



Welcome to Health *through* Oral Wellness[®]



A healthy mouth is a vital part of overall health.

That's why we're introducing Health *through* Oral Wellness. Health *through* Oral Wellness is a unique, patient-centered program that adds benefits to a Delta Dental of South Dakota plan based on individual oral health needs. A Delta Dental network dentist trained in Health *through* Oral Wellness will conduct a clinical risk assessment during your regular preventive visit. The assessment measures the risk and severity of periodontal disease, and the risk of tooth decay.

Additional benefits are based on an individual's risk and severity scores and may include:

- Additional cleanings
- Sealants (child and adult)
- Periodontal maintenance
- Fluoride (child and adult)
- And more...



What does it cost?

The Health *through* Oral Wellness program is included with your existing dental plan at no additional cost. Annual maximums, deductibles and other plan details will still apply, but most dental plans cover preventive services at 100%.

How do I receive additional benefits?

- Health *through* Oral Wellness will automatically be added to your dental benefits plan, at no cost to you, at the start of your benefit year.
- Simply request an oral health risk assessment at your next dental visit. If your dental provider is not yet licensed in the Health *through* Oral Wellness program, they can contact Delta Dental of South Dakota or enroll online here: my.previser.com/dentists/register_free. You can have your risk assessment done at any future visit.
- Once your risk assessment is completed, depending on your needs as determined by your scores, you may unlock additional benefits that can be performed the same day or at a future visit.
- With Health *through* Oral Wellness, you qualify for additional cleanings based on specific medical conditions like diabetes, high risk cardiac conditions, suppressed immune system, and more.

Why does oral health and prevention matter?

- Untreated gum (periodontal) disease has been linked to health conditions like stroke, heart disease, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease. The common denominators are infection and inflammation.
- Tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease in the U.S. A national survey found that approximately 1 in 7 children ages 6-12 had suffered a toothache in the previous six months.
- Almost all tooth decay and gum disease is preventable. By maintaining good oral health habits, including visiting your dentist regularly, you can dramatically reduce your likelihood of getting these diseases in the future.
- Oral health and overall health are connected. By practicing good oral health, recent studies have shown that medical costs of certain conditions can be reduced by up to 23.8%*. That means improved health and increased savings!

For more information about your dental benefits, please talk to your Human Resources Department or visit the Delta Dental of South Dakota website: deltadentalsd.com.



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