Dentistry, of course, is an important part of health care. *Dental care, though, is different from medical care.* These differences must be reflected in plan design, benefits, and legislation so that costly, inappropriate regulation does not result in employers dropping dental benefits.

General dentists provide 90% of dental care and account for 80% of total dental costs.

For medical, secondary & tertiary care are most common, & primary care is the smallest component and cost.

80% of dentists are general dentists. The American Dental Association recognizes only 8 specialties with no sub-specialties.

Primary Care

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Solo Practice

About 79% of dentists are in solo practice.

Less than 10% of physicians are in solo practice.

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General Practice

Less than 15% of physicians are primary care physicians.

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Procedures

Many dental services may be repeated if a satisfactory result is not achieved.

Many medical procedures are irreversible.

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