



### **Dental Benefits / Insurance Plans**

At DM Family Dentistry in Casa Grande, AZ we believe that you deserve the best dental care. That's why we always present you the best dental solution possible to treat your personal situation. Each year we provide outstanding dental care to hundreds of patients. Some have dental benefits but most don't. If you have dental benefits, congratulations! You are very fortunate. Here are some important things you should know. . .

**Your dental benefits are based upon a contract made between your employer and an insurance company.**

If you have any questions regarding your dental benefits please contact your employer or insurance company directly.

**In 1959, most dental benefit plans had a yearly maximum cap of \$1,000. You'll be surprised to know today that the average dental benefit plan has a yearly maximum cap of \$1,000**

Dental benefits differ greatly from medical benefits. . There has been no significant increase in the yearly maximum cap in 40 years! However, there have been significant increases in your premiums. Dental benefit plans will never pay for completion of your dental care. It is only meant to assist you.

Many people receive notification from their insurance company that dental fees are "above usual and customary. " An insurance company determines their reimbursement level by surveying a geographical area (Casa Grande - Pinal County) calculating the average fee, **then determines that 80% of the average fee is customary.**

**Included in this survey are discount dental clinics, which have severely reduced dental fees that bring down the average.**

Any doctor in private practice will have fees that insurance companies define as "higher than usual and customary. " Many dental benefit plans tell their participants that they will be covered "up to 80% or 100%" but do not clearly specify the plan fee schedule allowance, annual maximum or limitations. It is more realistic to expect dental benefit plans cover to 40% of dental services.

***Remember that the amount a plan reimburses is determined by how much your employer has paid for your dental benefit plan. You will get back only what your employer has put in, less the insurance company's profit margin.***

**Decision Making**

Patients often ask us if we need to discuss the proposed treatment plan with the insurance company prior to beginning treatment. We stress to our patients that we like to be completely independent of the insurance company. We advise you of our findings and our recommendations are based upon the most predictable long-term therapy. The ultimate decision for a lifetime strategy for optimal dental health must come from a team approach between the patient and our office and not be limited by the insurance companies.

Our team members will gladly assist you in filling out the necessary forms to maximize your dental benefits and discuss your financial options. Excellent dental care is available with or without dental benefits. We hope you will choose the best that dentistry has to offer.



***DM FAMILY DENTISTRY***