



Dental Benefits Amendment Rules 2023

I, Simon Cotterell, as delegate of the Minister for Health and Aged Care, make the following Rules.

Dated 8 December 2023

Simon Cotterell
First Assistant Secretary
Primary Care Division
Department of Health and Aged Care

Contents

1 Name.....	1
2 Commencement	1
3 Authority.....	1
4 Schedules	1
Schedule 1—Amendments	2
<i>Dental Benefits Rules 2014</i>	2

1 Name

This instrument is the *Dental Benefits Amendment Rules 2023*.

2 Commencement

- (1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
1. The whole of this instrument	1 January 2024	

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this instrument. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this instrument.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsection 60(1) of the *Dental Benefits Act 2008*.

4 Schedules

Each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Amendments

Dental Benefits Rules 2014

1 Schedule 1 Dental Benefits Schedule

Repeal Schedule 1, substitute:

Schedule 1 Dental Benefits Schedule

(rule 5)

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
Group U0 – Diagnostic Services		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Examinations</i>		
88011	Comprehensive oral examination Evaluation of all teeth, their supporting tissues and the oral tissues in order to record the condition of these structures. This evaluation includes recording an appropriate medical history and any other relevant information. (Item is subject to Rules 18 and 19)	57.65
88012	Periodic oral examination An evaluation performed on a patient of record to determine any changes in the patient's dental and medical health status since a previous comprehensive or periodic examination. (Item is subject to Rules 18 and 19)	47.90
88013	Oral examination – limited A limited oral problem-focussed evaluation carried out immediately prior to required treatment. This evaluation includes recording an appropriate medical history and any other relevant information. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 19)	30.10
<i>Subgroup 2 – Radiological examination and interpretation</i>		
88022	Intraoral periapical or bitewing radiograph – per exposure Taking and interpreting a radiograph made with the film inside the mouth. (Item is subject to Rule 17)	33.35
88025	Intraoral radiograph – occlusal, maxillary, mandibular – per exposure Taking and interpreting an occlusal, maxillary or mandibular intraoral radiograph. This radiograph shows a more extensive view of teeth and maxillary or mandibular bone.	67.40

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
Group U1 – Preventive Services		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Dental Prophylaxis</i>		
88111	Removal of plaque and/or stain Removal of dental plaque and/or stain from the surfaces of all teeth and/or implants. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 20)	58.90
88114	Removal of calculus – first visit Removal of calculus from the surfaces of teeth. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 20)	98.20
88115	Removal of calculus – subsequent visit This item describes procedures in item 88114 when, because of the extent or degree of calculus, an additional visit(s) is required to remove deposits from the teeth. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 20)	63.85
<i>Subgroup 2 – Remineralising Agents</i>		
88121	Topical application of remineralisation and/or cariostatic agents, one treatment Application of remineralisation and/or cariostatic agents to the surfaces of the teeth. This may include activation of the agent. Not to be used as an intrinsic part of the restoration. (Item is subject to Rule 17)	37.85
<i>Subgroup 3 – Other Preventive Services</i>		
88161	Fissure and/or tooth surface sealing – per tooth (first four services on a day) Sealing of non-carious pits, fissures, smooth surfaces or cracks in a tooth with an adhesive material. Any preparation prior to application of the sealant is included in this item number. (Item is subject to Rule 17 and 20)	50.45
88162	Fissure and/or tooth surface sealing – per tooth (subsequent services) Sealing of non-carious pits, fissures, smooth surfaces or cracks in a tooth with an adhesive material. Any preparation prior to application of the sealant is included in this item number. (Item is subject to Rule 20)	25.25
Group U2 – Periodontics		
88213	Treatment of acute periodontal infection – per visit This item describes the treatment of acute periodontal infection(s). It may include establishing drainage and the removal of calculus from the affected tooth (teeth). Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 21)	76.30

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88221	Clinical periodontal analysis and recording This is a special examination performed as part of the diagnosis and management of periodontal disease. The procedure consists of assessing and recording a patient's periodontal condition. All teeth and six sites per tooth must be recorded. Written documentation of these measurements must be retained. (Item is subject to Rule 17)	58.00
Group U3 – Oral Surgery		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Extractions</i>		
88311	Removal of a tooth or part(s) thereof – first tooth extracted on a day A procedure consisting of the removal of a tooth or part(s) thereof. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 22)	143.75
88314	Sectional removal of a tooth or part(s) thereof – first tooth extracted on a day The removal of a tooth or part(s) thereof in sections. Bone removal may be necessary. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 22)	183.75
88316	Additional extraction requiring removal of a tooth or part(s) thereof, or sectional removal of a tooth. Additional extraction provided on the same day as a service described in item 88311 or 88314 is provided to the patient. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	90.60
<i>Subgroup 2 – Surgical Extractions</i>		
88322	Surgical removal of a tooth or tooth fragment not requiring removal of bone or tooth division – first tooth extracted on a day Removal of a tooth or tooth fragment where an incision and the raising of a mucoperiosteal flap is required, but where removal of bone or sectioning of the tooth is not necessary to remove the tooth. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 22)	233.30
88323	Surgical removal of a tooth or tooth fragment requiring removal of bone – first tooth extracted on a day Removal of a tooth or tooth fragment where removal of bone is required after an incision and a mucoperiosteal flap raised. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 22)	266.45

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88324	Surgical removal of a tooth or tooth fragment requiring both removal of bone and tooth division – first tooth extracted on a day Removal of a tooth or tooth fragment where both removal of bone and sectioning of the tooth are required after an incision and a mucoperiosteal flap raised. The tooth will be removed in portions. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 22)	358.40
88326	Additional extraction requiring surgical removal of a tooth or tooth fragment Additional surgical extraction provided on the same day as a service described in item 88322, 88323 or 88324 is provided to the patient. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	190.85
<i>Subgroup 5 – Treatment of Maxillo-facial injuries</i>		
88351	Repair of skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane The surgical cleaning and repair of a facial skin wound in the region of the mouth or jaws, or the repair of oral mucous membrane, where the wounds involve the subcutaneous tissues. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	175.15
<i>Subgroup 8 – Other Surgical Procedures</i>		
88384	Repositioning of displaced tooth/teeth – per tooth A procedure following trauma where the position of the displaced tooth/teeth is corrected by manipulation. Stabilising procedures are itemised separately. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	209.00
88386	Splinting of displaced tooth/teeth – per tooth A procedure following trauma where the position of the displaced tooth/teeth may be stabilized by splinting. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	215.60
88387	Replantation and splinting of a tooth Replantation of a tooth which has been avulsed or intentionally removed. It may be held in the correct position by splinting. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	422.20

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88392	Drainage of abscess Drainage and/or irrigation of an abscess other than through a root canal or at the time of extraction. The drainage may be through an incision or inserted tube. Inclusive of the insertion of sutures, normal post-operative care and suture removal. (Item is subject to Rule 22)	106.10
Group U4 – Endodontics		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Pulp and Root Canal Treatments</i>		
88411	Direct pulp capping A procedure where an exposed pulp is directly covered with a protective dressing or cement.	38.15
88412	Incomplete endodontic therapy (tooth not suitable for further treatment) A procedure where in assessing the suitability of a tooth for endodontic treatment a decision is made that the tooth is not suitable for restoration. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	130.70
88414	Pulpotomy Amputation within the pulp chamber of part of the vital pulp of a tooth. The pulp remaining in the canal(s) is then covered with a protective dressing or cement. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	83.30
88415	Complete chemo-mechanical preparation of root canal – one canal Complete chemo-mechanical preparation including removal of pulp or necrotic debris from a canal. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	234.50
88416	Complete chemo-mechanical preparation of root canal – each additional canal Complete chemo-mechanical preparation including removal of pulp or necrotic debris from each additional canal of a tooth with multiple canals. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	111.70
88417	Root canal obturation – one canal The filling of a root canal, following chemo-mechanical preparation. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	228.40
88418	Root canal obturation – each additional canal The filling, following chemo-mechanical preparation, of each additional canal in a tooth with multiple canals. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	106.80

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88419	Extirpation of pulp or debridement of root canal(s) – emergency or palliative The partial or thorough removal of pulp and/or debris from the root canal system of a tooth. This is an emergency or palliative procedure distinct from visits for scheduled endodontic treatment. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	151.00
88421	Resorbable root canal filling – primary tooth The placement of resorbable root canal filling material in a primary tooth. (Item is subject to Rule 23)	130.70
<i>Subgroup 4 – Other Endodontic Services</i>		
88455	Additional visit for irrigation and/or dressing of the root canal system – per tooth Additional debridement irrigation and short-term dressing required where evidence of infection or inflammation persists following prior opening of the root canal and removal of its contents. (Item is subject to Rule 26)	115.70
88458	Interim therapeutic root filling – per tooth A procedure consisting of the insertion of a long-term provisional (temporary) root canal filling with therapeutic properties which facilitates healing/development of the root and periradicular tissues over an extended time. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 23)	154.35
Group U5 – Restorative Services		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Metallic Restorations – Direct</i>		
88511	Metallic restoration – one surface – direct Direct metallic restoration involving one surface of a tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	114.10
88512	Metallic restoration – two surfaces – direct Direct metallic restoration involving two surfaces of a tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	139.95
88513	Metallic restoration – three surfaces – direct Direct metallic restoration involving three surfaces of a tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	167.00

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88514	Metallic restoration – four surfaces – direct Direct metallic restoration involving four surfaces of a tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	190.35
88515	Metallic restoration – five surfaces – direct Direct metallic restoration involving five surfaces of a tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	217.30
<i>Subgroup 2 – Adhesive Restorations – Anterior Teeth – direct</i>		
88521	Adhesive restoration – one surface – anterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth- coloured material, involving one surface of an anterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rules 24 and 27)	126.40
88522	Adhesive restoration – two surfaces – anterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth- coloured material, involving two surfaces of an anterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	153.45
88523	Adhesive restoration – three surfaces – anterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth- coloured material, involving three surfaces of an anterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	181.75
88524	Adhesive restoration – four surfaces – anterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth- coloured material, involving four surfaces of an anterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	210.05

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88525	Adhesive restoration – five surfaces – anterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving five surfaces of an anterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	246.85
<i>Subgroup 3 – Adhesive Restorations – Posterior Teeth – direct</i>		
88531	Adhesive restoration – one surface – posterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving one surface of a posterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rules 24 and 27)	134.95
88532	Adhesive restoration – two surfaces – posterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving two surfaces of a posterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	169.45
88533	Adhesive restoration – three surfaces – posterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving three surfaces of a posterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	203.70
88534	Adhesive restoration – four surfaces – posterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving four surfaces of a posterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	229.65
88535	Adhesive restoration – five surfaces – posterior tooth – direct Direct restoration, using an adhesive technique and a tooth-coloured material, involving five surfaces of a posterior tooth. Inclusive of the preparation of the tooth, placement of a lining, contouring of the adjacent and opposing teeth, placement of the restoration and normal post-operative care. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	265.20

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
<i>Subgroup 7 – Other Restorative Services</i>		
88572	Provisional (intermediate/temporary) restoration – per tooth The provisional (intermediate) restoration of a tooth designed to last until the definitive restoration can be constructed or the tooth is removed. This item should only be used where the provisional (intermediate) restoration is not an intrinsic part of treatment. It does not include provisional (temporary) sealing of the access cavity during endodontic treatment or during construction of indirect restorations. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 28)	53.40
88574	Metal band The cementation of a metal band for diagnostic, protective purposes or for the placement of a provisional (intermediate) restoration.	44.95
88575	Pin retention – per pin Use of a pin to aid the retention and support of direct or indirect restorations in a tooth. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 24)	30.65
88579	Bonding of tooth fragment The direct bonding of a tooth fragment as an alternative to placing a restoration.	106.10
88586	Crown - metallic - with tooth preparation – preformed Placing a preformed metallic crown as a coronal restoration for a tooth. (Item is subject to Rule 27A)	281.50
88587	Crown - metallic - minimal tooth preparation – preformed Placing a preformed metallic crown as a coronal restoration for a tooth and where minimal or no restoration of the tooth is required. Commonly referred to as a ‘Hall’ crown. (Item is subject to Rule 27A)	167.00
88597	Post – direct Insertion of a post into a prepared root canal to provide an anchor for an artificial crown or other restoration. (Item is subject to Rule 24)	96.50
Group U7 – Prosthodontics		
<i>Subgroup 1 – Dentures and Denture Components</i>		
88721	Partial maxillary denture – resin, base only Provision of a resin base for a removable dental prosthesis for the maxilla where some natural teeth remain. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 24A)	478.10

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88722	Partial mandibular denture – resin, base only Provision of a resin base for a removable dental prosthesis for the mandible where some natural teeth remain. (Item is subject to Rules 17 and 24A)	478.10
88723	Provisional partial maxillary denture Provision of a patient removable partial dental prosthesis replacing the natural teeth and adjacent tissues in the maxilla which is designed to last until the definitive prosthesis can be constructed. This item should only be used where a provisional denture is not an intrinsic part of item 88721. (Item is subject to Rules 24A and 25)	358.50
88724	Provisional partial mandibular denture Provision of a patient removable partial dental prosthesis replacing the natural teeth and adjacent tissues in the mandible which is designed to last until the definitive prosthesis can be constructed. This item should only be used where a provisional denture is not an intrinsic part of item 88722. (Item is subject to Rules 24A and 25)	358.50
88731	Retainer – per tooth A retainer or attachment fitted to a tooth to aid retention of a partial denture. The number of retainers should be indicated. (Item is subject to Rule 25)	48.25
88733	Tooth/teeth (partial denture) An item to describe each tooth added to the base of a new partial denture. The number of teeth should be indicated. (Item is subject to Rule 25)	39.60
88736	Immediate tooth replacement – per tooth Provision within a denture to allow immediate replacement of an extracted tooth. The number of teeth so replaced should be indicated. (Item is subject to Rule 25)	9.95
<i>Subgroup 4 – Denture Maintenance</i>		
88741	Adjustment of a denture Adjustment of a denture to improve comfort, function or aesthetics. This item does not apply to routine adjustments following the insertion of a new denture or the maintenance or repair of an existing denture. (Item is subject to Rule 25)	57.50
<i>Subgroup 6 – Denture Repairs</i>		
88761	Reattaching pre-existing clasp to denture Repair, insertion and adjustment of a denture involving re-attachment of a pre-existing clasp.	157.85

Item	Service	Benefit (\$)
88762	Replacing/adding clasp to denture - per clasp Repair, insertion and adjustment of a denture involving replacement or addition of a new clasp or clasps.	164.95
88764	Repairing broken base of a partial denture Repair, insertion and adjustment of a broken resin partial denture base.	157.85
88765	Replacing/adding new tooth on denture – per tooth Repair, insertion and adjustment of a denture involving replacement with or addition of a new tooth or teeth to a previously existing denture.	164.95
88766	Reattaching existing tooth on denture – per tooth Repair, insertion and adjustment of a denture involving reattachment of a pre-existing denture tooth or teeth.	157.85
88768	Adding tooth to partial denture to replace an extracted or decoronated tooth - per tooth Modification, insertion and adjustment of a partial denture involving an addition to accommodate the loss of a natural tooth or its coronal section. (Item is subject to Rule 17)	167.00
<i>Subgroup 7 – Other Prosthodontic Services</i>		
88776	Impression - dental appliance repair/modification An item to describe taking an impression where required for the repair or modification of a dental appliance.	50.45
Group U9 – General Services		
<i>Subgroup 1– Emergencies</i>		
88911	Palliative care An item to describe interim care to relieve pain, infection, bleeding or other problems not associated with other treatment. (Item is subject to Rule 29)	74.85
<i>Subgroup 4– Sedation</i>		
88942	Sedation - intravenous Sedative drug(s) administered intravenously, usually in increments. The incremental administration may continue while dental treatment is being provided. (Item is subject to rule 17)	146.75
88943	Sedation - inhalation Nitrous oxide gas mixed with oxygen is inhaled by the patient while dental treatment is being provided.	73.35

2 Schedule 3 Benefit limits

Repeal Schedule 3, substitute:

Schedule 3 Benefit limits

(rule 14)

Relevant 2 year period	Cap
2019-2020	\$1,000
2020-2021	\$1,000
2021-2022	\$1,013
2022-2023	\$1,026
2023-2024	\$1,052
2024-2025	\$1,095