



# Third Cleaning Benefit

Studies have shown that gum disease may increase a woman’s risk of having a pre-term delivery of a low birth-weight baby. Researchers suspect that the bacteria that causes periodontal disease can accelerate the production of labor-inducing signals that, in turn, cause premature labor.

Research also suggests that early prevention and treatment of gum disease may result in significantly improved outcomes for a person with diabetes.

As a way of supporting preventive care, improving health and lowering overall costs for members with these and other qualifying medical conditions, we have added a third dental cleaning option. This benefit is available to persons who have had two cleanings during the current benefit period and have:

- **Diabetes**
- **Women in their third trimester of pregnancy**
- **Renal Dialysis patients**
- **Suppressed immune system patients**  
(due to chemotherapy, HIV positive, organ transplant, or stem cell/bone marrow transplant)
- **Head and neck radiation patients**

Benefits will be expanded for members who have any of these conditions and enroll in the **Evidence Based Integrated Care Plan.**

To register for this benefit, visit [www.deltadentalaz.com](http://www.deltadentalaz.com) click on Subscriber Connection and log in. If you are not registered, create a new subscriber account and then click on “Evidence Based Integrated Care Plan” on the left menu bar.

You must complete a brief health history statement to be eligible for these important benefits. You may complete this statement yourself or your dentist may complete it for you. If you have already completed the health history statement and you and/or one of your dependents qualifies for the additional benefits, they will be shown in the table.

**Evidence-Based Integrated Care Plan Enrollment**

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DDAZ has added a third dental cleaning option for persons who have had two cleanings during the current benefit period and who 1) have diabetes or 2) are in their third trimester of pregnancy or 3) have suppressed immune system conditions or 4) kidney failure or dialysis conditions or 5) cancer related chemotherapy and/or radiation. Benefits will be expanded for members who have any of these conditions and enroll in the Evidence Based Integrated Care Plan.

You must complete a brief health history statement to be eligible for these important benefits. You may complete this statement yourself or your dentist may complete it for you. If you have already completed the health history statement and you and/or one of your dependents qualifies for the additional benefits, they will be shown in the table below.

Evidence Based Integrated Care - Health History			
Member	Description	End Date	Expanded Coverage
No health history has been entered.			

Add Health Information

Member:

Health Condition:

(Select for more information):

I verify that this information is true and accurate

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### **Enhanced Dental Benefits - Third Dental Cleaning Option Pregnant Women and Persons with Diabetes**

Few things hold greater value than the birth of a healthy baby. Because studies have shown that gum disease may increase a woman's risk of having a pre-term delivery of a low birth-weight baby, Delta Dental of Arizona recommends that pregnant women receive adequate dental cleanings. Researchers suspect that the bacteria that cause periodontal disease can hasten the production of labor-inducing signals that, in turn, cause premature labor.

Research also suggests that early prevention and treatment of gum disease may result in significantly improved outcomes for a person with diabetes. One study by the Journal of the American Dental Association, October, 2003 found that when diabetic patients' periodontal infections were treated, they experienced a marked improvement in their ability to manage their blood sugar.

Appropriately providing added cleanings to patients that are pregnant or have diabetes is one way of improving health and lowering overall costs.

Delta Dental of Arizona (DDAZ) is a proponent of preventive care. We are pleased to announce that as of January 1, 2007, we will be including a third dental cleaning for women who are in their third trimester of pregnancy, or persons with diabetes on all of the plan designs offered by DDAZ. This additional benefit to our current plan designs will not reflect in a premium increase and reinforces our commitment to the highest quality care for our subscribers.

The third dental cleaning option will be available on January 1, 2007. Qualified members choosing to add the option to their plan can register on-line on after January 1, 2007 by visiting [www.deltadentalaz.com](http://www.deltadentalaz.com).

The goal at Delta Dental of Arizona is to provide employers with choices, freedom and resources to help manage the health of their employees and their employees' families. Should you have any questions regarding this enhanced benefit, feel free to call your Broker or Delta Dental Sales Representative.

Sincerely,

Gary B. Feldman  
Delta Dental of Arizona  
Vice President of Sales and Broker Relations