

DENTAL SERVICES FOR VIRGINIA MEDICAID MEMBERS

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Smiles For Children
Improving Dental Care for Children and Adults

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HISTORY OF THE SMILES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

- ❑ A New Day in Dental-Patrick Finnerty
- ❑ In **2005**, Virginia's ***Smiles For Children*** program was established to improve access to high quality dental services for children enrolled in Medicaid.
- ❑ In **2015**, Virginia's ***Smiles For Children*** program expanded coverage for pregnant members enrolled in Medicaid.
- ❑ In **2021**, Virginia's ***Smiles For Children*** program expanded coverage for adult members enrolled in Medicaid.



BENEFIT OVERVIEW

1

Under 21

- Exams
- X Rays
- Cleanings
- Fluoride
- Sealants
- Space maintainer
- Anesthesia
- Extractions
- Braces
- Restorative

2

Pregnant Members

- X-rays
- Exams
- Cleanings
- Fillings
- Root Canal Treatment
- Gum related treatment
- Crowns, bridges, partials
- Dentures
- Extractions
- Braces NOT covered

3

Adult Prior to 7/1

- Limited Exams
- Medically necessary extractions and associated diagnostic services

4

Adult Post 7/1

- X-rays and examinations
- Cleanings
- Fillings
- Root canals
- Gum related treatment
- Tooth extractions and other oral surgeries
- Other appropriate general services such as anesthesia

MISSION STATEMENT

Improving the health and well-being of Virginians through access to high quality health care coverage.



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER!

Subgroup	Count of Active Members
VA Smiles for Children - Over 21 - IMD	9
VA Smiles For Children - Over 21 - Pregnant Member - 60 Days	1,205
VA Smiles for Children - Over 21	1,019,783
VA Smiles for Children - Under 21 - IMD	625
VA Smiles for Children - Under 21	912,471
VA Smiles for Children- Over 21- Pregnant Women	27,575

A Health Body Starts With A Healthy Mouth

IMPACTS BEYOND THE MOUTH

Growing evidence connects a healthy mouth with a healthy body. Here are some examples showing why oral health is about much more than a smile:

High Blood Pressure

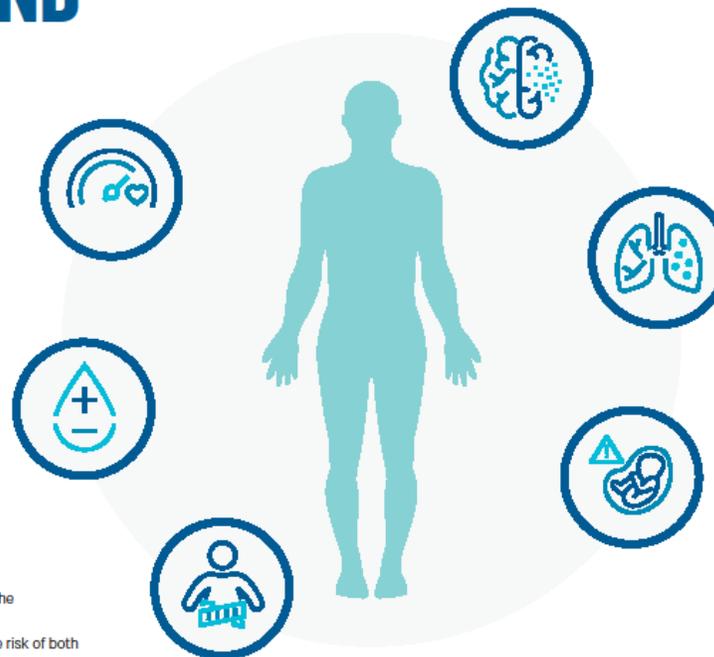
- Putting off dental care during early adulthood is linked to an increased risk of having high blood pressure.¹
- Patients with gum disease are less likely to keep their blood pressure under control with medication than are those with good oral health.²

Diabetes

- Untreated gum disease makes it harder for people with diabetes to manage their blood glucose levels.³
- Diabetes raises the risk of developing gum disease by 86%.⁴

Obesity

- Brushing teeth no more than once per day was linked with the development of obesity.⁵
- Frequent consumption of sugar-sweetened drinks raises the risk of both obesity⁶ and tooth decay among children⁷ and adults.⁸



Dementia

- Having 10 years of chronic gum disease (periodontitis) was associated with a higher risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.⁹
- Researchers report that uncontrolled periodontal disease "could trigger or exacerbate" the neuroinflammatory phenomenon seen in Alzheimer's disease.¹⁰

Respiratory Health

- Research shows that improving oral hygiene among medically fragile seniors can reduce the death rate from aspiration pneumonia.¹¹
- Patients with ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) who engaged in regular toothbrushing spent significantly less time on mechanical ventilation than other VAP patients.¹²
- Improving veterans' oral hygiene reduced the incidence of hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP) by 92%, preventing about 136 HAP cases and saving 24 lives.¹³

Adverse Birth Outcomes

- Gum disease among pregnant women is associated with preterm births, low birthweight babies and preeclampsia, a pregnancy complication that can cause organ damage and can be fatal.¹⁴

DentaQuest
Partnership
for Oral Health Advancement

SOURCES

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Prevention & Education

- Strong Periodontal goals
- Up to 3 cleanings / year / medical necessity



Build around what is salvageable

- Restorations that support longevity
- Extractions / remove what works against long term success



Periodontal Maintenance

- Gingival Health, Gingivectomy, Scaling/ Root Planing
- Dentures, Partials with time

Mantra for Adult Dental

Mantra for Adult Dental

- ❑ Prevention and Education
 - Strong Periodontal goals
 - Up to 3 cleanings / year / medical necessity

- ❑ Build around what is salvageable
 - Restorations that support longevity
 - Extractions / remove what works against long term success

- ❑ Periodontal Maintenance
 - Gingival Health, Gingivectomy, Scaling/ Root Planing
 - Prosthetics (Dentures, Partials with time)

Up To Three Cleanings / Year

- Important to reacquaint members to proper healthcare
- Refocus/recognize the very important role of Dental Hygienists
- Well spent money for Exam / cleaning / so much discovery occurs
- As patients become more senior, Basic and simple is requested more
- Regular cleanings can be Interceptive for bigger problems
- 3 times is member friendly for hyper sensitive gingival tissue
- Frequency allows for increased OHI, education, monitoring and guidance
- The foundation of everything else dentists do rest, dent, part will have greater function and outcome

Adult SFC Dental 2021- Highlights

- ❑ There is no annual maximum dollar amount per member
- ❑ No Copayments from members
- ❑ No deductibles
- ❑ Procedures started while covered under the SFC or Pregnant Women (PGW) program will transition to Adult Medicaid and offer seamless completion of services if Adult Medicaid eligibility is met
- ❑ Providers will have an avenue to submit claims for additional consideration
- ❑ ORM: Benefit Limitations/Narrative will continue to provide guidance across all three (3) plans

❑

Adult SFC Dental 2021- Benefit Coverage Chart

Specialty Area	Description	Services Covered	Limitations
Diagnostic and Preventive Care	Services that are used to detect and recognize caries and periodontal disease. Up to three routine cleanings may be permissible	Exams, Routine cleanings, X-rays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non routine X-rays such as imaging and cone beam technology would require prior authorization
Restorative Care	Specialty allows dentists to restore teeth to proper function	Fillings and crowns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crowns are covered when a root canal is done while member is under the adult dental program.
Endodontics	Specialty allows dentists to perform root canals on teeth that have sound below the gum structure (root) yet the above gum structure is compromised (decay or trauma)	Root canals Pulpal Debridement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endodontic retreatment and surgical procedures that have a questionable success rate
Periodontics	Specialty focuses on keeping gums and the bone below the gums healthy.	Scaling and Root Planing Gingivectomies Periodontal maintenance procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodontal flap procedures, crown lengthening procedures, bone replacement grafts
Dentures and Partials	Specialty focuses on replacing teeth with removal appliances	Dentures, Partials, and Repair procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partials are covered as a part of a definitive treatment plan
Oral Surgery	Specialty routinely extracts teeth and performs extractions requiring surgical methods such as removing bone.	Extractions Alveoplasty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-tooth extraction procedures Surgery necessitated by trauma Implants
Adjunctive General Services	This area while not a specialty is important in that it allows coding for anesthesia services. and many other dental procedures not listed elsewhere.	Anesthesia Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non anesthesia services may require prior authorization
Adjunctive General Services	Behavior Management	Allow in instances where adult members present with handicapping conditions. Not to be used solely for the management of dental fear/anxiety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 5 times per member/per year/per location. Narrative indicating specific measures/staffing required. Prepayment review.

Time for Questions

