NIHB Claims Services Provider Website or contact
the Provider Claims Processing Call Centre

www.provider.express-scripts.ca

NIHB PROGRAM DENTAL BENEFITS

NIHB Dental Predetermination Centre (DPC)

Dental Services

**Non-Insured Health Benefits
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch**

Health Canada
200 Eglantine Driveway
Address Locator 1902D
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Toll Free Phone No.: 1-855-618-6291
Toll Free Fax No.: 1-855-618-6290

Orthodontic Services

**Non-Insured Health Benefits
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch**

Health Canada
200 Eglantine Driveway
Address Locator 1902C
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Toll Free Phone No.: 1-866-227-0943
Toll Free Fax No.: 1-866-227-0957

PREDETERMINATIONS

British Columbia

The dental PD process is not centralized for the BC Region. All PD, client reimbursement and appeal requests are handled by the First Nations Health Authority.

First Nations Health Authority
757 West Hastings Street
Suite 540

Vancouver, BC V6C 3E6
Telephone: 1-888-321-5003
Fax: 1-604-666-5815