

Delta Dental of Iowa Enhanced Benefits Program Making Your Dental Plan Smarter



Delta Dental of Iowa offers an optional benefit for employer group plans called the Enhanced Benefits Program that links medical conditions and dental benefits. This coverage may help employers lower overall costs by directing preventive care where it's needed most – in addition to helping promote medical cost savings.

Bridging the Gap between Dentistry and Medicine

The Enhanced Benefits Program is based on research-supported data from emerging science. Enrollees with the following conditions are eligible for additional dental benefits:

- **Pregnancy** – Scientific evidence suggests that there may be an association between women with periodontal (gum) disease and low birth weight of premature babies.
- **Diabetes** – When diabetes is poorly controlled, diabetic patients who receive more professional teeth cleanings may have better controlled glucose levels.
- **Periodontal Disease** – This condition may lead to tooth loss and tooth replacement costs that are much greater than preventive measures such as additional cleanings.
- **High-Risk Cardiac Conditions** – A recent guideline released by the American Heart Association indicates that the presence of dental disease may increase the level of bacteria in the bloodstream and predispose at-risk patients to acquiring infective endocarditis or producing adverse outcomes associated with the disease.
- **Suppressed Immune Systems** – With extra cleanings, patients that are HIV positive or have organ failure may reduce the build up of bacteria in the mouth that may enter the bloodstream, create infection and further compromise their health.
- **Kidney Failure or Dialysis** – Dental infections increase the risk of systemic infection and may be harmful to general kidney functions in people with kidney disease.
- **Cancer, Chemotherapy and/or Radiation** – These therapies may increase the risk for gum infection and cavities because of weakened immune systems.

Enhanced Benefits Program Coverage		
	Cleanings	Fluoride Application
Pregnancy	One additional cleaning during pregnancy	
Diabetes	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	
Advanced Periodontal Disease	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	Fluoride application with no age limitation (only if group coverage includes fluoride benefit)
High-Risk Cardiac	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	
Suppressed Immune System	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	Fluoride application with no age limitation (only if group coverage includes fluoride benefit)
Kidney Failure or Dialysis	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	
Cancer Related Chemotherapy and/or Radiation	Up to four cleanings per benefit year	Fluoride application with no age limitation (only if group coverage includes fluoride benefit)

Coverage for services will be at the group-contracted benefit level, with the additional frequency allowance being the only change. There are no age requirements and the patient may be the subscriber, spouse or other covered dependent.

Enrollment in Enhanced Benefits Program

This benefit is customized at the individual level and the enrollee must be signed up to receive the extra benefits. Once enrolled, the enrollee is immediately eligible for the extra benefits. Enrollment in the Enhanced Benefits Program is easy, enrollees can:

- Go to the Delta Dental of Iowa website to enroll in the program
- Ask their dentist to notify Delta Dental

Learn More About the Enhanced Benefits Program

To learn more about Delta Dental of Iowa's Enhanced Benefits Program, contact your broker or Delta Dental representative at 877-423-3582.

Get the full story on the oral health and overall health connection by going to www.deltadentalia.com/employer and selecting Enhanced Benefits Program.