

Re: Dental Records

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.med.dentistry/2006-03/msg00446.html>

- *From:* "Bill" <dentaldoc@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 15 Mar 2006 12:02:55 -0800
-

Clinton wrote:

"Well on the bill then it should have an itemization for records cost. Unless the dentist pays for the film himself and the cost of using the machine (which I doubt) the patient is truly paying for or funding the

creaion of the records and in addition paying for the diagnosis and clinical judgement."

I couldn't disagree more.

"Well on the bill then it should have an itemization for records cost."

There is no separate "records cost" for itemization.

When you buy a loaf of bread, is there an itemization for packaging cost? For shelving cost? For transportation cost to ship the bread to the grocer?

Should the transportation cost of the bread be further broken down and itemized? How about the cost of the gasoline, the oil, the cost of the driver for the bakery truck? How about the cost of the insurance for the truck owner?

All a dentist does when creating a "record" is to jot down some notes, and put them together in an organized fashion for his future needs.

How much does it cost YOU to jot down some notes? To buy the pens, pencils and paper? The paper clips? Staples? Cover folders? The only certainty is that no number would be accurate, as it would be impossible to figure all the variables.

The idea of itemization for such things is sheer folly.

Re: Dental Records

"Unless the dentist pays for the film himself and the cost of using the machine (which I doubt) "

What?? UNLESS??

OF COURSE the dentist is paying for the film! What dental supply company would send the film to the dentist unless he paid for it?

And the cost of using the machine? Huge! And the dentist pays for ALL of it. I had to pay many thousands of dollars for my xray machine and the associated developing and viewing setup, not to mention the more recent computer setup to digitize the films when necessary.

When you say "which I doubt," WHY do you doubt it? Do you really think that all the expensive supplies that dentists must buy are just left out on the street by the manufacturers so that dentists driving by can just pick them up for free??

"the patient is truly paying for or funding the creation of the records and in addition paying for the diagnosis and clinical judgement."

The patient is ALSO "truly paying" for the dentist's daily food and shelter. The dentist performs work, and for this work, he deserves payment. That is how he makes his living.

If the patient "truly pays" for the creation of the records, then by the same reasoning, he also "truly pays" for the dentist's clothing, and the dentist's car, and the dentist's house. Does the patient then OWN the dentist's house and car?

Presumably, the patient works for a living, just like the dentist. I assume the patient's employer pays him for his work. Does that same patient then believe that his employer owns the patient's house and his car?

After all, the employer "truly paid" for the house and the car, so doesn't the employer OWN them too?

– dentaldoc

.