

Exhibit P3 – Orthodontic Criteria – Mail Order Orthodontics

Reference: American Association of Orthodontists

- A. DentaQuest does not consider mail-order orthodontic aligner kits to be a covered benefit. Therefore, DentaQuest will not reimburse providers or members for purchasing mail-order orthodontic kits.

- B. Rationale – Orthodontic benefits are payable only for services performed by a licensed dentist. This requirement is imposed primarily for member protection, as it ensures that any procedures performed are necessary, appropriate, and delivered within the standards of good dental practice. In the case of many mail-order aligner kits, a dentist does not physically examine or oversee the patient care as he or she self-administers a series of orthodontic aligners at home. It is especially important that a dentist monitors the patient during orthodontic treatment, since refinements, revisions and adjustments of aligners are expected and very common. A dentist has the ability and requisite training to properly monitor treatment progress, which is imperative in orthodontic treatment.

Additional Information

- 1. Procedures that may meet clinical criteria for approval may be disallowed due to frequency limitations.
- 2. Services that fail to meet clinical criteria due to prior treatment will be disallowed.

Reference: **OAC 5160-5-01 Dental Services(C)(2)**