



Adult Dental Services Covered by MaineCare

Who is eligible for adult dental services?

Adult dental services are for members who are:

- Twenty-one years or older
- Not living in an Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID)

What services may be covered?

The following services can help the dentist diagnose tooth decay, periodontal gum disease, and may be covered by MaineCare:

- Limited exams that focus on pain, infection, and specific concerns.
- Periapical x-ray, which is an x-ray of the tooth that is bothering the patient.
- Panoramic x-ray, which is an x-ray of the whole mouth including the jaw.
- A complete series, which is a full set of x-rays (usually between 12 and 18 individual x-rays) of the whole mouth.
- Pulp testing, which transmits a hot or cold sensation to a tooth to ensure the health of the nerve in the tooth.

The following services restore a broken or decayed tooth and may be covered by MaineCare.

- Amalgam (silver) or composite (white) filling/restorations.
- Anterior (front teeth) and posterior (back teeth) filling/restoration.
- Post and core, which is a procedure where a rod and core material are used to fix the tooth after the tooth has had a root canal.
- Core build-up, which is used for large fillings, after a root canal, or as a base for a crown.
- Crown (cap) if the tooth requires one.

What extraction services are covered by MaineCare?

Tooth removal to relieve pain, eliminate infection, or as part of a serial extraction, may be covered by MaineCare.

With approved prior authorization, the following services to alleviate gum pain, swelling, or bleeding may also be covered by MaineCare:

- Prophylaxis (also called prophies or cleanings)

- Periodontal scaling and root planning also known as quad scaling, which is a very deep cleaning generally done with local anesthesia. Dentists will usually only work on one or two quadrants at a time.
- Full mouth debridement, which is a cleaning for mouths with heavy deposits/buildup on their teeth. This type of cleaning is done so the dentist can conduct a complete exam at a later date.

Root canals on the anterior, bicuspid, and molar teeth may be covered by MaineCare. Root canals remove the nerve from the tooth.

The following oral surgery services may be covered by MaineCare:

- Surgical care within three months of an accident that caused a traumatic injury to the mouth.
- Oral surgery and related medical procedures such as:
 - Cyst and tumor removal
 - Abscess incision and drainage
 - Oral biopsies, which are samples of tissue that look for cancer or abnormal cells

Certain medical conditions qualify a member to receive denture or partial services. Conditions that qualify a member for dentures or partials include, but are not limited to, HIV, AIDS, Diabetes, liver disease, and psychological conditions. Members who must have an organ transplant or who have had a 20% weight loss recently may also qualify for dentures or partials.

All medical conditions must be documented by a medical provider and the provider must follow the rules listed in the MaineCare Benefits Manual before providing services.

Who do I call with questions about dental services?

Please contact your dental provider with questions about coverage of a specific procedure. Refer to Chapter II, Section 25, Section 25 of the [MaineCare Benefits Manual](#) for additional details on covered services.

How do I find a dental provider?

To select a dental provider, call MaineCare Member Services at 1-800-977-6740.