

Oral Health Enhancement Option at a glance:

- Eligible members must have a claim history or submit evidence of having periodontal surgery or periodontal scaling and root planing.
- Eligible members who have been previously treated for periodontal (gum) disease will receive up to four dental cleanings and/or periodontal maintenance procedures per benefit period.
- The benefit period is governed by the group contract and may be a calendar year or contract year. For example: If your group provides two dental cleanings or periodontal maintenance procedures in 12 months, you can receive up to four of these procedures in any combination in 12 months. Please review your benefit summary for your specific benefits.



Fast facts about periodontal disease

- In adults older than 35, more teeth are lost to periodontal (gum) disease than to cavities.
- Periodontal disease begins with bacteria in the mouth, which forms plaque. Most commonly, gum disease develops when plaque is allowed to build up along and under the gum line.
- Signs of periodontal disease include bad breath that won't go away, red or swollen gums, tender or bleeding gums, painful chewing, loose teeth, or sensitive teeth.
- You can help prevent gum disease by brushing twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste, flossing daily, visiting the dentist regularly, eating a well-balanced diet, and avoiding tobacco products.

The Oral Health Enhancement Option—which provides additional benefits for members with periodontal disease—is part of our comprehensive menu of programs and services designed to protect the health and well being of you and your family.

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 DELTA DENTAL®



Oral Health Enhancement Option

A new feature that provides additional benefits for those managing periodontal disease

If you have a history of periodontal disease, Delta Dental's Oral Health Enhancement Option can help protect your smile—and your health.

Scientific findings have shown there may be a link between gum disease and serious chronic medical conditions. While the science is still emerging, there is general consensus that unchecked gum disease can adversely impact one's overall health. If you've previously been treated for gum disease, the Oral Health Enhancement Option allows you to receive up to four dental cleanings or periodontal maintenance procedures each year, instead of the usual two.

Oral Health Enhancement Option helps protect the health of those with periodontal conditions

Unchecked oral disease can impact your overall health. Managing your periodontal disease through more frequent dental cleanings or periodontal maintenance procedures may help you reduce tooth loss, and avoid the pain and expense of tooth replacement.

Who qualifies for the Oral Health Enhancement Option?

To be eligible for Oral Health Enhancement benefits, your employer must opt for this program. In addition, you must:

- Have a claim history or submit evidence of having periodontal surgery, or
- Have a claim history or submit evidence of having periodontal scaling and root planing



If you have a history of periodontal disease and your employer offers the Oral Health Enhancement Option, it's easy to take advantage of these extra benefits

- If you've had periodontal surgery, or periodontal scaling and root planing in the past while covered by Delta Dental of New Jersey: There's usually nothing more to do! You should be automatically covered. (Please note that if it has been longer than two years since your treatment, you may be asked to submit additional information to verify treatment.)
- If you have not had Delta Dental of New Jersey benefits in the past or are newly eligible: You need to submit evidence to us of previous periodontal treatment to ensure your claims are processed under Oral Health Enhancement Option provisions. Information about how to submit previous treatment evidence is available at www.deltadentalnj.com. Click "Members," then "Oral Health Enhancement" under "Additional Resources."