

NAME:  
REGARDING:

SS#:

**Warehouse Employees Union Local No. 730 Health & Welfare Trust Fund**

EMPLOYER: Giant Food Warehouse  
PLAN: E

LOCAL: 730  
STATUS: Full Time

ISSUE: Dental Benefit – Excluded Services

#D14/133-6436

**FUND RULE:  
"DENTAL BENEFITS**

**Covered Services**

9. Oral surgery under local or general anesthesia by a general dentist or oral surgeon to include extractions, impactions, cyst removal, bone reshaping for dentures, biopsies, and other surgical procedures not requiring hospitalization."  
(Warehouse Employees Union Local No. 730 Health & Welfare Trust Fund SPD, Pages 77-78, #9)

**"EXCLUSIONS UNDER COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL BENEFIT  
Class E**

The following procedures and/or expenses are not covered under the Comprehensive Medical Benefit:

1. Losses caused by, contributed to, or resulting from dental care or treatment..."

(Warehouse Employees Union Local No. 730 Health & Welfare Trust Fund SPD, Page 60, #1)

**SUMMARY:** Appeal Received: August 8, 2014

The **participant** is appealing for his eleven-year-old son (DOB: 8-12-2003) to be allowed coverage of dental services in a hospital setting under general anesthesia. The participant states, "He is in danger of losing permanent teeth due to the fact that he needs two teeth pulled if not three. [He] suffers severely from anxiety, ADHD and OCD. We have been to several dentists and because of his problem, he is unable to let the dentist work on his mouth so that his teeth can be saved. Because of his OCD and anxiety, his gag reflex will not let the dentist do any work so therefore he needs to be put to sleep." Included with the participant's appeal, is a letter of medical necessity from Shanta D. Richardson, DMD (an in-network dentist). Dr. Richardson states that "dental rehabilitation under general anesthesia" is needed and the participant's son "is at a high risk for oral infection and already will be losing two permanent adult teeth."

After the appeal was received, it was sent to Dr. Cohen of Dental Health Centers (DHC) for review. Dr. Cohen advised, "According to the doctor's letter, it sounds like this child has extremely severe emotional/behavioral issues that make it impossible to render treatment in a normal dental setting. That being the case, as far as the coverage from Dental Health Centers for the dental work on [the participant's son], DHC would be willing to pay Dr. Richardson for all of the covered dental services performed (in the hospital) as per her fee schedule. However, hospital anesthesiology, the hospital call visit, and any other hospital related charges would not be covered under the dental plan." Dr. Cohen further advised, "Under normal circumstances, all of these services could be performed under anesthesia in an office setting, as there is nothing unusual about this treatment plan. Evidently, Dr. Richardson feels that this child presents with special problems that make it impossible to do any work on him."

**ACTION:**

Approved

☐

Denied

☐

Tabled

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**COMMENTS:**