

# Definition of Medically Necessary Care

Originating Committee  
Clinical Affairs Committee

Review Council  
Council on Clinical Affairs

Adopted  
1997

Revised  
2001, 2003

Medically necessary care is the reasonable and appropriate diagnostic, preventive, and treatment services (including supplies, appliances, and devices) and follow-up care as determined by qualified, appropriate health care providers in treating any condition, disease, injury, or congenital or developmental malformation. Medically necessary care includes all health care services that directly support the delivery of dental/oral health care that, in the judgment of the attending dentist, are necessary for the provision of op-

timal quality therapeutic and preventive oral care to patients with medical, physical, or behavioral conditions. These services include, but are not limited to, sedation, general anesthesia, and utilization of surgical facilities.

Dental care is medically necessary for the purpose of preventing, controlling, and eliminating orofacial infection, pain, and disease and correcting facial disfiguration or dysfunction.

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