

Name (*report preparer*): Andrew Wiltsch

Date: July 27, 2020

Name of Council/Committee/Task Force: Council on Orthodontic Healthcare

## MEETINGS

Date: June 13, 2020

Conference Call

In-person

Location: Teleconference

### Attendance:

Chair: Dr. John Metz

Members: Dr. Richa Dutta; Dr. Tasha Hall; Dr. Randall Markarian; Dr. Layne McCord; Dr. Sneha Oberoi; Dr. Marlin Salmon; Dr. Kyle Shannon; Dr. Greg Oppenhuizen, COHC Consultant; Dr. Trista Felty, CONYM Liaison; Dr. Myron Guymon, Board Liaison

Staff: Andrew Wiltsch

Not Present: N/A

Guest(s): N/A

## BOT RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Responsible Party	Completion Date	Budget Implication
That COHC Representatives invite National Association of Dental Plans Representatives to discuss several payment issues facing orthodontics.	COHC	TBD	To be determined. None expected for teleconference.
That COHC survey AAO Membership to determine the biggest/most common issues members find with the Code Book	COHC	8/31/2020	None.
That COHC's Global Orthodontic Code Review Subcommittee work with its ADA counterpart, Coding and Transactions Subcommittee, to assist with the AAO's global review of the orthodontic code section, with revisions to be submitted to Code Maintenance Committee.  And be it further resolved, that the subcommittee make recommendations for educating members on the proper way to code for orthodontic treatments to fully code for all procedures being provided to patients	COHC	10/31/2020	No implication anticipated.

## DISCUSSION

Topic	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
<b>COHC Chair Report</b>	Dr. Metz informed the council members of the goals he wishes for COHC to accomplish this year, including simplification of the CDT Code, creating training or FAQ manuals to assist members with billing and coding issues,	None

	<p>increasing awareness of DOS, and surveilling third-party payer trends related to teledentistry and clear aligner therapy. Dr. Metz brought the Council Orientation documents on Causeway to the attention of the council.</p>	
<b>BOARD LIAISON REPORT</b>	<p>Dr. Guymon reported that two individuals, Dr. Alexandra Thomas and Dr. Dale Anne Fetteringham, have been added to the AAO's Board as at-large trustees. The 2020 Annual Session had over 11,000 reservations and roughly 9,300 of them were orthodontists. Constituent Meetings, for the moment, have been paused due to COVID-19. Conversations about how to go forward continue.</p> <p>Dr. Guymon explained the COHC's motion from its previous meeting, related to pursuing the establishment of a Medically Necessary Orthodontic Claim Review Board, was withdrawn from consideration due to the lack of a specific of the Board. The Board did not think it would be appropriate to approve or defeat it at that time.</p>	None
<b>CODING AND MEMBER EDUCATION</b>	<p><b>NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL PLANS (NADP) MEETING</b> The NADP's 2020 CONVERGE Meeting has been moved to a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Salmon will still attend, as will Dr. Oppenhuizen as the Code Consultant. Registration information, as well as a meeting agenda, has yet to be released.</p> <p><b>AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL CONSULTANTS (AADC) MEETING</b> The 2020 AADC Meeting was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the decision was made not to reschedule for this year. The 2021 Meeting will take place May 5-8 at PGA National Resort &amp; Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.</p> <p><b>ADA CODE MAINTNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING</b> Dr. Oppenhuizen provided the Council with his report on the 2020 CMC Meeting he and Dr. Dutta attended. There was little support for the AAO's proposed revision, which would have added a definition of orthodontic health care to the preamble of the Orthodontics Section of the CDT.</p> <p>Dr. Markarian remarks that, from the perspective of the ADA, an addition to the preamble does not fit the purpose of the CDT code book. The ADA would like to see the implementation of a CDT 2.0 that includes code modifiers.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Markarian/Dutta <u>That COHC Representatives invite National Association of Dental Plans Representatives to discuss several payment issues facing orthodontics.</u> <u>On unanimous vote, motion carried.</u></p> <p>The Global Orthodontic Code Review Subcommittee agrees to discuss issues with coding odontoplasty.</p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Salmon will still attend the virtual 2020 CONVERGE Meeting, along with Dr. Oppenhuizen.</li> <li>2. Dr. Markarian will attend the upcoming 2021 AADC Meeting, along with Dr. Oppenhuizen and Mr. Wiltsch.</li> <li>3. Dr. Dutta will attend the upcoming 2021 ADA CMC Meeting, along with Dr. Oppenhuizen and Mr. Wiltsch</li> </ol> <p><b>BOT Recommendations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NADP Discussions</li> <li>2. Member Coding Survey</li> <li>3. ADA Coding Collaboration</li> </ol>

	<p>The 2021 ADA CMC Meeting will take place March 11-12 at ADA Headquarters in Chicago. The deadline for submitting proposed changes to the CDT Code is November 1st.</p> <p><b>GLOBAL OORTHODONTIC CODE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Dr. Markarian reported on behalf of the subcommittee and explained that the subcommittee would like to consider doing a comprehensive revision of the Orthodontics section of the CDT Code. This is an endeavor the ADA would support.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Hall/Dutta  <u>That COHC survey AAO Membership to determine the biggest/most common issues members find with the Code Book.</u>  On unanimous vote, motion carried.</p> <p>Dr. Markarian will develop a questionnaire of sample cases for COHC members to help develop strategy for questions that will be included in the survey of all AAO Members.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Markarian/Dutta  <u>That COHC's Global Orthodontic Code Review Subcommittee work with its ADA counterpart, Coding and Transactions Subcommittee, to assist with the AAO's global review of the orthodontic code section, with revisions to be submitted to Code Maintenance Committee.</u>  <u>And be it further resolved that the subcommittee make recommendations for educating members on the proper way to code for orthodontic treatments to fully code for all procedures being provided to patients.</u>  On unanimous vote, motion carried.</p> <p><b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE ON DENTAL INFORMATICS (SCDI)</b></p> <p>Mr. Wiltsch requested a copy of the SCDI's minutes from the Staff Liaison to that subcommittee, and he was informed that they were not yet available. Mr. Wiltsch will forward to the Council when they are received.</p>	
<p><b>MEDICALLY NECESSARY ORTHODONTIC CARE (MNOC)</b></p>	<p><b>DEFINITION AND AUTOQUALIFIERS</b></p> <p>COHC reviewed the MNOC Definition and the AAO's autoqualifiers and determined that no changes are necessary at this time.</p> <p><b>MNOC PEER REVIEW BOARD</b></p> <p>COHC discussed the Motion from the January Meeting that was withdrawn. Upon further discussion, the Council determined it will not resubmit the motion.</p> <p>Council members agree that the idea should be discussed with other industry players to determine interest. Based on DBAS call information, MNOC claim denials do not appear to be a widespread issue that warrants such a significant</p>	<p>None</p>

	use of Council resources at this time.	
<b>ACCESS TO ORTHODONTIC HEALTH CARE</b>	<p><b>DONATED ORTHODONTIC SERVICES</b> Dr. Guymon shared the Board’s decision to support the DOS program as it transitions with new administrative leadership.</p>	None
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<p><b>MEMBER REQUEST RELATED TO INSURANCE PAYMENT METHODS</b> Council discussion revealed that the insurers’ variety of submission methods and payment schedules for orthodontic care is a significant issue for orthodontists and their practices. Council would like to see consistency on how claims are paid, and it will include this issue in discussions with third party payers.</p> <p><b>PPE CHARGES</b> Council discussed the ongoing conversation regarding charging for PPE. The Council agreed that it supports the ADA’s current position and supports their decision to push third-party payers for greater reimbursement for services provided during the COVID-19 pandemic. Council determined there is no further action for it to take at this time.</p> <p><b>UPCHARGE FOR CLEAR ALIGNERS</b> Council discussed the Disallow Policy that is becoming more and more common for members who are in-network with dental insurers. It was determined that this is a significant issue for new and younger members, whose practices are more likely to be in-network as they attempt to market their practice to their communities.</p> <p>Dr. Felty informed the Council that COOP and CONYM have worked on materials discussing practice types and the issues they face.</p> <p>Council will create a resource explaining issues to look for when reviewing contracts with Dental Insurers. Will also make the disallow charge an agenda item to be discussed with the NADP and other industry groups.</p> <p><b>SUBCOMMITTEES</b> Dr. Metz expressed that he would like to bring back COHC Subcommittees and assign/reassign members to assist with their work. Members were assigned as follows:</p> <p>Coding Committee – Dr. Dutta, Dr. Markarian, Dr. McCord, Dr. Oppenhuizen Access to Care Committee– Dr. Hall, Dr. Metz, Dr. Oberoi Member and Orthodontic Benefits Education Committee – Dr. Felty, Dr. Markarian Dental Industry Relations and Trends Committee – Dr. Salmon, Dr. Shannon</p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Wiltsch will respond to Dr. Kamisugi to inform her of the Council’s discussion and plans.</li> <li>2. Council will create a resource explaining issues to look for when reviewing contracts with Dental Insurers. Will also make the disallow charge an agenda item to be discussed with the NADP and other industry groups.</li> <li>3. Mr. Wiltsch will update the Committee List and upload to Causeway.</li> </ol>

<b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b>	<p>The 2021 Winter COHC meeting will be held via teleconference at 10 AM Eastern on Saturday, January 9, 2021.</p> <p>The Council agreed to hold the 2022 Summer COHC meeting in St. Louis on Saturday, June 12, 2022.</p>	None
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Annual Budget <i>(Feb.)</i>

<b>Nomination of Council Chair</b> <i>(Annually, Nov. or Feb)</i>	Name	Constituent

**Future Reference or Archive**

The council would like to retain these items for future reference or for archive: