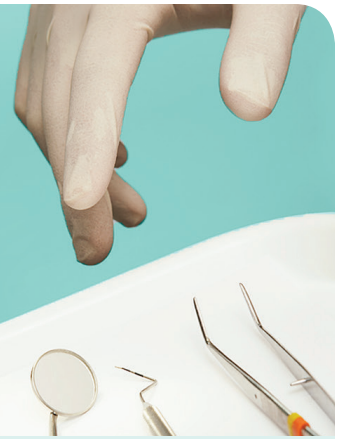


# Dental office update

Fall 2015



## Why complete chart notes are important

Chart notes serve as the legal document that should record all diagnostic information, clinical notes, treatment performed and patient-related communications. They should include medical and dental history, progress and treatment notes, conversations about the treatment needed, any instructions for home care and consent to treatment. Complete and accurate records should be legible and contain enough information to allow another provider who has no prior knowledge of the patient to fully understand the patient's dental experience with your office. In practices where there is more than one dentist, the identity of the dentist rendering the treatment should be clearly noted in the chart notes.

**Beginning January 1, 2016**, if the chart notes are not complete, we will not accept a narrative in place of complete chart notes. Any information not included in the chart notes is considered not to have taken place.

## Athletic mouth guards will be covered in 2016

Many children and adults participate in sports and recreational activities that put them at risk of sustaining a dental injury. These injuries can lead to permanent changes in how their teeth function, as well as the need for lifelong follow-up dental care and maintenance.

## When are build-ups covered?

A "build-up" refers to the building up of an anatomical crown when a restorative crown will be placed. A material is placed in the tooth preparation for a crown when there is insufficient tooth strength and retention for the crown procedure. A build-up is not covered when the procedure only involves a filler to eliminate any undercut, box form, or concave irregularity in the preparation.

For posterior teeth to qualify for a build-up, images provided must document that at least half of the circumferential tooth structure has been destroyed by decay and/or fractured off to within 2MM of the gum line. For anterior teeth to qualify for a build-up, images provided must document that at least half of the mesial distal width past the junction of the incisal and middle third of the tooth has been destroyed by decay and/or fractured off.

## Dental Professional Relations visits The Last Frontier

During our recent trip to Alaska, we had the opportunity to visit many of our participating dental offices. We also volunteered alongside them at the Alaska Mission of Mercy in Fairbanks. In two days, this event provided an estimated \$850,000 worth of free dental care to 886 patients!

We had the great pleasure of conducting patient interviews, and the responses were overwhelming! Many of them shared their stories of the incredible lengths they went through to attend this clinic, including how far they traveled and how long they stood in line. They were very appreciative of the friendliness and collaboration of the clinic and community volunteers and are already looking forward to the next one.

A sincere thank you to the Alaska Dental Society for organizing such a successful event!

**Say goodbye to paper!**

Email [dpr@modahealth.com](mailto:dpr@modahealth.com) and request this newsletter electronically.

Dental plans in Alaska provided by Delta Dental of Alaska. 10774935-AK (10/15)

## Sign up for Dental Office Deals!

Delta Dental is always looking for ways to create more value for our dentists. Dental Office Deals is a program that provides Delta Dental dentists an average discount of **33 percent off** the retail prices for dental instruments, supplies, defibrillators, shipping, office supplies, payroll services and continuing education.

These discounts are made possible by Delta Dental's partnership with the United Dental Alliance (UDA), the largest group purchasing organization focused on dentistry. Register today by visiting [deltadental.com](http://deltadental.com) and logging into the dentist portal.



# Dental office *update*

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### Look inside for

- › Dental Office Deals
- › Build-up coverage
- › Complete chart notes
- › And more