

Handicapping Malocclusion Prior Authorization Guidance for Advantage PCD Offices

- Beginning January 2023, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will be expanding the OHP orthodontic benefit for members 6-21 years to include coverage for handicapping malocclusion (HCM).
- OHA has developed a scoresheet to determine if members meet the criteria for HCM coverage. A copy of the OHA scoresheet branded by Advantage Dental is attached. Additional copies of the scoresheet are available on the Provider Portal under Documents>Forms>Handicapping Malocclusion Scoresheet.
- An important requirement before referral for orthodontic treatment can be approved is the **PCD MUST CERTIFY THE MEMBER IS FREE AND CLEAR OF DENTAL DECAY AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE VERIFIED BY A DENTAL EXAM IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS**. This is an OHA requirement, not Advantage Dental.
- Members that think they have handicapping malocclusion or the PCD thinks may qualify for the orthodontic benefit should be scored by the PCD or an orthodontist following directions on the scoresheet. Advantage will offer calibration training by an orthodontist in mid-January 2023 on how to complete the scoresheet.
- Conditions 1-6A on the HCM scoresheet are automatic qualifiers (e.g., cleft palate, other craniofacial anomaly, deep impinging overbite). Scoring of the other sections is not necessary for automatic qualifiers.
- For automatic qualifiers or members that score 26 or above and appear to meet criteria for orthodontic coverage, the member's PCD or an orthodontist will submit a prior authorization request to Advantage Dental Preauthorizations with the following information:
 - Chart notes confirming the member has been examined within the past six months and is free of caries and periodontal disease;
 - A completed HCM score sheet;
 - Digital photographs of articulated study models or orthodontic CAD/CAM or an electronic equivalent including all views – lateral, anterior and posterior. NOTE: this information is not required for members with cleft lip and palate, cleft palate or cleft lip with alveolar process involvement.
- Advantage Dental will review the scoresheet and other records and approve or deny the prior authorization in accordance with OHP guidelines. Members will receive standard appeal rights if the prior authorization is denied.