



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dental Coverage for Medicare Beneficiaries

Original Medicare generally does not cover routine dental services like cleanings, fillings, dentures, or tooth extractions. However, it does cover specific, medically necessary, dental procedures including an oral exam before a heart valve replacement and emergency inpatient dental care. As a result of this limited dental coverage, Medicare beneficiaries may pay out of pocket for dental services or seek coverage or assistance with dental costs from one of the following insurance or payment assistance options.

Dental Insurance

Medicare Advantage Plans may offer supplemental or ‘extra’ benefits that provide coverage beyond what Original Medicare covers. In Wisconsin, nearly all Medicare Advantage Plans include some dental coverage as a part of their supplemental benefit offerings, with coverage and provider networks varying from plan to plan. For more information about a plan’s dental coverage beneficiaries can contact the plan sponsor (insurer) directly.

Individual Dental Insurance Plans can be purchased by Medicare beneficiaries to offset and provide coverage for dental care. Typically, a good place to start when exploring dental insurance options is asking your dental provider what insurance they accept and then contacting multiple insurers directly for quotes on coverage.

Provider Discounted Fee Membership & Self Pay Arrangements

Many dental providers offer payment assistance options such as discounted fees in exchange for memberships or other self-pay arrangements to reduce or





spread-out dental costs. To inquire about these programs, contact dental providers in your area.

Dental Schools & Cost Assistance Resources

Dental Schools and Technical Colleges may offer reduced cost dental care through their associated clinics or programs. These programs may have limited services offered and are typically performed by students with the supervision of instructors. For more information contact dental schools and/or technical colleges in your area.

Wisconsin Dental Association Donated Dental Program is a charitable organization that may help with costs associated with dental care. This organization can be reached for additional information by calling **888-338-6852** or by visiting www.wda.org.

Wisconsin Medicaid offers comprehensive dental coverage for eligible members. However, some procedures may require prior authorizations and provider networks are limited. For more information on eligibility, your coverage, and a listing of providers contact ForwardHealth Member Service at **1-800-362-3002**.

Local Resources in your community may offer additional support to help pay for dental services. Beneficiaries can call **844-WIS-ADRC (844-947-2372)** for help finding their local ADRC or Tribal ADRS to connect with local resources.

For further questions or assistance with Medicare-related health insurance coverage in Wisconsin, contact the Medigap Helpline at 1-800-242-1060 or BOALTCMedigap@wisconsin.gov.

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