

Delta Dental of Illinois' Enhanced Benefits Program

Oral health meets overall health.



Your group's dental plan includes enhanced benefits that take advantage of the emerging science of evidence-based dentistry.

With Delta Dental of Illinois' Enhanced Benefits Program, your dentist can:

- Help reduce the risk of periodontal disease for diabetic patients
- Help reduce the risk of delivering pre-term, low birth weight babies for pregnant women showing signs of periodontal disease
- Reduce the risk of progressive periodontal disease and tooth loss
- Help in the fight against oral cancer

Delta Dental of Illinois' Enhanced Benefits Program integrates medical and dental care – oral health meets overall health. This program customizes benefits at the individual level by offering additional services to persons who have specific health conditions (diabetes, pregnancy or serious periodontal conditions) that can be positively affected by additional care. The program also includes benefits to aid in the fight against oral cancer (these benefits are automatically included).

If you are enrolled or enroll in a Delta Dental of Illinois' dental plan and have one or more of the medical conditions covered under Delta Dental of Illinois' Enhanced Benefits Program, you'll become eligible for additional benefits. You can enroll yourself and/or your dependents, or your dentist can enroll you. Once you are enrolled, you are immediately eligible for the enhanced benefits.

Delta Dental of Illinois' Enhanced Benefits Program provides special benefits to the following groups:

Benefits to Help in the Fight Against Oral Cancer

This year in the United States, 8,000 people will die from oral cancer and over 30,000 new cases will be diagnosed. The OralCDx brush biopsy is the newest tool in the early detection of oral cancer/precancerous cells – and represents a major breakthrough in the fight against oral cancer. The procedure is indicated to evaluate unexplained tiny white and red lesions – and the software used to analyze the samples can spot a precancerous/cancerous cell even if it is partially obscured by other cells. Helping to save lives by differentiating a pre-cancer or early cancerous spot from a benign one, the brush biopsy analysis method from OralCDx has been extensively studied and is approved by the American Dental Association. All Delta Dental of Illinois plans cover the OralCDx brush biopsy, if oral surgery coverage is included in the plan*.

Benefits for Persons with Diabetes

With an indicator for diabetes, the enrollee will be eligible for four periodontal maintenance visits in a year (four CDT code 4910 – periodontal maintenance) or two prophylaxis (general cleaning) and two periodontal maintenance visits in a year (two CDT code 4910 – periodontal maintenance, or two CDT code 1110 – adult cleaning). Coverage will be at the group-contracted benefit level, with the additional frequency allowance being the only change. There is no end date on this additional coverage, no age requirement and the patient may be the subscriber, spouse or other covered dependent.

Benefits for Pregnant Women

With an indicator for pregnancy, the enrollee will be eligible for one additional prophylaxis (general cleaning) or periodontal maintenance visit during the time of the pregnancy (CDT code 4910 – periodontal maintenance, or CDT code 1110 – adult cleaning). Coverage will be at the group-contracted benefit level, with the additional frequency allowance being the only change. There is no age requirement and the patient may be the subscriber, spouse or other covered dependent.

Benefits for Persons Who Have Had Periodontal Surgery or Disease

With an indicator of periodontal surgery or disease, the enrollee will be eligible for four periodontal maintenance visits in a benefit year (four CDT code 4910 – periodontal maintenance) or two prophylaxis (general cleaning) and two periodontal maintenance visits in a year (two CDT code 4910 – periodontal maintenance, or two CDT code 1110 – adult cleaning). Additionally, following periodontal surgery, the enrollee will be eligible for two applications of topical fluoride varnish in a benefit year. Coverage will be at the group-contracted benefit level, with the additional frequency allowance being the only change. There is no end date on this additional coverage, no age requirement and the patient may be the subscriber, spouse or other covered dependent.

*The OralCDx brush biopsy is standardly covered under oral surgery in Delta Dental of Illinois' plans.