

DENTAL CARE UNDER MEDICARE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



EPDGP

Eyre Peninsula Division of General Practice Inc

If you are receiving care under a GPMP and a TCA, you may be able to receive dental services under Medicare. Eligible patients can receive up to \$4,250 in Medicare benefits to cover dental work.

If you think you are eligible, ask the doctor! No shame in asking!
If you would like to yarn about this with an Aboriginal Outreach Worker, call the Division on 8682 5599

What types of dental services are covered?



- Dental assessments
- Removal of plaque and other preventive services
- Fillings, crowns, bridges and implants
- Extractions and oral surgery (performed in a dentist surgery)
- Orthodontic services
- Dentures

Treatment that are cosmetic are not covered, unless they are a part of a service that aims to improve your health. Hospital treatments are not covered.

To be eligible:

Before you can access dental services under Medicare:

Your dental condition must be contributing to your ill health.

You will also need to have:

A GP Management Plan and Team Care Arrangement done by your doctor .

or

Your doctor must have contributed to or reviewed a multidisciplinary care plan prepared for you if you are a resident of an aged care facility.

These need to have occurred in the **last two years**, and the need for dental services **should be recommended in your care plan.**

What else should I know?

The dentist that the doctor refers you to **might not bulk bill**. Dentists are free to set their own fees, and sometimes this means out of pocket costs for you. If you need a bulk billing dentist, **tell the doctor before he writes the referral.**

When you make an appointment at the dentist, **check that they receive Medicare referrals**, and **check if there are any upfront costs to you**. You can call an Aboriginal worker at the Division on 8682 5599 if you need help finding a dentist that receives Medicare referrals or bulk bills.

Make sure the doctor and dentist helps you **understand the cost of your treatment**. After examining you, the dentist should provide you with a proposed treatment plan. This plan should include an itemised quote for proposed future work.

