BASIC DENTAL SERVICES:

• These services can be availed multiple times as required or as recommended by the dentist.
• These are services that are available to all HPDAI members regardless of dental plan assignment.
I. Dental Examination

• an inspection of the teeth and surrounding soft tissues of the oral cavity. The examiner, usually a dentist, generally uses an explorer, a slender steel instrument with a flexible, sharp point, to probe the minute indentations on tooth surfaces for signs of demineralization and caries development.
  - Fillings are also inspected.
  - to check the gums or periodontal health, the examiner may also insert a periodontal probe into the soft-tissue sulcus around each tooth, to measure the depth of each sulcus and to explore for calculus and root defects.
II. Consultation

• A conference/meeting at which advice is given or views are exchanged.
• Patient will discuss any symptoms felt and Dentist will explain diagnosis and proper treatment planning.

III. Oral Health education through Chairside instructions.
• This is commonly done during first Dental visit of a child.
• This is also given to patients who will require special attention to their oral hygiene especially if there are any dental appliance used (Braces, Fixed bridge, splints)
• Chairside instructions for proper oral health maintenance for compromised patients (ex: patients with Diabetes, hypertension or HIV +)
Specialty consultations:

Consultation of patients who have special dental health conditions with an ACCREDITED dental specialist.
This does not cover work ups or other diagnostic requirements for final diagnosis of dental condition.

• Orthodontic consultations
  • For concerns or questions arising from concerns regarding malocclusion/malpositioned teeth.

• TMJ (Temporo-Mandibular Joint) consultation
  • For concerns or questions arising from concerns regarding Jaw dislocation, lock jaw or clicking jaws.

• Pre-natal check up of teeth and gums.
  • Pregnant women are considered compromised patients and may entail additional precautions for treatment.
  • Prenatal Oral health assessment for pregnant women is recommended because some oral conditions are reported to cause premature labor.
IV. Simple tooth Extractions (excluding surgical extractions and removal of wisdom teeth).

There are two types of extractions: (for purposes of differentiation the 2 types were discussed, although the latter is not usually covered)

- A simple extraction is performed on a tooth that can be seen in the mouth. General dentists commonly do simple extractions. In a simple extraction, the dentist loosens the tooth with an instrument called an elevator. Then the dentist uses an instrument called a forceps to remove the tooth.

Not covered:

- A surgical extraction/complicated extraction is a more complex procedure. It is used if a tooth may have broken off at the gum line or has not come into the mouth yet. Surgical extractions commonly are done by oral surgeons. However, they are also done by general dentists. The doctor makes a small incision (cut) into your gum. Sometimes it's necessary to remove some of the bone around the tooth or to cut the tooth in half in order to extract it.

Most simple extractions can be done using just an injection (a local anesthetic). You may or may not receive drugs to help you relax. For a surgical extraction, you will receive a local anesthetic, and you may also have anesthesia through a vein (intravenous). Some people may need general anesthesia. They include patients with specific medical or behavioral conditions and young children.
V. Temporary fillings
- These are fillings used as interim material.
- Used for observation cases wherein dentists will need further assessment if tooth could still be restored without causing damage to the pulp/nerve.
- Should stay on the tooth not longer than 2 to 4 weeks.

VI. Treatment of sores/mouth lesions/wounds or burns.
- Application of medicament to relieve patient from symptoms.
- The goal of treatment is to relieve symptoms. The cause, if known, should be treated.

Gentle, thorough oral hygiene may relieve some of the symptoms. Topical (rubbed on) antihistamines, antacids, corticosteroids, or other soothing preparations may be recommended for applying directly to the ulcer.

VII. Adjustment or repair of denture (in-house/no laboratory cost)
- In cases wherein dentures/false teeth breaks, becomes loose or causes some gum ulcers, dentists may adjust and repair to relieve patient from any discomfort.
- The alteration of any part that may entail Laboratory costs will not be covered.
VIII. Recementation of loose jacket crowns/ fixed bridges, inlays/ onlays.

• A fixed appliance that becomes loose may be re-cemented using different type of luting agents.

IX. Emergency dental treatment for the relief of pain.

• Procedures such as prescription or application of medicaments for pain relief.
• Pressure relief or removal of premature contacts/ occlusion.
• Removal of impacted food on hard to reach sulcus.
Additional Dental services: (elective dental services)

• These services are usually limited. Limit is usually chosen by the account.
I. Annual Oral Prophylaxis (once per contract period)

• Also known as “Teeth Cleaning”

• For the layman, the term oral prophylaxis is called “cleaning or polishing of teeth.” In this procedure, scaling and stain removal are done. Bacterial plaque and calculus deposits are removed in each tooth surface with the help of scaling and polishing. It is not the same as teeth whitening or coronal polishing because it is mainly performed to prevent decay and other oral complications rather than for aesthetic reasons; however, it does satisfy the patient greatly. Your dentist will be able to tell you whether you are a candidate for oral prophylaxis or not, depending on the severity of stains on your teeth.

• There are three categories for determining the degree of gingival plaque or calculus deposit accumulation. We have mild, moderate and severe cases.

• In mild cases, only soft gingival plaque are gathered in localized areas of tooth surfaces like in the lingual of lower mandibular incisors or lower front teeth.

• Moderate cases on the other hand, is described as accumulation of plaque and supragingival calculus deposits on the lingual of lower anterior teeth and in some areas of upper and lower molars associated with bleeding gums due to gingivitis.

• The severe type of calculus deposit is describe as accumulation of plaque, supragingival and subgingival calculus deposit in all areas of the teeth upper and lower.
Not covered:

A Patient suffering from a periodontal disease will most likely need to undergo Periodontal treatment which involves Deep scaling, subgingival scaling and possibly root planing. These procedures are usually done in combination with oral prophylaxis therefore this will entail additional charges to the patient.

Additional charges vary depending on the severity of the case and duration of treatment. Some treatment may need to be done for a prescribed period of time like every 2 weeks or monthly or quarterly. Price range may be from Php 1000 to 5000 per session. Some dentists will do the treatment together with the Oral Prophylaxis procedure and charge an additional fee of Php500 up.
II. Permanent fillings - Light cure Composite fillings

A dental restoration or dental filling is a dental restorative material used to restore the function, integrity and morphology of missing tooth structure. The structural loss typically results from caries or external trauma. It is also lost intentionally during tooth preparation to improve the aesthetics or the physical integrity of the intended restorative material.

Not covered:

Pulp Sedation - placement of liners or bases on deep cavities prior to placement of the permanent fillings. Usually consists of Calcium Hydroxide or Glass Ionomer base materials.
III. Desensitization of hypersensitive teeth

• Application of a desensitizing agent on a tooth with hypersensitivity with unknown cause.
• Teeth become sensitive for a couple of reasons and treatment varies depending on the factors that may have caused tooth sensitivity.
• This is not the same treatment as pulp sedation, fillings, liners or bases.
• Is not the same as Topical Fluoride application.
• Special agreements:
  - Discounted rates of up to 20% for other services not covered by the dental plan.
    (e.g. dentures, x-rays and dental surgery.)
• Please be informed that, our accredited clinics will extend up to 20% discount on dental services/ procedures outside normal/ basic dental benefits. We have offered a non-specific discount amount for the purpose that our accredited clinics’ rates also vary. Some rates may already be too low and could no longer compensate for the cost of materials or laboratory costs if a 20% discount will be given. It will be in our clinic’s discretion to offer from 5% up to 20% as stated in our service agreement. This usually includes treatments to be rendered to our members to maintain proper oral health conditions. Procedures for esthetic purposes and procedures entailing a referral to a dental specialist may not be included. (Although, Our dentists may still consider to extend discounts on these procedures on a case to case basis.)

Examples of those that may be exempted:
• Orthodontic treatment - will entail years of treatment and is usually paid in installment. A dental specialist is also required to do such procedure.
• Packaged treatment - a group of dental services done in conjunction with each other. Some dentists will provide a dental treatment plan that will entail several dental procedures. Instead of charging per procedure, dentist will propose a package. Example:
  a. Root canal treatment - will entail the following adjunct procedures:
   i. Root canal treatment - canal cleaning to obturation
   ii. Dental xrays - periapical xray is done 3 -6 exposures
   iii. Final restoration - either post and core build up/ jacket crown
• Procedures done by dental specialists under compromised conditions. Such as:
  1. Extraction of pediatric dentists under sedation.
  2. Surgical treatment of teeth under compromised conditions.
• Teeth whitening/ teeth bleaching - due to esthetic reasons and may fall under luxury treatment/ for vanity.
• Laminate veneers - cost of laboratory fees are high and treatment management is case sensitive.
**Other exclusions:** (unless specified under dental plan)

- Periapical Xray
  - Is a commonly preferred diagnostic aid of dentists in assessing dental conditions.
  - Is a radiographic image of a specific tooth, its surrounding structures such as the periodontal ligament and bone.
- Root Canal treatment
  - Endodontic therapy or root canal therapy, colloquially root canal, is a sequence of treatment for the pulp of a tooth which results in the elimination of infection and protection of the decontaminated tooth from future microbial invasion. This set of procedures is commonly referred to as a "root canal." Root canals and their associated pulp chamber are the physical hollows within a tooth that are naturally inhabited by nerve tissue, blood vessels and other cellular entities.
  - Endodontic therapy involves the removal of these structures, the subsequent shaping, cleaning, and decontamination of the hollows with tiny files and irrigating solutions, and the obturation (filling) of the decontaminated canals with an inert filling such as gutta-percha and typically a eugenol-based cement.
- Odontectomy
  - Surgical removal of an impacted tooth.
  - Removal of teeth by the bending back of a mucoperiosteal flap and excision of bone from around the root before the application of force to remove the tooth.
- Apicoectomy
  - Surgical amputation of an infected root apex after root canal treatment.