When to mount dental X-rays for prior authorization

This Update provides guidelines on when to mount dental X-rays for submission to Wisconsin Medicaid.

When four or more periapical X-rays, four bitewing X-rays, or when a full mouth X-ray must be submitted to the Prior Authorization (PA) Unit to substantiate a PA request, providers should mount the X-rays to allow for proper identification and to speed the review process.

The Attachment to this Update includes an example of a properly mounted full mouth series X-ray and a properly mounted bitewing X-ray.

When sending in four or more periapical X-rays, four bitewing X-rays, or a full mouth series:
- Mount the X-rays.
- Label the X-rays (left or right).
- Include the date the X-rays were taken.
- Include the recipient’s name and ID number.
- Include the provider’s name and provider number.

When sending in three or fewer periapical or bitewing X-rays:
- Label the X-rays (left or right if duplicate X-rays).
- Include the date the X-rays were taken.
- Include the recipient’s name and ID number.
- Include the provider’s name and provider number.
- Place X-rays in an envelope.
- Staple X-ray envelope to designated portion of PA form that states, “Staple X-ray envelope here.”

This Update applies to fee-for-service Medicaid providers only. If you are a Medicaid HMO network provider, contact your managed care organization for more information about its prior authorization procedures. Wisconsin Medicaid HMOs are required to provide at least the same benefits for enrollees as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.
ATTACHMENT
Properly mounted full mouth series X-ray example

Properly mounted bitewing X-ray example