7 Reasons You Should Schedule an Appointment with a Medi-Cal Dentist Right Now:

1. **Because you can! Medi-Cal has dental covered.**
   Dental check-ups are free or low-cost for Medi-Cal members (eligible for dental benefits). Adults can have a check-up every year, and children can have a check-up every six months.
2. **Your child has never been to the dentist.**
   Children can develop cavities as early as 2 years old. Protect your children's gums and teeth by taking them to the dentist every six months.
3. **You're pregnant!**
   Your oral health is a big part of making sure your baby is healthy. Your gums and teeth need special attention at this time. Be sure to tell them you are pregnant when you make your appointment.
4. **It's your baby's first birthday!**
   Make an appointment for your child's first dental visit as soon as their first tooth comes in or by their first birthday, whichever comes first. It is important to take good care of baby teeth until they fall out.
5. **Your child is starting kindergarten.**
   To make sure your child is ready for school, California law requires that your child have a dental check-up by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is their first year in public school.
6. **Your child's permanent molars have arrived.**
   Protect those molars from harmful bacteria and cavities by scheduling a check-up and asking the dentist to apply molar sealants. It's quick, painless and can protect your child's back teeth for several years!
7. **Your child just finished high school.**
   Your child's dental services are free or low-cost until age 21. Help them stick to their dental routine by scheduling an appointment on days when they are more likely to keep it.

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MEDI-CAL HAS DENTAL COVERED

SmileCalifornia.org
1-800-322-6384

DHCS | Medi-Cal Dental

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MEDI-CAL HAS DENTAL COVERED

Smile, you have dental care.

Smile, California helps Medi-Cal members make the most of their dental benefit. Medi-Cal provides free or low-cost dental services to help keep you and your smile healthy.

Keeping your teeth healthy is one of the best things you can do for your overall health.

For a healthy mouth, you need to do more than just brush and floss.

Your dental health matters. Your overall health is significantly connected to your oral health. Practice good daily oral care and schedule regular dental check-ups to reduce your risk of serious health problems.

Services covered may include:

- Exams and x-rays
- Cleanings
- Sealants
- Fluoride treatments
- Fillings and crowns
- Scaling and root planing
- Root canal treatments
- Emergency services
- Tooth removal
- Periodontal maintenance
- Complete and partial dentures
- Denture relines
- Orthodontics (braces) for age 21 and under who qualify

Learn more about these services at **SmileCalifornia.org**.

As of January 1, 2018, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) restored adult dental benefits for members ages 21 and older with full-scope dental coverage.

For a complete list of covered services, visit **SmileCalifornia.org**.

Good oral care and routine dental check-ups can save you time and money.

BABIES

Your child's first dental visit should take place after their first tooth appears, but no later than their first birthday. Baby teeth are critical to your child's health and development. They help him or her chew, speak and smile.

2x PER YEAR

Medi-Cal Dental provides free or low-cost check-ups every six months for members under the age of 21.

KIDS

Children start to lose their baby teeth as early as five years old. This is when their permanent teeth begin to grow in. Ask the dentist for molar sealants to help protect your child's molars from cavities. Children without sealants have almost three times more cavities than those with sealants.*

TEENS

Eating sugary foods and drinks, as teens often do, puts them at a higher risk for gum disease and tooth decay. Teenagers who continue to get regular check-ups ensure good oral health well into adulthood.

1x PER YEAR

Medi-Cal Dental provides members over the age of 21 free or low-cost check-ups every 12 months.

PREGNANCY

Good oral health care helps prevent problems during pregnancy. As a Medi-Cal member, you are covered during pregnancy and 60 days past the birth of your baby. The best time to see a dentist is in your second trimester (week 13 to week 27 of pregnancy).

ADULTS

As we get older, taking care of our health becomes more and more important. Good oral health can help prevent tooth loss and improve physical health.

SENIORS

As an older adult, you are prone to gum disease and other oral health problems, but by brushing twice a day, flossing daily and most importantly, seeing your dentist regularly, you can lower your risk.

* Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/dental-sealants/index.html