



United Concordia proves immediate and multi-year medical cost savings from good oral health

The UCWellness Oral Health Study links oral health in people with diabetes to over \$1,814 in average annual medical savings¹

This landmark study, conducted by Dr. Marjorie Jeffcoat, award-winning clinician and researcher from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, in partnership with United Concordia and Highmark, looked at medical and dental claims data of people with Type II diabetes from a pool of 1.7 million individuals.

The Objective

Determine if periodontal treatment was associated with the number of hospitalizations and cost of medical care among diabetic individuals with periodontal disease.

The Sample

1. Individuals with diabetes who received periodontal treatment
2. Individuals with diabetes who went untreated for periodontal disease

The periodontal treatment group was treated in the first year, and maintained thereafter. The other group had received no periodontal therapy or incomplete therapy prior to the start of study period, and did not receive regular maintenance services for the duration of the study period.

The UCWellness Oral Health Study produced several key findings.²

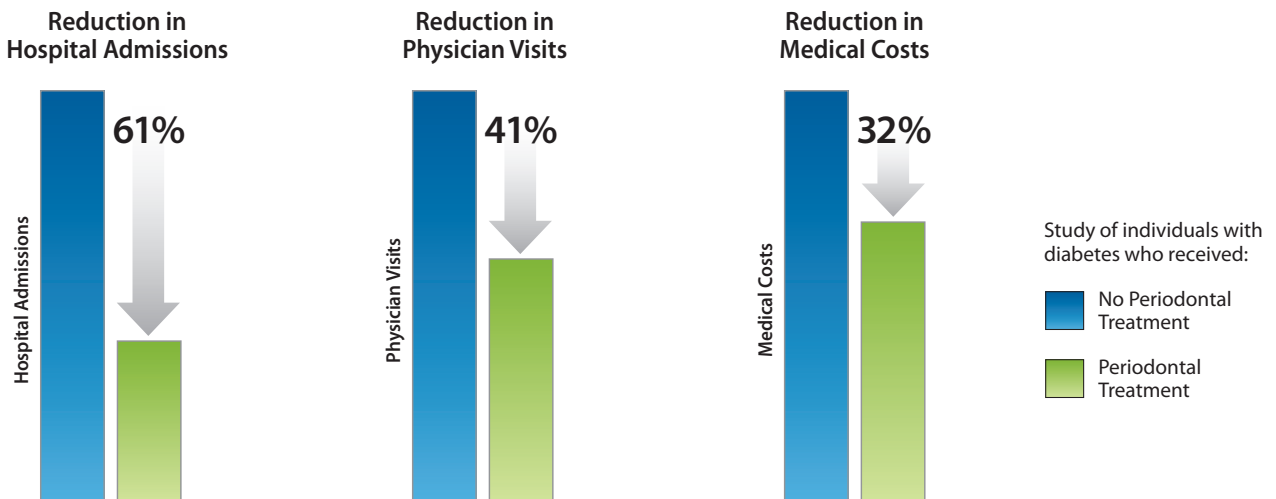
Over the course of the study, each diabetic member who treated their gum disease:¹

- Saved an average of **\$1,814** in medical costs annually.
- Had an average reduction of **33%** in annual hospital admissions.
- Had an annual average of **13%** fewer physician visits.

1. Based on three years of study data.

2. Jeffcoat, M., et. al., Periodontal Therapy Reduces Hospitalizations and Medical Costs in Diabetics, Abstract, American Association of Dental Research, March 23, 2012

Significant results start showing in the first year!





There's more to come from United Concordia, your source for oral health value

The savings associated with oral health and medical cost reduction for diabetics is only the beginning to what you will hear from the UCWellness Oral Health Study. Coming soon, United Concordia, in partnership with Highmark and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, will release additional findings on the association between oral health and reduced cost of medical care in individuals with several other chronic diseases and conditions, such as heart disease, stroke, pre-term birth and more.

About the study author

Dr. Marjorie Jeffcoat

Marjorie Jeffcoat, D.M.D., is a Professor and Dean Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. She has published more than 200 papers and has received numerous clinical and research awards. Her interests include the relationship between dental and systemic disease. Dr. Jeffcoat is a spokesperson on periodontics for the American Dental Association (ADA). She is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Jeffcoat is a member of the Institute of Medicine, the International College of Dentists, and a past president of the Academy of Osseointegration, the American Association for Dental Research and the International Association for Dental Research. She maintains a dental practice in Philadelphia and treats patients with complex dental and medical needs.



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