

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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Dental Bulletin

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- **Third Molar Extractions**

THIRD MOLAR EXTRACTIONS

Effective immediately, MO HealthNet will utilize the following criteria for third molar extractions.

Surgical extraction of impacted and erupted third molar teeth is a covered service. Indications of removal and criteria or conditions allowable for reimbursement are to include erupted, partially erupted, and unerupted/impacted third molars. One or more of the following conditions must be present and documented in the participant dental record:

1. Pain
2. Pericoronitis
3. Carious lesion
4. Facilitation of the management of or limitation of progression of periodontal disease
5. Nontreatable pulpal or periapical lesion
6. Acute and/or chronic infection
7. Ectopic position
8. Elective therapeutic removal
9. Abnormalities of tooth size or shape precluding normal function
10. Facilitation of orthodontic tooth movement and promotion of dental stability
11. Tooth impeding the normal eruption of an adjacent tooth
12. Tooth in line of fracture
13. Impacted tooth
14. Pathology associated with tooth
15. Pathology associated with impacted tooth (odontogenic cysts, neoplasms)
16. Tooth involved in tumor resection
17. Preventive or prophylactic removal, when indicated, for patients with medical or surgical conditions or treatments
18. Clinical findings of fractured tooth or teeth
19. Internal or external resorption of tooth or adjacent teeth
20. Anatomical position causing potential damage to adjacent teeth
21. Patient's informed refusal of nonsurgical treatment options

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896**