Delta Dental of Minnesota is focused on improving health through oral health in the communities we serve by providing access to a wide range of quality, affordable dental benefits.

Happy Summer to our Oral Health Professionals!
We would like to wish all of our oral health professionals a very happy and healthy summer! Summers in the Midwest are some of the best in the country. We hope that you can enjoy some fun in the sun with your family and friends this season.

2016 has been an exciting and busy year at Delta Dental of Minnesota. Thank you for your continued partnership with us to provide excellent care to our members – as you know, we couldn’t do it without you!

Summer is a great time for sports and outside activities! Unfortunately, playing sports comes with a certain amount of risk. Patients are 60 times more likely to injure their teeth when playing sports without a mouth guard, so be sure to encourage your patients to protect their smiles this summer.

-Dr. Sheila Strock
V.P. of Dental Services, Delta Dental of Minnesota

Events

Upcoming Events

Mission of Mercy 2016
We’re thrilled to be the Signature Sponsor of the Minnesota Dental Association and Minnesota Dental Foundation's 2016 Mission of Mercy for the 5th consecutive year. This event provides free dental care to the local community, raises awareness about the barriers to dental care and brings government officials together, in an effort to improve the oral health of residents in Minnesota. Mission of Mercy will take place on July 22-23 at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. For more information visit:

www.mndental.org/events/mission-of-mercy

SAVE THE DATE: 2016 Symposium

Join us at the third annual Delta Dental of Minnesota Oral and Whole Health Symposium on Friday, November 4th at the Radisson Blu Mall of America. This year’s event will feature a series of speakers and topics that will change every half hour. Breakfast, lunch, parking vouchers and a minimum of 3 Continuing Education credits will be provided. Dentists, hygienists, assistants and office staff are encouraged to attend.

Register before July 31st and receive a gift bag courtesy of Delta Dental of Minnesota.

Seats are filling up fast - RSVP TODAY for the 2016 Symposium!

Recent Events

Star of the North

We were proud to be a Diamond level sponsor again at this year’s Minnesota Dental Association's Star of the North dental meeting. Our sponsorship this year
supported the sold out Star Lecture Series and Premier Night, both of which were huge successes.

The Star of the North meeting is one of our favorite events in Provider Relations. We look forward to interacting with you, our provider partners and oral health professionals, each year.

Members of our Professional Relations Team Kelly Haraldson and Julia Osthimer at Star of the North 2016
Claim Submission Friendly Reminder Guidelines

This is a friendly reminder that insufficient or incorrect information submitted on claim forms can cause payment delays or incorrect payments to our provider partners and your patients. In order to ensure proper and prompt claims payment, please follow the following claim submission guidelines. For further details, please refer to the Claim Submission Guide at http://www.deltadentalmn.org/providers.

- Ensure the subscriber’s ID number and date of birth are correct. You can find the subscriber ID on the member’s ID card.
- For Medica claims, submit the 9-digit ID number printed on the dental ID card. Note: Some members may have a 16-digit ID number printed on their medical/dental ID cards. In this case, the first five (5) digits are the group number and the next nine (9) digits are the ID number to be used for dental claims.
- For public programs claims, submit the patient’s ID number, which is the state-issued Person Master Index (PMI) number, not the subscriber’s social security number.
- When submitting subscriber ID numbers, please do not use social security numbers or outdated Alternative ID numbers.
- Boxes 12 through 17 on a standard ADA form refer to the insured person that may or may not be the patient. Boxes 18 through 23 refer to the patient. Please confirm that the ID number listed in each section pertain to the correct parties.
- Box 16 refers to the Plan/Group number of the subscriber and can be located on the patient’s ID card. This information is essential to match the correct subscriber for claims payment.
• Boxes 52A and 58 refer to an identifier assigned to the billing dentist or dental entity other than a social security number, tax ID number or NPI number. Please do not list any of these identifiers in boxes 52A or 58.
• Please submit claims to the correct carrier PO Box listed on the back of the ID card.

**Government Programs Update**

**Action Required: Confirm Online "Find a Dentist" Directory Information**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) require providers contracted with Medicare plans to perform a quarterly review of their personal and practice information listed in the online “Find a Dentist” tool to ensure accuracy. Required information includes clinic address, contact information, hours of operations, languages spoken by providers and acceptance of new patients.

**If you do not have any changes in your provider or clinic information, you do not need to take any action.**

**If you have changes in your personal or clinic information, please complete the data request form at:**


Ensuring your information is correct will assist our members in finding you; both when they use our Delta Dental “Find a Dentist” tool online and when they call
customer service for assistance. Should you have any questions or require assistance, please contact us at 800-328-1188 (extension 4170).

Did you know?
Effective 1/1/16, Blue Plus is reimbursing CivicSmiles providers at 20% above the Department of Human Services (DHS) fee-for-service rate.

In The Community - Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation

Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation is designed to support Delta Dental of Minnesota’s mission of improving the health through oral health of the people in Minnesota and advancing the science and art of oral health in Minnesota. Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation was formed out of the proceeds of the 2009 sale of our dental benefit management company.

Smiles@School

We are excited to announce the expansion of our Smiles@School campaign, to include oral health education and materials. There are nearly 60,000 first grade students in Minnesota that can benefit from this program as part of a back-to-school initiative. It is designed to remind and educate students – and their parents – about the importance of good oral health through education and preventive activities.

This no-charge good oral health initiative will include backpacks filled with oral health supplies that will be shipped directly to schools in mid-September.
Transformative $4.6 Million Grant to Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) for new dental clinic funded by the Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation

Opening in January 2018, the Delta Dental Oral Health Center at HCMC will see and treat 85% of HCMC’s dental patients who are covered by public programs, are uninsured, or qualify as low income residents. In addition, the clinic will provide enhanced patient-centered care for all patients, especially children and people with special needs. The Delta Dental Oral Health Center at HCMC will increase oral health care access by approximately 60%, or an estimated additional 11,000 visits annually, for a total of 27,500 patient visits per year.

The number of Medicare beneficiaries is increasing. Are you and your practice ready?

What is Medicare? Medicare is a federal health insurance program offered to adults once they reach the age of 65. Medicare also covers individuals with certain disabilities or end-stage renal disease. There are four parts of Medicare:

- Medicare Part A is hospital insurance. It covers inpatient hospital stays, nursing facilities, hospice care and some home health care.
- Medicare Part B is medical insurance. It covers certain medical services, outpatient care, medical supplies and preventive services.
Medicare Part C plans are offered by private insurance companies that contract with Medicare to provide services covered under Parts A and B and also include additional coverage such as dental, vision and/or hearing benefits. Medicare Advantage and Cost Plans are Part C plans.

Medicare Part D is prescription drug coverage.

Medicare Advantage and Cost Plans offer enhanced dental benefits, while Original Medicare covers few dental services. In 2015, 31% of seniors selected Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans nationally, many of which include dental benefits. Minnesota has 53% of seniors enrolled in MA plans, the highest participation rate of any state. According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center Reports, the number of Minnesotans turning 65 this decade will be greater than the past four decades combined. This presents a real opportunity for your practice to continue seeing your patients as they enroll in Medicare.

Since Medicare Advantage plans are offered through private health insurers, benefits vary across products and health plans. As with any patient, it is important to verify coverage. Delta Dental of Minnesota administers dental benefits for several Medicare Advantage and Cost Plans. Reimbursement in the Civic Smiles Senior network is similar to our PPO network. If you are interested in joining this network, please contact our Provider Relations team at 1-800-328-1188, extension 4170.

Visit our blog to get the latest in oral health tips and tricks as well as effective ways to make the most of your dental benefits!
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