### **Dental Benefits**

Give Your Team Something to Smile About

UNIVERA.

## When It Comes to Dental, Prevention Beats Correction

Nobody looks forward to spending time in the dentist's chair. What you might not realize is how that loss of productivity can be equally painful to your business.

Each year, 164 million hours of work are lost due to dental-related issues. It's incredibly costly for businesses. And without the right benefits, it's also costly for employees.

At Univera Healthcare, we understand the impact oral health can have on you, your employees, and your organization. It's the reason we provide integrated medical and dental benefits — so we can stop small problems from getting worse.

#### How Integrated Medical and Dental Benefits Can Help

The longer dental problems go unchecked, the worse they get. A cavity can be filled over a lunch break. Left untreated, it could require a root canal, a crown, two to three hours of work, and a \$1,000+ dental bill. When your employees have the benefits they need to be proactive about their dental care, it helps keep costs down and minimize interruptions in their lives.



medical conditions can be detected early through examination of the mouth, throat, and neck<sup>1</sup>



higher risk of heart disease for individuals who have periodontal gum disease<sup>2</sup>



hours of work are lost on average every year due to dental disease<sup>3</sup>



more expensive for a root canal treatment than a filling<sup>4</sup>

1 Little, James W., Falace, Donald A., Miller, Craig S., & Rhodus, Nelson L., "Dental Management of the Medically Compromised Patient (8th ed.)," 2012.

- 2 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3100856/
- 3 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [DHHS], "Oral Health in America."
- 4 http://www.authoritydental.org/root-canal-cost

# Caring for Real People | Meet Brian

Hardworking and loyal, Brian has dedicated his career to the company. He's been a team player for more than 20 years, always ready to hop in and lend a helping hand.



Brian is best known for his contagious laugh, which always seems to elevate the mood around the workplace. Unfortunately, **his cholesterol and blood pressure are equally high.** They're conditions he's been actively managing for years.

At a routine checkup, Brian's dentist finds heavy plaque buildup and signs of gum disease. She knows **this could be the cause of something more serious.** Especially given his medical history, which is included as part of his dental record.

His dentist reminds him of the importance of brushing and flossing twice a day. She also **recommends a follow-up appointment with Brian's primary care physician** to test for other signs of heart disease.

As a result of the follow-up visit, **Brian's doctor works with him** to improve his diet and make healthier lifestyle choices that can mitigate additional health risks.

After six months of healthy eating and self-care, Brian's teeth are plaque-free and his gums are beginning to show signs of improvement. His numbers are getting back to a more normal range.

#### What It Means for Your Team

Dental care is an essential part of keeping your employees healthy, happy, and productive. With proactive, preventive care initiatives and outreach, we can help reduce the risk of serious disease for your employees while keeping your costs down.

# 4 Ways Univera Healthcare Does Dental Differently



#### **Complete Preventive and Diagnostic Coverage**

It's way easier to protect your teeth than it is to fix them. Less painful and expensive, too. That's why, unlike some providers, we offer full coverage for both preventive and diagnostic care. So you and your employees can catch small problems early, avoid serious dental issues, and keep smiling for years to come.



#### National Network With a Local Touch

Enjoy local claims processing and coverage anywhere in the country. We're based in Upstate New York, but national network options through DenteMax and National Dental GRID ensure our members are taken care of wherever work takes them. We've also made it easy to get in touch with nearby dentists with a new matching service at **UniveraHealthcare.com/findadentist**.



#### **Continuous Improvement**

We analyze data from dental utilization reviews to learn more about the relationship between oral care, overall health management, and costs. This data-driven approach allows us to continuously measure success and identify opportunities to provide even better care for you and your employees.



#### **An Experienced Partner**

With more than 50 years of claims processing experience, we pay more claims than other plans — and adjudicate them faster. We also leverage the clinical expertise of dental consultants for more in-depth peer claims review.

Better care, healthier teeth, and lower costs make everyone smile. Reach out to your Account Manager to learn more about dental benefits from Univera Healthcare.

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