Diabetes and gum disease go hand-in-hand

Gum disease is a big deal, especially if you have diabetes.

Diabetes can affect the severity of gum disease. And gum disease can affect your glucose (sugar) levels.

If you're diabetic, it's important to pay extra attention to your oral care to help prevent gum disease and other oral problems.

Gum disease can lead to a serious infection called periodontitis, which can cause receding gums and tooth loss if it's not treated properly.

Regular dental exams help spot early signs of gum disease. They're also an important part of helping to manage your diabetes.

And if you already have gum disease, your dentist can help plan the right treatment. So make sure to visit your dentist regularly.

Learn how to spot gum disease

Why gum disease makes it harder to control diabetes

Extra coverage for gum disease

If you have certain chronic medical conditions, you may be eligible for extra coverage to help treat your gum disease. Some United Concordia Dental plans include Smile for Health® – Wellness, a program that helps makes the oral care you need more affordable.

If your plan does come with Smile for Health® – Wellness, you can activate these benefits if you have one (or more) of the following:
- Cerebral vascular disease (including stroke)
- Cardiovascular (heart) disease
- Diabetes
- Lupus
- Oral cancer
- Organ transplant
- Rheumatoid arthritis

Check your eligibility