

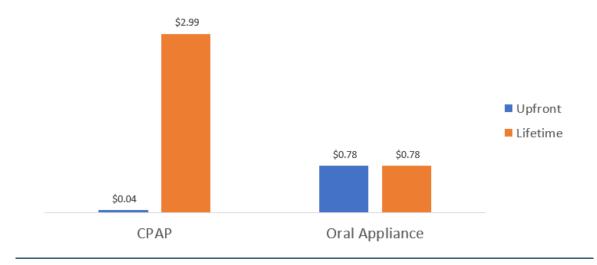
Which Costs More: CPAP or Oral Appliance Therapy?

The Sleep Review magazine recently published an article comparing the costs of oral appliances to CPAP. We often get questions about oral appliance costs and probably one of the biggest misconceptions about oral appliance therapy is that it is not covered by medical insurance. The good news is that simply isn't true! Oral appliances are covered by virtually every medical insurance policy and they are considered DME, just like a CPAP. When looking at costs specifically, the basic conclusion in the article is that oral appliances cost more upfront and CPAPs cost more in the long run because of ongoing supplies.

According to the article, "CPAP initially looks more affordable over the first three months of treatment. At four months, however, total costs of CPAP and OAT are similar at about \$1,500. After this point, there are no additional costs for OAT and CPAP costs continue to rise as various components require replacement, the analysis finds. By the end of five years, CPAP costs about two to three times more than OAT."

As always with a comparison of CPAP vs. oral appliance, the bottom line remains the same -- the best treatment is the one the patient will wear all night, every night!

Daily Cost of Treatment



Patient Spotlight: Tom K.

"Super friendly staff and going on 5 yrs as a patient it is a always great experience. Shout out to Sherry for doing a great job on my appliance." - Tom K.

Objective Oral Appliance Therapy Results:

Pre-Treatment AHI: 35.1 Post Treatment AHI: 4.6

Subjective Oral Appliance Therapy Results:

Sleeping better, more energy, no longer snoring

Philips Recall

The Wall Street Journal <u>published an article last month</u> that reports Philips has already sent out about 700,000 replacement CPAPs and they expect to have all replacements completed by Q4 of this year.

As a dentist-owned practice, we cannot and do not diagnose or direct care. When patients have called our office to ask what they should do with a recalled unit, we reiterate that their first step needs to be that they <u>register their unit</u> so they can get in queue for a replacement once available. Once they do that, our second recommendation is that they talk with their primary care provider for direction on care. Here are the options we have provided to them to consider for that discussion:

- Continue to use the CPAP as-is.
- Consider getting an Rx for a travel CPAP, which can be purchased online.
- Consider an oral appliance. From what we have seen and heard, insurance
 companies are not covering a switch in treatment due to the recall, so we are
 offering an oral appliance that isn't quite as durable as a typical oral appliance we'd
 provide, but it is still custom-fit, FDA approved, comes with a 2 year warranty, and is
 tested for efficacy.

Please <u>let us know</u> how we can help your patients continue to receive treatment for their sleep apnea during this recall/shortage.

Philips recall notification
Philips clinical information for physicians and providers
Clinical Practice Guidelines for Oral Appliance Therapy
OAT Fact Sheet
OAT Evidence Brief



We Make It Easy To Partner

Both diagnosed and non-diagnosed patients may be referred.

We are Omaha's first and only one-stop shop for sleep. We know how complicated treating sleep disorders can be for both providers and patients and it is our goal to streamline the entire process for everyone involved. With that in mind, we are able to offer or guide: 1) Home Sleep Testing 2) CPAPs, and 3) Oral Appliances. Along with our dedicated dental sleep team, we work with Sleep Physicians for direction on patient care.

We want you to know that if you have a patient that you suspect has sleep apnea or has struggled with prescribed treatment, we will take great care of them.

Patients can be referred directly through our <u>website</u>, or you can <u>fax a referral</u> to us at 1-877-811-8129.



If you'd like any paper screening tools, business cards from our office, or would like to coordinate a time to speak with one of our providers, please connect with Brea at brea@whywesnore.com or 402-996-0387.



** Know that we are in-network with medical insurance, including Medicare and Tricare. Those with Medicare supplement plans typically have low or no out-of-pocket costs. All patients know what their out of pockets costs will be before moving forward with treatment.

Visit our website

This advertisement was sent by Advanced Dental Sleep Treatment Center
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