



Changing Peoples' Lives...

BY ASH PARMAR

COST OF DENTAL TREATMENT

Many patients avoid going to the dentist because they are fearful of having dental treatment. For others, the actual investment in dental care is a reason for not having the ideal recommended treatment. In this article, I will look at some of the important areas connected with the cost of dental treatment.

WHAT AFFECTS THE FEES A DENTIST CHARGES?

The business cost of running a dental practice in London is at least 60% before tax! The high costs of running a modern private dental practice are one of the main reasons why dental professional fees are perceived to be high sometimes.

The other variables that affect the cost of dental treatment include: -

- Difficulty of the treatment
- Time taken
- Skill and experience of the dentist
- Laboratory costs

What is the best way of keeping dental fees to a minimum?

The answer to this is quite simple – PREVENT problems. This may sound obvious, but many people don't actually follow this advice carefully. The "golden rules" for me are: -

- Brush the teeth and gums properly twice a day
- Clean between the teeth with floss or micro brushes daily

- Use a fluoride mouthwash to avoid dental decay
- Use Ultradex mouthwash to avoid gum disease and maintain fresh breath
- Have regular hygienist gum treatment every four to six months
- Visit a dentist once a year for a dental examination

However, if you present with some dental problems to start with, then a course of dental treatment is required to get you dentally fit before you can go on a "maintenance programme". Also, catching problems early is vital – the treatment will be simpler, take less time and also cost less!



Good oral hygiene means avoiding treatment and fees



Leaving problems for too long will result in an expensive course of dental treatment

FINANCING DENTAL TREATMENT

If someone requires more extensive dental treatment, then dental financing is available. This makes it easier to have the required treatment, and pay in smaller installments over a longer period of time (e.g. up to two years) interest free! Many of our clients opt for this flexible arrangement to finance dental care. The application for a 0% interest loan is very easy – our Patient Care Coordinator Dee helps fill out a simple form and if the client's credit rating is good, then the loan is normally approved within minutes! This means you can have the treatment immediately to achieve a healthy mouth quicker and feel in control by paying for example only £200 a month.

SUMMARY

Leaving problems to gradually get worse does not cost anything. However, this is false economy because when treatment is eventually required, it will be more complex, time consuming and therefore expensive. Far better to do a simple white filling than root canal treatment, post and a crown for a badly broken tooth. You are welcome to visit Smile Design By Ash for a free initial consultation, scanning X-ray and some photographs to review your overall dental condition ■



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