

Dental Care Access in Michigan

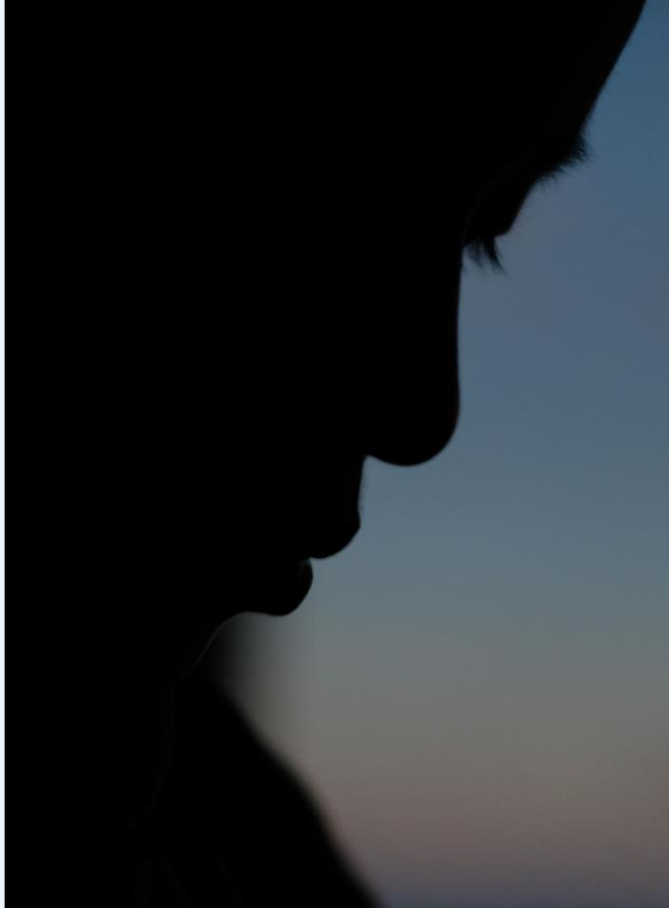
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October 16, 2023

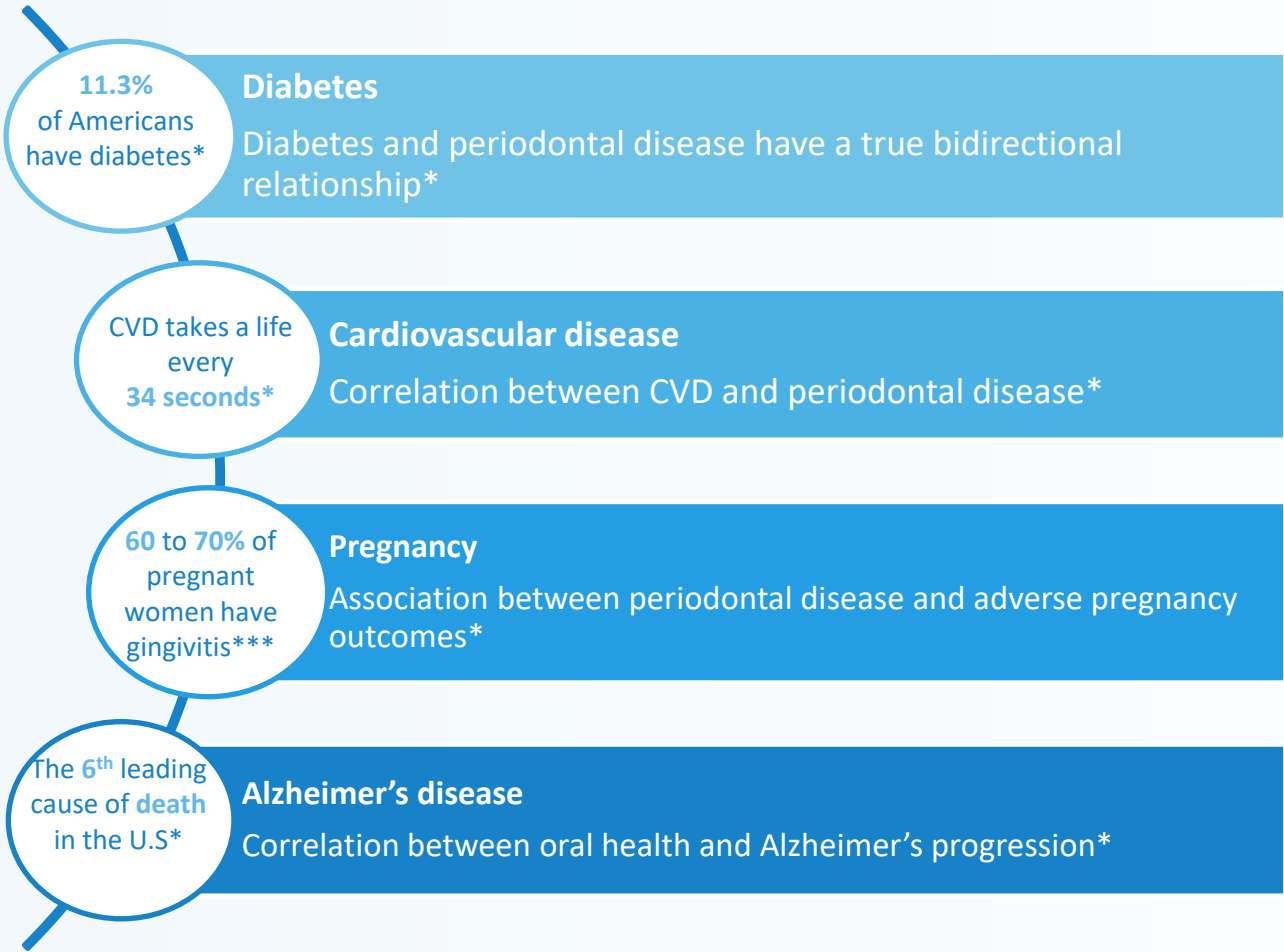
WHOLE HEALTH



Our heads are connected to our bodies, despite the disconnect between medical and dental care.

Deamonte Driver is proof. His compelling story inspired the start of the TeamSmile organization.

Two in five U.S. adults, 30 and older, have some form of periodontal disease*



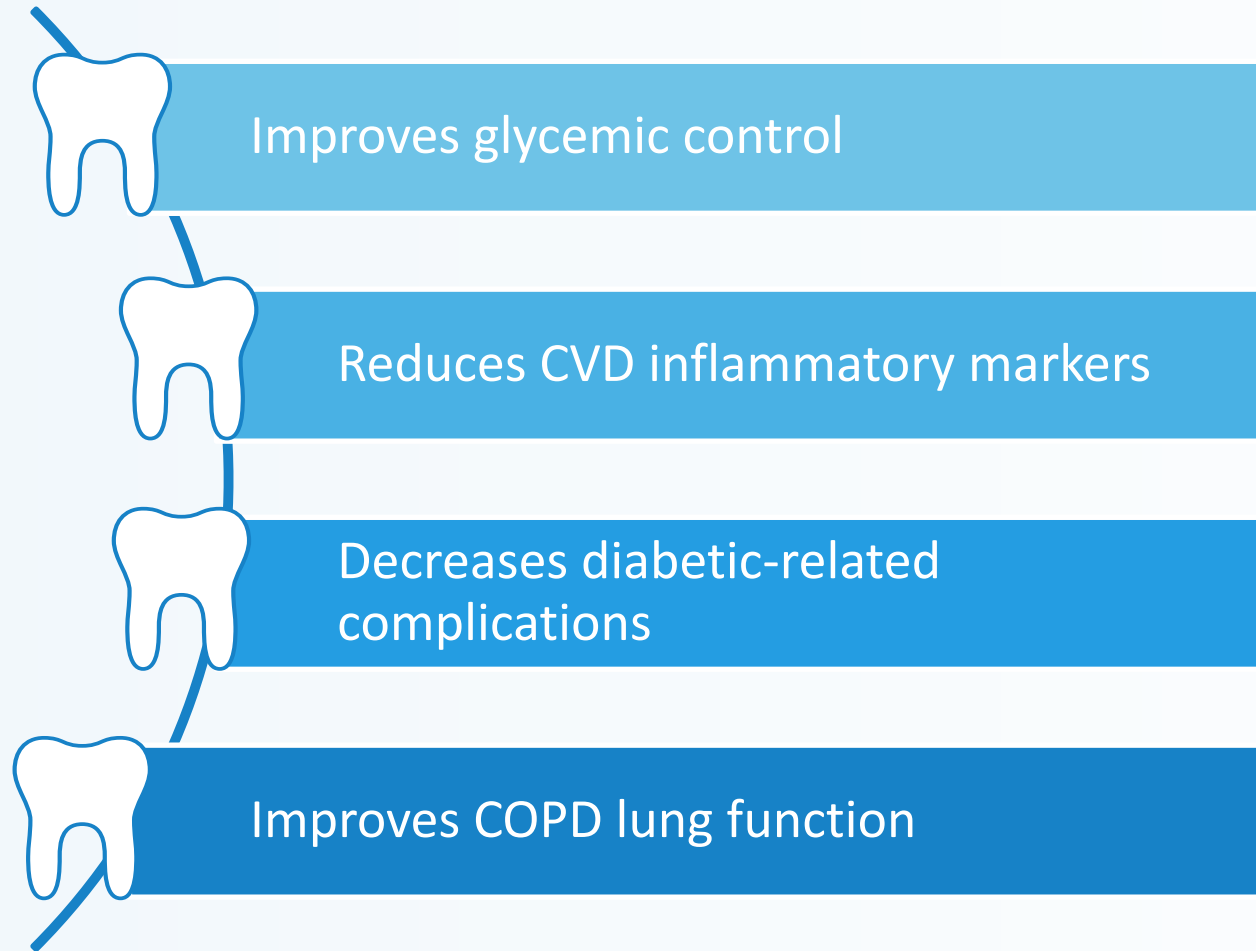
Adults with **≥ 3** chronic conditions are **50%** more likely to report having had one or more medical visits in the past year, but no dental visits*

Severe tooth loss was **50%** higher in people with chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, liver conditions, and a history of strokes**

*According to a 2023 CHRT white paper on dental-medical integration commissioned by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
**According to an article on Disparities in Oral Health by the CDC
***According to an article on Pregnancy and Oral Health by the CDC

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN
WHOLE HEALTH

**Dental care
improves health
outcomes**

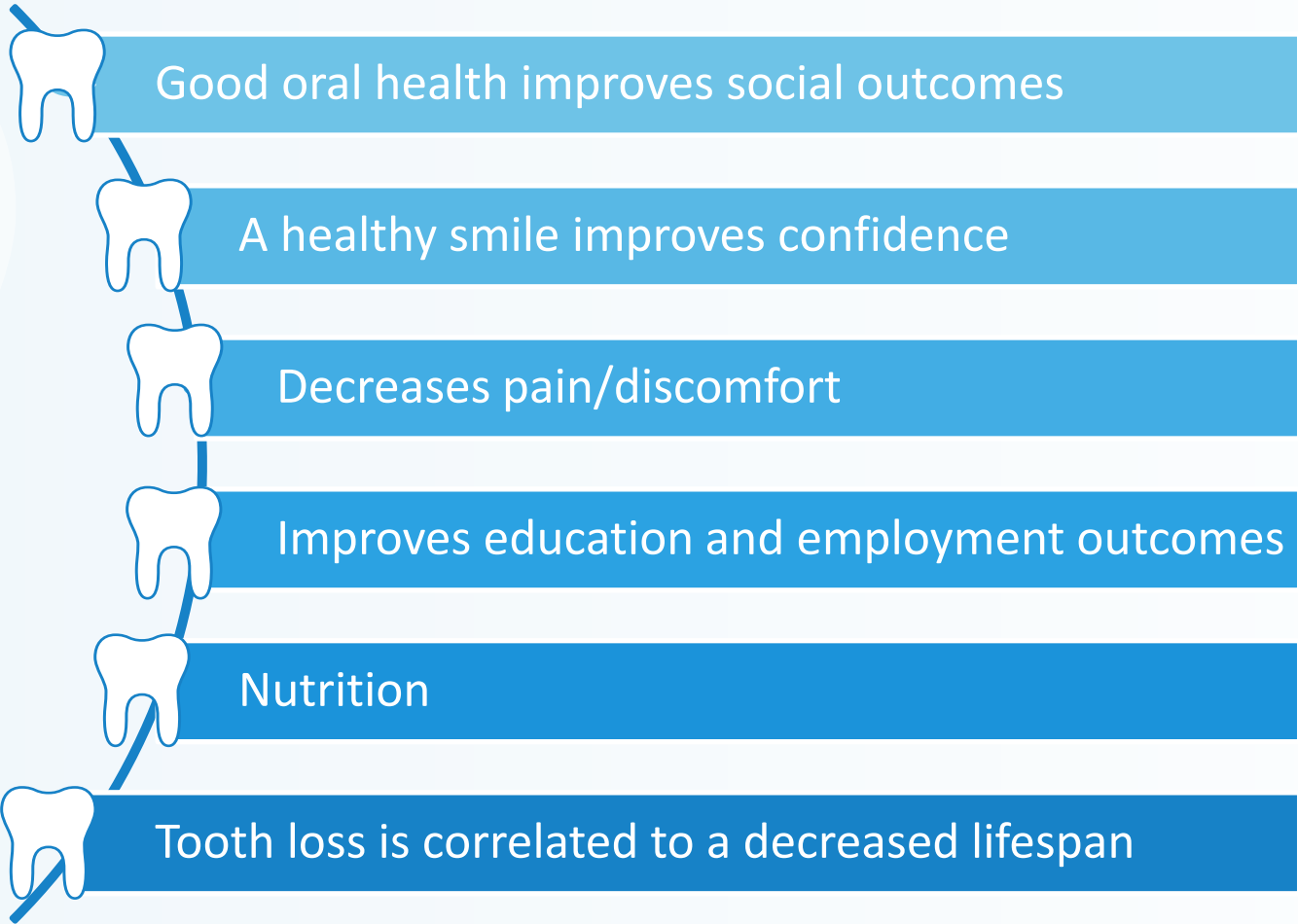


In 2016, nearly
2,000,000 adults
reported having unmet
dental needs*

Someone visits an
emergency department
every **15 seconds** to
treat dental conditions. In
2017 these visits cost
\$2.7 billion*

*According to a 2023 CHRT white paper on dental-medical integration commissioned by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

**Dental care
improves
quality of life
and
productivity**



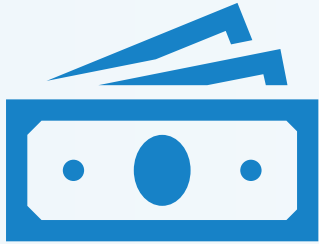
On average,
>34 million
school hours are lost each
year because of unplanned
(emergency) dental care*

26% of low income
Michigan adults avoid
social activities due to the
condition of their mouth
and teeth**

Nearly **18%** of all working-
age adults,
and **29%** of those with
lower incomes,
report that the appearance
of their teeth affects their
ability to interview for a job*

*According to an article on Disparities in Oral Health by the CDC
**According to an article on oral health in Michigan by the American Dental Association

BARRIERS TO CARE



Cost

- Low-income adults have **2 to 3x** more untreated cavities
- Children from low-income families are **2x as likely to have cavities**, compared with children from higher-income households
- Among adults who reported an unmet dental care need: **80%** report they could not afford care



Education

- 29% of Michigan adults stated they avoid visiting the dentist because of fear
- 15% of Michigan adults experience anxiety due to the condition of their mouth and teeth
- 12% of Michigan adults don't visit the dentist because they don't see a reason to go



Access

- As of 2023, 1 in 5 Americans live in dental health professional shortage areas
- In September 2022, there were 7,192 dental health professional shortage areas. 11,896 dental providers are needed to fill these areas

Blue Cross is committed to addressing dental care barriers and access issues for our members and communities.

Healthy Kids Dental

Community Sponsorships

Medicare

Provider Shortage
Solutions

Healthy Kids Dental (HKD)



HKD provides comprehensive dental coverage for \$0 premium to eligible enrollees. Covered benefits are covered at 100%.

- Our HKD program currently covers over **350,000** Medicaid eligible children statewide age 0-20.
- Medicaid redeterminations
 - With the end of the public health emergency, Medicaid enrollees must resume providing evidence of their Medicaid eligibility. Over the next 12 months, there will be a reduction in the number of Medicaid eligible Michiganders in the medical and dental space.
 - Earlier this year, HKD fee schedules were increased. We are hopeful this will prove helpful for all parties, especially safety net providers.

Enrollment and eligibility for the HKD program are handled by Michigan ENROLLS (800-975-7630)

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ADDRESSING DENTAL ACCESS: SPONSORSHIPS

TeamSmile

Blue Cross is sponsoring TeamSmile, a non-profit organization that provides life-changing dental care and oral health education to underserved children through partnerships with dental professionals and professional sports organizations.

The 2023 TeamSmile event will be held on Friday, Oct. 20

- Event will be hosted by the Detroit Lions at Ford Field, with Blue Cross as the presenting sponsor
- Blue Cross dental consultant, Dr. Kristi Thomas, will serve as lead dentist
- Blue Cross Specialty Benefits facilitated the partnership between TeamSmile and the Detroit Lions
- Specialty Benefits staff will be volunteering during the event



Picture from TeamSmile.org

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ADDRESSING DENTAL ACCESS: SPONSORSHIPS



Michigan Dental Association Foundation

**Michigan Dental Association Foundation is on a mission to improve dental health in communities throughout Michigan.
Christina Hix, Vice President of Specialty Benefits, sits on the MDA board.**

Swings Fore Smiles

On Sept. 18, Blue Cross hosted and organized a charity golf outing supporting the MDA.

More than 108 golfers participated in the outing and raised **\$22,000+**.

All proceeds benefit the MDA.

*Learn more about the MDA Foundation
at foundation.michigandental.org*

Mission of Mercy

The Mission of Mercy clinic provides comprehensive dental care to patients of all ages. Its goal is to provide disease eliminating treatment and focus on the most-urgent needs of patients that are underserved and uninsured in Michigan.

June 14-15, 2024

Dort Financial Center, Flint, MI

Medicare

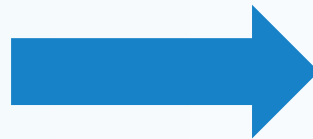


Older Americans face several barriers to care that are unique to their age group, including a lack of dental insurance derived from the exclusion of dental care in Medicare A and B.

Blue Cross aims to address this barrier to older Americans by offering a Medicare Advantage plan that is continuously expanding covered services so our members can get the care that they need.

2022 Medicare Advantage Dental

- Three mandatory benefits
- 11 buy-up benefits



2023 Medicare Advantage Dental

- 12 mandatory benefits
- Six buy-up benefits

Apply for a grant to help serve Medicare members from the MDA foundation at foundation.michigandental.org

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ADDRESSING DENTAL ACCESS: PROVIDER SHORTAGES

Blue Cross and Provider Shortage Solutions



University of Michigan School of Dentistry partnership

- Discuss potential solutions for access to care issues in Michigan
- Initial stakeholder meeting in October 2023

Teledentistry

- Teledentistry provides triage, advice, consultation and mild prescribing as a first step for urgent dental care needs, with referrals for in-person follow-up care
- Blue Cross's Teledentistry solution will be offered soon as part of the Blue Dental PPO network; visits will be processed as in-network
- Implementation is planned for **Q1 2024**

Care for your patients' whole health – the head is attached to the body

Have questions or feedback?

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Specialty Benefits | Providing a total benefits solution

Thank You