

Fall/Winter 2022-2023

News for the
Dentist and Staff

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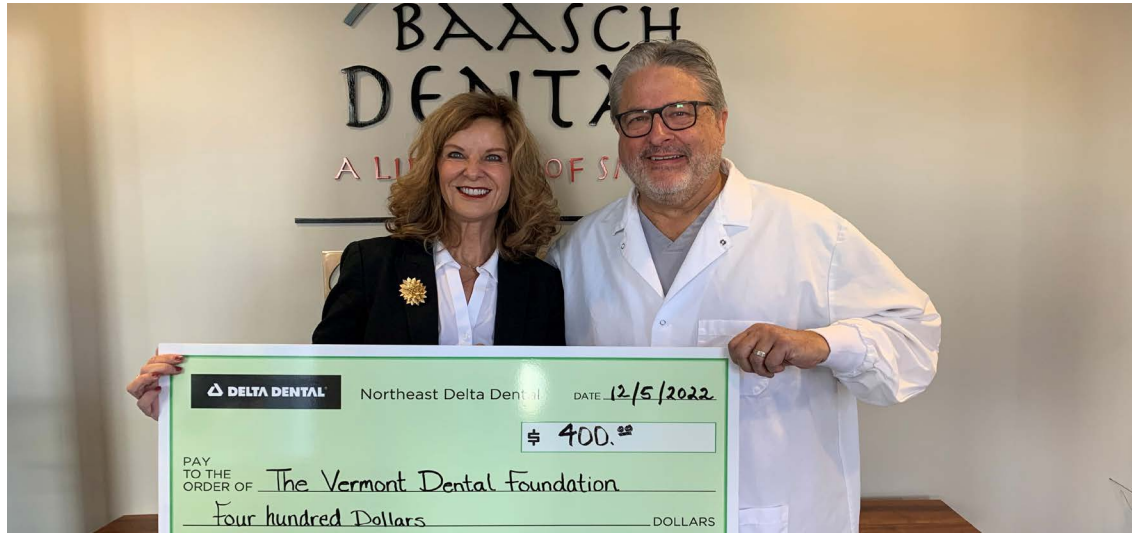
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Oral Health and Wellness Support Specialist, LeaAnne Haney, RDH, CPHDH, awards check to David Baasch, DDS.

Dr. Baasch recognized for 40 years!

David Baasch, DDS, was presented with a \$400 check for The Vermont Dental Foundation to celebrate his 40 years of service with Northeast Delta Dental. During these years, he also served as a Delta Dental Plan of Vermont Board trustee for nine years and held board offices that included secretary, vice chair, and board chair. His dental office, Baasch Dentistry, is located in Wallingford, Vermont.

Join us in serving New Hampshire's adult Medicaid beneficiaries

Northeast Delta Dental and DentaQuest share a mission to improve the oral health of all. We encourage you to join us in serving New Hampshire's adult Medicaid beneficiaries. Choose one of the options below to get started:

- To receive your network enrollment package with document submission instructions please contact DentaQuest's network development department:
 - Call: 1-855-873-1283
 - Email: NetworkDevelopment@dentaquest.com
- The online credentialing application is available on the DentaQuest website. Visit the [New Hampshire dentist page](#) and click on one of the options under the 'Join Our Network' section.

For general information please visit the [NH Adult Medicaid Network](#) page on the Northeast Delta Dental website.

Meet our new board directors/trustees

During the spring and summer, Delta Dental Plan of Maine, Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire and Delta Dental Plan of Vermont elected new board directors/trustees for three-year terms.

Delta Dental Plan of Maine elected [Dr. Melissa Haidu-Sylvia](#) as a new board director. Melissa is a dentist and owner of New Leaf Dental, PC, in Topsham.

Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire elected two new board directors, [Dr. Caroline Clerisme](#) and [Leesa Smith](#). Caroline is an associate dentist at Amoskeag Urgent Dental care in Manchester. Leesa is the division CFO/senior director of post-merger integration of newly acquired companies at Freudenberg Filtration Technologies LP.

Delta Dental Plan of Vermont elected [Dr. Tyler Aten](#) as a board trustee. He owns dental offices in South Burlington and St. Albans.

Golf tournament raises funds for oral health programs

Good news! The 24th Annual Thurston J. Carpenter Memorial Golf Tournament raised \$21,508 for the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, which awards grants annually to oral health programs in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

This year's tournament took place on Friday, September 9, at Breakfast Hill Golf Club in Greenland, New Hampshire. Members of the Carpenter family and our celebrity golfer, Rico Petrocelli, were among the one hundred golfers playing the course on this beautiful fall day. The winning foursome was Jason Holt, James Waring, David Webber and Eric Hurrell.

Twenty-five sponsors helped make this fundraiser a success. We appreciate everyone's participation and support.

Attracting dentists with \$6M in student loan repayments

In an effort to attract more dentists to Northern New England, Northeast Delta Dental has provided \$6M in funding over three years to be used for dental student loan repayments. The new program will be administered by the Recruitment Center at Bi-State Primary Care Association, governed by a Steering Committee with representatives from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont." [Click here to learn more.](#)



Northeast Delta Dental was named a Best Company to Work For by *Business NH Magazine* for the tenth year.

Value-added services protocol

As a participating dentist, from time to time you may offer patients the option of choosing to receive services that result in a cost that exceeds the Northeast Delta Dental maximum allowable charge for Premier dentists (Premier MAC) or the maximum allowable charge for PPO dentists (PPO MAC) due to the use of more costly materials or laboratory services.

You may charge your patients for the additional cost of these materials or laboratory services. However, you **must** document that the patient was provided with information about the risks, benefits and alternatives to the added-value service and that they voluntarily and knowingly agreed to accept responsibility for the difference between the contracted reimbursement and the higher cost material or laboratory services.

The fee submitted to us should reflect the full cost to the patient, and a detailed description of the service must be added in the Comments/Message section of the claim indicating "Added Value Service." Our clinical consultants will review the claim to determine that it is clinically appropriate and then process the claim to reflect payment of the dentist's allowable fees and the patient's responsibility under the benefit plan. All additional costs are the patient's responsibility. We always recommend that you obtain an estimate of predetermined dental benefits for high cost or complicated services.

If you have additional questions, contact our Professional Relations department at PRINFO@nedelta.com.

Delta Dental Community Impact Report shows increased giving

Delta Dental member companies and their foundations invested \$106 million in community initiatives in 2021, an increase of \$3.5 million from 2020. These financial investments, coupled with 17,000 volunteer hours by Delta Dental employees, impacted 21.3 million lives and served communities in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.

Giving areas included:



The report showed that the Delta Dental family of companies supported scholarships, grants and other workforce development efforts that benefited more than 147,000 people, many from underserved populations, and supported dental treatment and prevention programs that reached more than 10 million people.

To learn more from the interactive Delta Dental 2021 Community Impact Report, [click here](#).



Oral Health Challenge update

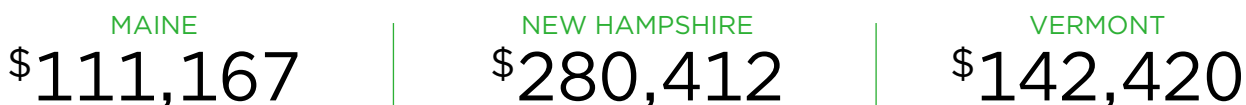
The Oral Health Challenge, a program run annually in partnership with the NH Fisher Cats, invites children 12 years or younger to brush and floss daily for seven consecutive days to earn two tickets to a NH Fisher Cats game. Launched in 2011, the program encourages parent-child communication about daily at-home oral health habits. In 2022, a total of 2,315 free tickets were distributed to children completing the challenge, topping 2021 numbers of 1,752 substantially, and only 98 less than 2019, our record-breaking year.



Our President & CEO, Tom Raffio, said, “The Oral Health Challenge continues to inspire children to begin lifelong preventive oral hygiene habits, while earning positive rewards. With the important links of oral hygiene to overall health and well-being, encouraging these habits at a young age means we will see more healthy smiles in the future!”

Foundation awards more than \$500K to oral health programs

The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation awarded grants totaling \$533,999 in 2022 to oral health programs:



Since 1995, the Foundation has supported organizations and initiatives in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont that provide oral health education and dental care to uninsured and underserved people. It is a philanthropic arm of Northeast Delta Dental, advancing its mission of improving access to and quality of dental health and education for the public and the dental communities. [Learn more about the Foundation and its mission.](#)

Dental insurance continues to support optimal health

Dental insurance's continuing role in supporting optimal health was spotlighted in the 2022 State of America's Oral Health and Wellness Report, a nationwide analysis of consumer opinions and behaviors relating to oral health commissioned by Delta Dental. Findings from the research of U.S. adults and parents of children ages 12 and younger shows that adults who have dental insurance recognize the emotional and financial benefits that come with having dental coverage. A few highlights from this year's report include:

Advantages of dental insurance extend beyond encouraging better oral health.

- Almost 9 in 10 adults (89 percent) agree that having dental coverage gives them peace of mind and provides relief from worrying about what they would do in a dental emergency.
- Among those insured, nearly all adults recognize that their dental insurance saves them money (94 percent) and is well worth the cost (91 percent).

Having dental insurance gives inner calm during pandemic uncertainties.

- The survey finds that most adults (81 percent) and parents (88 percent) concur that having dental insurance during the pandemic has provided them peace of mind.
- In fact, adults (68 percent) and parents (72 percent) appreciated having dental insurance more than ever during the pandemic.
- The research also indicates that, due in part to the pandemic, nearly 7 in 10 (69 percent) parents with a child not currently covered by dental insurance will secure dental coverage in 2022.

"Our survey illuminates the vast emotional and financial benefits most adults and parents across the United States associate with having dental insurance," said James W. Hutchison, President & CEO, Delta Dental Plans Association. "Delta Dental continues to partner with oral health professionals and the public in our development of enhanced dental plans focused on person-centered care. The innovative plans are based on a person's health needs and provide the extra care to enrich overall health and quality of life."

[Click here to read the full 2022 State of America's Oral Health and Wellness Report.](#)

New in-network dentists

One of Northeast Delta Dental's greatest strengths is its robust network of in-network dentists. The following dentists have joined us from July through November 2022. Welcome!

Maine

Ricardo Addante, DDS
Jessica Alexander, IPDH
Anas Al-Tae, DDS
Andrew Athanathious, DMD
Jacqueline Auger, DMD
Devon Austin, DMD
Shyanne Barnes, DMD
Meaghan Bradley, DMD
Andrew Bryant, DMD
Daniel Cahill, DMD
Jerrold Cohen, DMD
Jason Cummins, DMD
Mason Cyr, DMD
Christine El Masri, DMD
Emily Floyd, DMD
Christopher Getchell, DMD
Marissa Hebert, DMD
Sara Hosseini, DMD
Benjamin Jordan, DMD
Elizabeth Kain, DMD
Hyun Kim, DDS
Michael McCabe, DMD
Meghan McAlary, DMD
Alayna Mender, DMD
Yanelis Mestre, DMD
Paul Pasternack, DMD
Nicholas Pray, DMD
Christopher Priest, DMD
Mark Pugliese II, DMD
Drew Sigman, DMD
Gregory Stein, DMD
Ningyuan Sun, DDS
Danielle Tremblay, IPDH
Nicole Trone, DMD
Robert Walsh, DMD
Cody Woods, DMD
James Wrobel, DMD
Sung Jun Yeon, DMD
Hyung Rok You, DDS

New Hampshire

Brian Ahern, DMD
Alex Alexanian, DDS
Nitika Arora, DMD
Farnaz Asha, DMD
Jonathan Bean, DMD
Katherine Baer, DMD
Brad Beaudoin, DMD
Cheryl Boyd, DMD
Saam Bozorg, DMD
Colin Brady, DMD
Mariana Braga, DMD
Omar Garcia Chacon, DMD
Myles Clancy, DMD

Michael Courtney, DMD, MD
Luke Devaney, DMD
Osama Duwaji, DMD
Paul Dyrkacz, DMD
Omer Elrayah, DMD
Mina Fahmy, DDS
Fadi Farah, DMD
Leila Fussell, DMD
James Gerweck, DMD
Jason Keshian, DMD
Augustine Kim, DDS
Jaegak Kim, DMD
Susan Lee, DMD
Qiyu Li, DMD
Hai Liu, DMD
Kevin Lou, DMD
Sarah McSherry, DMD
Sanika Nayyar, DMD
Cheryl Odgen, DMD
Samantha Oliver, DDS
Chung-Whiy Park, DMD
Nari Park, DMD
Chad Phillips, DDS
Maria Rejon, DMD
Nikolin Ropi, DMD
Azadeh Sajjadi, DMD
Nikita Santhanakrishnan, DMD
Anika Solanki, DMD
Ethan Tencati, DDS
Tushar Udeshi, DDS
Corey Winship, DMD
Aimee Wright, DMD
Jeannie Yoon, DDS

Vermont

Mohammed Ahmed, DMD
Miriam Al-Keliddar, DDS
Kristine Aragon, DMD
Shivani Arora, DDS
James Baker, DMD
George Derenzo, DDS
Stacey Hasler, DMD
Richard Huot, DDS
Katherine Merrick, DMD
Thomas Morgan, DMD
Ashley Mullaney, DMD
Digvijaysinh Parmar, DDS
Jitesh Patel, DMD
Mir Ayesha Siddiqua, DDS
Inder Singh, DDS
Michael Spink, DDS
Lisha Tang, DDS
Ning Yu, DDS

CDT 2023 code and policy changes

As of January 1, 2023, the American Dental Association's (ADA's) procedure code changes will be in effect. Associated changes to Northeast Delta Dental policies will also be effective January 1, 2023. There are 27 new codes and two deleted codes. Many of the new codes further define existing procedures.

Please be sure **not** to submit claims for the new codes with dates of service prior to January 1, 2023, and **do not** submit claims for the deleted codes for dates of service on or after January 1, 2023. Your claims will be returned to your office for resubmission with the correct codes for the dates of service involved, which results in unnecessarily delaying the processing of your claims.

The following are definitions of terms used in this article:

Denied/Deny: The procedure or service is not covered, and the approved amount is collectable from the patient.

Not Billable to the Patient (NBTP): The procedure is not benefited by Delta Dental nor is it billable to the patient by an in-network dentist.

General Policy: This policy is already in place, and **any** charges related to office overhead, including infection control/personal protection equipment, are included in the fee for the dental services provided. Separate fees are not billable to the patient.

New 2023 standardly covered codes and standard Delta Dental processing policies:

- **D0372** Intraoral tomosynthesis - comprehensive series of radiographic images. Covered benefit as a comprehensive series (D0210) with additional fees chargeable to patient.
- **D0373** Intraoral tomosynthesis- bitewing radiographic image. Covered benefit as a bitewing- single radiographic image (D0220) with additional fees chargeable to patient.
- **D0374** Intraoral tomosynthesis-periapical radiographic image. Covered benefit as a periapical (D0270) with additional fees chargeable to patient.
- **D6105** Removal of implant body not requiring bone removal nor flap elevation. Covered under Major once in a lifetime. See next column.
- **D6197** Replacement of restorative material used to close an access opening of a screw-retained implant supported prosthesis, per implant. Covered under Major once every 24 months. See column one, page six.

New 2023 standardly non-covered codes and standard Delta Dental processing policies:

Non-covered codes that are denied and billable to the patient:

- **D0801** 3D dental surface scan - direct.
- **D0802** 3D dental surface scan - indirect.
- **D0803** 3D facial surface scan - direct.
- **D0804** 3D facial surface scan - indirect.
- **D1781** Vaccine administration - human papillomavirus - Dose 1.
- **D1782** Vaccine administration - human papillomavirus - Dose 2.
- **D1783** Vaccine administration - human papillomavirus - Dose 3.
- **D4286** Removal of non-resorbable barrier. Denied if done by a different dentist/dental office who placed the barrier (D4267).
- **D6105** Removal of implant body not requiring bone removal nor flap elevation. Denied if done by a different dentist/dental office within six months of implant placement (D6010/D6013).
- **D6106** Guided tissue regeneration - resorbable barrier, per implant.
- **D6107** Guided tissue regeneration - non-resorbable barrier, per implant.
- **D7509** Marsupialization of odontogenic cyst.
- **D7956** Guided tissue regeneration, edentulous area - resorbable barrier, per site.
- **D7957** Guided tissue regeneration, edentulous area - non-resorbable barrier, per site.
- **D9953** Reline custom sleep apnea appliance (indirect). Denied unless covered by group/individual contract.

New 2023 Non-covered Codes that are not billable to the patient:

- **D0387** Intraoral tomosynthesis - comprehensive series of radiographic images - image capture only. Not billable to the patient, as D0387 is considered part of D0372.
- **D0388** Intraoral tomosynthesis - bitewing radiographic image - image capture only. Not billable to the patient when billed with D0373 by the same dentist/dental office.
- **D0389** Intraoral tomosynthesis - periapical radiographic image - image capture only. Not billable to the patient when billed with D0374 by the same dentist/dental office.
- **D4286** Removal of non-resorbable barrier. Not billable to the patient if done by the same dentist/dental office who placed the barrier (D4267).

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- **D6105** Removal of implant body not requiring bone removal nor flap elevation. Not billable to the patient if done by same dentist/dental office within six months of implant placement (D6010/D6013).
- **D6197** Replacement of restorative material used to close an access opening of a screw-retained implant supported prosthesis, per implant. Not billable to the patient when performed by the same dentist/dental office within six months of placement of the implant prosthesis OR on the same date of service by the same dentist/dental office as implant maintenance (D6080) or repair implant supported prosthesis (D6090).
- **D9953** Reline custom sleep apnea appliance (indirect). Not billable to the patient if performed by the same dentist/dental office within six months of initial placement.

Revised standard Delta Dental processing policies for existing codes as of January 1, 2023:

- **D0251** Extra-oral posterior dental radiographic image. If there is a history of prior extra-oral radiograph within the frequency limitation for panoramic image (D0330), the fees for D0251 are Not Billable to the Patient.
- **D0270** Bitewing – single radiographic image. The fees for additional bitewings (D0270-D0274) within six months of D0210 are Not Billable to the Patient by the same dentist/dental office. Benefits are denied if done by a different dentist/dental office.
- **D0272** Bitewings – two radiographic images. The fees for additional bitewings (D0270-D0274) within six months of D0210 are Not Billable to the Patient by the same dentist/dental office. Benefits are denied if done by a different dentist/dental office.
- **D0273** Bitewing – three radiographic images. The fees for additional bitewings (D0270-D0274) within six months of D0210 are Not Billable to the Patient by the same dentist/dental office. Benefits are denied if done by a different dentist/dental office.
- **D0274** Bitewing – four radiographic images. The fees for additional bitewings (D0270-D0274) within six months of D0210 are Not Billable to the Patient by the same dentist/dental office. Benefits are denied if done by a different dentist/dental office.
- **D2929** Prefabricated porcelain/ceramic crown – primary tooth. The fee for replacement of a porcelain/ceramic crown by the same dentist/dental office within 24 months is included in the initial crown placement and is Not Billable to the Patient. Benefits are Denied if done by a different dentist/dental office. D2929 is benefited once per lifetime.
- **D3221** Pulpal debridement, primary and permanent teeth. Fees are Not Billable to the Patient when performed within 30 days on same tooth by the same dentist/dental office as root canal therapy (D3230-D3333 or D3351-D3353).
- **D3222** Partial pulpotomy for apexogenesis – permanent tooth with incomplete root development. Fees are Not Billable to the Patient when performed within 30 days on same tooth by the same dentist/dental office as root canal therapy (D3230-D3333 or D3351-D3353).
- **D3471** Surgical repair of root resorption – anterior. Fees are Not Billable to the Patient when performed on the same tooth by the same dentist/dental office on the same date of service as D3333, D3410-D3426, D3430, D3450, D4210-D4212, D4231, D4240-D4241, D4245, D4249, D4260-D4261, D4268, D4270, D4273-D4278, D4283, D4285.
- **D3472** Surgical repair of root resorption – premolar. Fees for surgical repair of root resorption are Not Billable to the Patient when performed on the same tooth by the same dentist/dental office on the same date of service as D3333, D3410-D3426, D3430, D3450, D4210-D4212, D4231, D4240-D4241, D4245, D4249, D4260-D4261, D4268, D4270, D4273-D4278, D4283, D4285.
- **D4260** Osseous surgery (including elevation of a full thickness flap and closure) – four or more contiguous teeth or tooth bounded spaces per quadrant. Benefits for osseous surgery in excess of two quadrants per date of service are Denied in the absence of clinical documentation explaining the exceptional circumstance.
- **D4261** Osseous surgery (including elevation of a full thickness flap and closure) – one-to-three contiguous teeth or tooth-bounded spaces per quadrant. Benefits for osseous surgery in excess of two quadrants per date of service are Denied in the absence of clinical documentation explaining the exceptional circumstance.
- **D4265** Biologic materials to aid in soft and osseous tissue regeneration, per site. Providing more than two D4263, D4264, D4265, D4266, D4267, D4270, D4273, D4275, D4276, D4277, D4278, D4283, D4285 within any given quadrant is highly unusual and additional submissions should only be considered on a by-report basis. Fees for anything more than two sites in a quadrant are Denied. When clinical documentation of exceptional circumstances is submitted, benefits may be Denied, unless covered, dependent on group/individual contract language.
- **D4266** Guided tissue regeneration, natural teeth – resorbable barrier, per site. Providing more than two D4263, D4264, D4265, D4266, D4267, D4270, D4273, D4275, D4276, D4277, D4278, D4283, D4285 within any given quadrant is highly unusual and additional submissions should only be considered on a by-report basis. Fees for anything more than two sites in a quadrant are Denied. When clinical documentation of exceptional

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circumstances is submitted, benefits may be Denied, unless covered, dependent on group/individual contract language.

- **D4267** Guided tissue regeneration, natural teeth – non-resorbable barrier, per site. DDPA adding D4265 to existing General Policy – Providing more than two D4263, D4264, D4265, D4266, D4267, D4270, D4273, D4275, D4276, D4277, D4278, D4283, D4285 within any given quadrant is highly unusual and additional submissions should only be considered on a by-report basis. Fees for anything more than two sites in a quadrant are Denied. When clinical documentation of exceptional circumstances is submitted, benefits may be Denied, unless covered, dependent on group/individual contract language.
- **D4270** Pedicle soft tissue graft procedure. DDPA adding D4265 to existing General Policy – Providing more than two D4263, D4264, D4265, D4266, D4267, D4270, D4273, D4275, D4276, D4277, D4278, D4283, D4285 within any given quadrant is highly unusual and additional submissions should only be considered on a by-report basis. Fees for anything more than two sites in a quadrant are Denied. When clinical documentation of exceptional circumstances is submitted, benefits may be Denied, unless covered, dependent on group/individual contract language.
- **D4341** Periodontal scaling and root planing – four or more teeth per quadrant. The fees for D4341 are Not Billable to the Patient in the absence of radiographic documentation of bone loss and documentation of clinical attachment loss. Benefits will be limited to that of a prophylaxis (D1110) or scaling in the presence of generalized moderate to severe gingival inflammation (D4346). The fees for D4341 are Not Billable to the Patient when done on the same date of service and same tooth as a surgical repair of root resorption (D3471-D3473).
- **D4355** Full mouth debridement to enable a comprehensive periodontal evaluation and diagnosis on a subsequent visit. Full mouth debridement is Not Billable to the Patient when performed by the same dentist/dental office on the same date of service as D0180.
- **D7294** Placement of temporary anchorage device without flap. Benefits are Denied as a specialized procedure, unless covered by group/individual contract.
- **D7412** Excision of benign lesion, complicated. The fee for D7412 is Not Billable to the Patient as included in the fee for another surgery in the same area of the mouth on the same date of service by the same dentist/dental office.
- **D7413** Excision of malignant lesion up to 1.25 cm. The fee for D7413 is Not Billable to the Patient as included in the fee for another surgery in the same area of the mouth on the same date of service by the same dentist/dental office.

- **D7414** Excision of malignant lesion greater than 1.25 cm. The fee for D7414 is Not Billable to the Patient as included in the fee for another surgery in the same area of the mouth on the same date of service by the same dentist/dental office.
- **D9948** Adjustment of custom sleep apnea appliance. If performed within six months of initial placement by a different dentist/dental office, fees for a repair of a custom sleep apnea appliance are Denied.
- **D9949** Repair of custom sleep apnea appliance. If performed within six months of initial placement by a different dentist/dental office, fees for a repair of a custom sleep apnea appliance are Denied.

Deleted Codes as of January 1, 2023:

- **D0351** 3D Photographic image.
- **D0704** 3D Photographic image – image capture only.

Be sure to order your new CDT 2023 book from the ADA. You may also wish to order the CDT 2023 App and/or the Coding Companion Guide. All of these are helpful resources.

Holiday closures

Martin Luther King/ Civil Rights Day	Monday, January 16, 2023
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29, 2023
Juneteenth National Independence Day	Monday, June 19, 2023
Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4, 2023

Reminders:

- Please notify us of any dentist and/or office changes and updates by contacting the Provider Services department at providerservices@nedelta.com or call 1-800-537-1715 ext. 1100.
- We encourage you to share the *Incisor* with your staff to also keep them informed.