



All About Dental Crowns

What is a dental crown?

A crown is a tooth-shaped dental restoration that covers and supports a damaged tooth by returning it to its original shape and size. Also called caps, crowns can be made from gold and other alloys, resin, porcelain, ceramic or porcelain fused to metal.

When are crowns needed?

They're typically needed when a tooth's strength and function have been affected by extensive tooth decay, root canal treatment, fracture or trauma. They can also be used to anchor a bridge or cover a dental implant.

How does the procedure work?

First the tooth being treated will be numbed. Then your dentist will prepare the tooth to remove damaged areas so the crown can provide the best form and support. Usually, you'll get a temporary crown until the final crown can be fitted and cemented in place. Some dental offices have special equipment that can provide same-day crowns.

Are crowns covered by my dental plan?

Dental insurance usually covers part of the cost for crowns.* Since they're typically recommended when simpler treatments can't be used, crown claims are reviewed by independent dental advisors. They evaluate X-rays, photos and other information from your dentist to make sure the crown treatment meets your policy's coverage criteria.

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How much will I owe for my crown?

Asking for a predetermination before your procedure lets you know how much it may cost based on your dental coverage. A predetermination is a free estimate that shows:

- If the treatment is a covered service under your plan.
- The amount for which you may be responsible.

A predetermination is not a guarantee of payment — it is an estimate of what you can expect to owe.

Is a crown my only option?

Crowns may be recommended to restore tooth function, but there may also be other acceptable options. Asking your dentist these questions can help you decide which treatment is right for you.

- Is the treatment really necessary?
- What may happen if I don't get the treatment?
- Are there alternatives?
- How long will it last?
- Can I think about it or get a second opinion?
- Can we request a predetermination?

You and your dentist should always work together to choose the treatment that's best for your individual needs.



*United Concordia policies have exclusions, limitations, reduction of benefits, and terms under which the policy may be continued or discontinued. For costs and complete details of your coverage, contact your insurance agent or the company.

The Plan complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

English	ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-800-332-0366 (TTY: 711).
Español (Spanish)	ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, le ofrecemos de ayuda lingüística gratuita. Llame al 1-800-332-0366 (TTY: 711).
繁體中文 (Chinese)	注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-800-332-0366 (TTY: 711)。

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