

# IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS    BT202563    MAY 20, 2025

## IHCP clarifies limits on replacements for retainers for comprehensive orthodontic treatment

The Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) is providing clarification on the limits for the replacement of retainers as part of comprehensive orthodontic treatment.

Comprehensive orthodontic treatment is defined as treatment of the dentition as a whole. Treatment usually, but not always, uses fixed orthodontic appliances or braces. Comprehensive treatment includes appliances, retainers, and the repair or replacement of retainers; these may not be separately billed if comprehensive treatment is rendered. Comprehensive orthodontics may incorporate treatments focusing on specific objectives at various stages of dentofacial development.



**One** initial set of retainers is included in comprehensive orthodontic treatment. The replacement of a broken or lost retainer is allowed once per arch per lifetime, and only within 24 months after the removal of IHCP-reimbursed braces.

Because these services are included in the reimbursement for orthodontic treatment and are not separately reimbursed, the IHCP **does not reimburse** for the following procedure codes:

- D8703 – Replacement of lost or broken retainer – maxillary
- D8704 – Replacement of lost or broken retainer – mandibular

For procedure codes used for comprehensive orthodontic treatment and more information, see the [Dental Services](#) provider reference module.

### QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about this publication, please contact Customer Assistance at 800-457-4584.

### COPIES OF THIS PUBLICATION

If you need additional copies of this publication, please download them from the [IHCP Bulletins](#) page of the IHCP provider website at [in.gov/medicaid/providers](http://in.gov/medicaid/providers).

### SIGN UP FOR IHCP EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

To receive email notices of IHCP publications, subscribe by clicking the blue subscription envelope or sign up from the [IHCP provider website](#) at [in.gov/medicaid/providers](http://in.gov/medicaid/providers).

