

News/Views

Delta Dental of South Dakota



*Newsletter for
Dental Professionals*

Spring 2008

In This Issue:

2008 Annual Meeting	2
2007 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes	2
New Value-Added Service	3
EOB Videos on website	3
<i>Smile Smart for Your Health</i> Enhanced Benefits Program	3

Implants offered as standard benefits

As part of its standard dental plan design for new groups and upon renewal for current groups, Delta Dental is adding coverage for endosteal dental implants effective July 1, 2008. Endosteal implants will be covered at the same level as other prosthodontic services and will apply to the annual plan maximum. Some groups may choose not to include implant coverage right away, but they can add the benefit at a later date. To determine if a patient is covered, please access the Dentist Connection on our website, or call our Customer Service department after July 1, 2008.

Covered services and policies

Code Descriptor

- D6010¹ Surgical placement of implant body: endosteal implant
- D6056¹ Prefabricated abutment—includes placement
- D6057¹ Custom abutment—includes placement
- D6058-D6079¹ Implant supported fixed and removable prosthetic procedures
- D6080² Implant maintenance procedures
- D6090 Repair implant prosthesis, by report
- D6092³ Recement implant/abutment supported crown (CDT-2007)
- D6093³ Recement implant/abutment supported fixed partial denture(CDT-2007)
- D6095⁴ Repair implant abutment, by report
- D6100⁵ Implant removal, by report

1 Endosseous implants, abutments, and implant/abutment-supported prosthetic procedures will be covered once in any five-year period (or at a group's prosthodontic time/frequency limitation, if it differs from once per five years).

2 Implant maintenance procedures will be covered once per 12-month period.

3 Recementation of implant/abutment-supported crowns and fixed partial dentures will be covered once per lifetime after six months have elapsed since initial placement.

4 Repair of an implant abutment will be covered up to one-half of the fee for a new abutment.

5 Implant removal will be covered once per tooth/area per lifetime.

Note: Please use codes D6010 through D6199 ONLY for implant-related procedures. These codes do not apply to treatment performed on natural teeth.

2008 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual membership meeting of Delta Dental of South Dakota will convene Friday, May 16, 2008 at approximately 4:30 pm at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, Meeting Room 1. The agenda will include reports from the Chairman, Dr. Dale Gibson, election of five board members, and recognition of our members who have 35/25/10 years of service as a participating member dentist. A reception will follow the meeting.

Directors whose terms are up for election are: Dr. Monty Bechtold, At Large; Dr. John Clausen, At Large; Dr. Greg Hanson, Black Hills; Dr. Pat Hermanson, Southern; and Dr. Mike Houk, Southeastern. In addition to candidates presented by the Governance Committee, nominations may be made from the floor by written petition signed by five members.

2007 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Chairman Dr. Dale Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m. and declared a quorum present as 38 members were in attendance.

It was duly moved and seconded to approve the May 19, 2006 minutes as published. Motion carried.

Dr. Gibson introduced the candidates up for election: Dr. Paul Rezich - Black Hills District, Dr. Ryan Van Laecken - Northern District, Dr. Anlee Rola - Southeastern District, Mr. Steve Culhane - Public member and Mr. G. Verne Goodsell - Public member. It was duly moved and seconded to close the nominations and elect the candidates. Motion carried.

Dr. Gibson presented gifts to Dr. Roy Seaverson and Dr. Steve Buechler for their years of service.

Nance Orsbon presented members with certificates and gifts for their years of service as participating dentists.

Mick Heckenlaible and Nance Orsbon talked about five different evidence based benefit add-ons that are available to groups. They are: an extra fluoride treatment per coverage year, sealants up to age 19, additional benefits for pregnant subscribers, additional benefits for subscribers with diabetes, and additional benefits for subscribers with periodontal disease.



Philips Sonicare®

New Value-Added Service for Dental Offices

Delta Dental is pleased to announce a new value-added service for our network dentists. As part of an exclusive agreement with Philips Sonicare®, Delta Dental of South Dakota is offering participating dentists substantial savings on Sonicare® toothbrushes and products through its Value-Added Services program. Dentists can offer their patients savings of 40-58% off the Sonicare® retail price by buying through Delta Dental. An order form is enclosed in this issue of the newsletter and also available online through our website.

Sonicare® will have representatives available at their booth (located next to Delta Dental's booth) at the SDDA Annual Meeting. Annual meeting attendees will also be eligible to win Sonicare® products by

Have you checked out DDSD's website—visit www.deltadentalsd.com today!

Introducing “Explanation of Benefits” for Subscribers

NEW



Many medical and dental subscribers have trouble understanding their Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) which can result in confusion regarding their coverage.

In an effort to educate our subscribers about their policies, guidelines, claims adjustments, and to encourage predetermination, Delta Dental has partnered with several other Delta Dental plans to produce 23 short films dealing with the most common EOB processing policy queries from subscribers. Our primary goal -- to effectively communicate those top 23 customer service issues on-line, providing 24/7 access, thereby educating the end-user.

As part of the development process, an independent research firm used focus groups to determine the viability of the videos. The research confirmed that subscribers are often confused by EOB

documents. On a positive note, subscribers were very receptive to the overall video concept calling it “*very valuable*” and “*a tool we will definitely use.*” They also perceived the program as “*on the leading-edge of technology and service.*”

Don't miss the

“Caring for Smiles”

Thursday Session May 15th

(see enclosed flyer for more details)

Smile Smart for Your Health Enhanced Benefit Program

Beginning July 1, 2008, Delta Dental of South Dakota will introduce Smile Smart for Your Health, an enhanced benefits program that will provide Delta Dental employers and subscribers with enhanced preventive dental benefits for certain oral and medical conditions that may affect their overall health.

Dentists can learn more about the program by stopping by the Delta Dental booth at the SDDA Annual Meeting and by attending the Delta Dental Annual Meeting scheduled for Friday, May 16th, 4:30 p.m. at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.

Note: Dentists interested in learning more about the science behind the Smile Smart program should plan to attend Dr. Max Anderson's continuing education session on Saturday, May 17 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Thank You

Thank You Dental Professionals!

The following dentists, hygienists and assistants have volunteered their time with the Care Mobile program from February through March 2008

Gary Bjerrum, DDS
Torey Carlson, RDH
Chad Carpenter, DDS
Matt Dailey, DDS
Amber Determan, DDS
Brett Farnham, DDS

Pat Kumm, RDH
Chad Meyer, DDS
Carrie Mutziger, RDH
Penny Royals
Glenda Schamber

A special thank you to Chad Meyer, DDS
for his donation to the Delta Dental Philanthropic Fund for the

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile

since our last publication.



Delta Dental of South Dakota

P.O. Box 1157

720 N. Euclid

Pierre, SD 57501

(605)224-7345

1-800-627-3961

www.deltadentalsd.com

The Key to Great Smiles