



AT-A-GLANCE ORTHODONTIC CODING GUIDE

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Free Guide

THE WYRICK OUTLOOK, INC

AT-A-GLANCE ORTHODONTIC CODING GUIDE

Before selecting a code, always evaluate two key factors:

1. Dentition: where the patient is in their dental development
2. Scope: the scope of the treatment

These two variables determine the correct orthodontic code, not the appliance, procedure, or age.

BUT FIRST: DENTITION

(Patient Development Stage)

Primary Dentition

All baby teeth are present. No permanent teeth have erupted yet.

Transitional Dentition

A mix of primary and permanent teeth. The patient is actively transitioning as baby teeth exfoliate and adult teeth erupt.

Adolescent Dentition

All or nearly all permanent teeth are present, but the patient is still growing. Growth may still impact treatment outcomes.

Adult Dentition

Full permanent dentition with no remaining growth expected. Treatment is performed in a non-growing patient.

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SCOPE OF TREATMENT

LIMITED TREATMENT

Treatment focused on a specific issue rather than the full dentition.

Examples...

- Addressing a single tooth or localized area
- Early correction to prevent worsening conditions
- Space management or minor alignment
- Situations where comprehensive treatment is being deferred

CODES:

D8010 — Primary dentition
D8020 — Transitional dentition
D8030 — Adolescent dentition
D8040 — Adult dentition

COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT

Full treatment of the entire dentition for function, alignment, and aesthetics.

Examples...

- Comprehensive diagnosis and treatment planning
- Full arch or full bite correction
- Fixed and/or removable appliances
- Treatment that may span multiple phases

CODES:

D8070 — Transitional dentition
D8080 — Adolescent dentition
D8090 — Adult dentition

PLEASE NOTE: some offices like to bill D8070 in their Phase 1; however, we do NOT recommend this approach as it may impact Phase 2 claims from being paid out entirely. As a best practice, we advise our offices to bill Phase 1 under Limited Treatment.

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