



## **Medical Billing Guide for NTI**

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Many medical insurance plans reimburse for oral appliances for temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder. The key to reimbursement lies in documentation of medical necessity starting with signs and symptoms of temporomandibular joint disorder or myalgia of the head and neck.

### **Q. How does a dental office bill medical for medically necessary procedures?**

A. To be successful in medical billing the dental office should submit a narrative report of medical necessity along with the medical codes on the standard medical claim form.

### **Q. Other than a narrative, what else do I need to bill the NTI appliance?**

To bill oral appliances, submit the appropriate International Classification of Diseases (ICD) diagnostic codes and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) procedure codes on a medical claim form (CMS 1500).

### **Common ICD-10 Codes for Temporomandibular Joint Disorders:**

- M26.621 - Arthralgia of right temporomandibular joint
- M26.622 - Arthralgia of left temporomandibular joint
- M26.623 - Arthralgia of bilateral temporomandibular joint
- M26.631 - Articular disc disorder of right temporomandibular joint
- M26.632 - Articular disc disorder of left temporomandibular joint
- M26.633 - Articular disc disorder of bilateral temporomandibular joint
- M26.69 - Other specified disorders of temporomandibular joint



### **Common ICD-10 Codes for Pain and Myalgia**

- G50.1 - Atypical facial pain
- M54.2 – Cervicalgia
- M79.11– Myalgia of the muscles or mastication
- M79.12– Myalgia of auxiliary muscles of the head and neck
- R51 – Headache
- R68.84 - Jaw pain

### **NTI Appliance - Medical Billing:**

**CPT 21299:** Unlisted craniofacial and maxillofacial procedure with narrative report

**D7880:** Occlusal orthotic device, by report (some insurers advocate using this CDT code medical claim with ICD diagnosis codes.

**CPT 70355:** Panorex - a single panoramic X-ray of the jaws is often considered medically necessary for the initial evaluation of TMJ disorders.

### **NTI Appliance - Dental Billing:**

- D9940 - Occlusal Guard, by report
- D7880 - Occlusal Orthotic Device, by report

Note: Appliances for bruxism are typically excluded under medical plans but may be covered under dental plans.

### **Medical Claim Form**

The CMS 1500 universal claim form can be filed as a paper form or electronically.

### **Narrative Reports/SOAP Notes**

Narrative reports/SOAP notes are a KEY COMPONENT to obtaining coverage for your patients.



## Narrative of Medical Necessity SOAP for NTI

- **Subjective** – why is the patient coming to see you? (medical history, chief complaints, pain history, etc.)
- **Objective** – what happened while the patient was in your office? (test results, exam notes, plan notes, diagnoses, etc.). Record findings such as pain on palpation of the muscles of mastication and TMJ range of motion.
- **Assessment** – what is the diagnosis? List ICD diagnosis codes in narrative.
- **Plan** – what is the treatment plan for this patient, including appliance delivery and follow up visits.

It is important that you have a system in place to gather the patient's history, record the exam, select diagnosis codes, and specify any medically necessary treatment plan. The DentalWriter™ software system was designed specifically for dental practices billing medical insurance and streamlines the process.

*Rose Nierman is the founder and CEO of Nierman Practice Management. Nierman Practice Management provides tools for dentists billing medical insurance including the CE Course, CrossCoding; Successful Medical Insurance in Dentistry, medical billing manuals and DentalWriter™ Narrative Report software. Contact Rose through [www.NiermanPM.com](http://www.NiermanPM.com) or at 1-800-879-6468.*