



Is this office participating in the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)?

Yes. However, we are not listed as a participant on the CDCP website because we are using this first year of the program to best support our current patients who are eligible for the CDCP. This gives us a chance to learn how the program works without maxing out our human resources, thereby allowing us to provide the best care to ALL our patients, with and without the CDCP.

Is the CDCP a kind of insurance?

Yes. It is an insurance plan provided by Sun Life Canada, paid for by your tax dollars. It provides select dental care services for eligible Canadians. It is important to understand that, like any insurance plan, it does not necessarily cover all dental services that are recommended for you. Insurance is intended to be like a “coupon”; it provides assistance but rarely covers everything you may need.

Does the CDCP cover all the costs of approved services?

No. Like any insurance plan, the CDCP has a fee grid that has been developed by Sun Life for the purposes of providing dental offices reimbursement for the care they provide. They reimburse us up to the amount of their fees (which differ from the Nova Scotia Fee Guide). Because their fees do not represent the true cost of the services provided, you are responsible for the amount that the plan does not cover (called a “co-pay”). This is no different than any other insurance plan.

How do I know what my co-pay will be?

Prior to booking any treatment appointments we will provide you with the estimated cost of your treatment, including the amount of “co-pay” you will be expected to pay under the CDCP. We always do our best to accurately estimate what this cost will be. However, sometimes these costs may be higher than anticipated due to unforeseen circumstances (for instance if tooth decay is more involved than what it originally seemed).

Does the CDCP cover my “cleanings”?

Currently, the CDCP will provide “4 units of scaling” per year. A “unit” refers to a measurement of time (ie: 15 minute blocks). For most people who have had regular, ongoing dental care this would allow for approximately 1 cleaning a year.

However, if a patient has not had a professional cleaning at a dental office in a long time it is highly unlikely that 4 units of scaling will be sufficient to complete their initial cleaning properly. In such cases, the cleaning may need to be split over two appointments so as to get the job done properly. If you opt to only come for what your insurance will cover, you must understand that we may not be able to complete the cleaning in one appointment. This would be like taking your car to a mechanic for the first time in 10 years and expecting that they can complete all required maintenance done in a one-hour appointment!

We recognize that there are many factors (including finances) that make it difficult for patients to commit to our recommendations. This is where we encourage communication and dialogue so that we can work together for your health!