

Calculations for the Comparative Table for Fees of Dentists and Dental Technicians in SA for 2006 with speculated fees for Denturists:

Customary Fees (Dentist + L)

Procedure (all including VAT)	Dentist Clinical Fee (* (**)	Dental Technician Lab Fee	Customary Fee (Dentist + L)
F/F	R1185 (R4815)	R1735.00	R 2920 (R6650)
4 tooth P/- Acrylic	R 580 (R1765)	R 650.00	R 1230 (R2415)
4 tooth P/- Metal	R1230 (R4461)	R1754.00	R 2984 (R6215)
Reline	R 360 (R1203)	R 352.00	R 712 (R1555)
Repair (without impression)	R 90 (R 280)	R 235.00	R 325 (R515)

The Dentists Clinical Fees listed in the table for some typical prosthetic procedures are the National Reference price list for Medical Schemes (*), effective from January 2006. Many dentists do not charge according to these fees but have "contracted out" in order to charge more. The patient is then liable for the outstanding balance. The amount in brackets is the fee recommended by the HPCSA as from 28 November 2005 (**). The labour rate of dentists for procedures not listed on the schedule is calculated at R550 - R650/hour and in some communities apparently up to 30% more.

Description	Code	Composition	Unit price	Nat. Ref. Price Total	HPCSA Fee Total
Full Upper & Lower	8101	1x Oral examination	103.00	1185	4815
	8231	1x Complete F/F	1025.00		
	8109	6x Infection control	9.31		
4 tooth P/- Acrylic	8101	1x Oral examination	103.00	580	1765
	8236	1x Partial resin 4t	439.90		
	8109	4x Infection control	9.31		
4 tooth P/- Metal	8101	1x Oral examination	103.00	1230	4461
	8281	1x Cast metal frame	685.90		
	8236	1x Partial resin 4t	439.90		
	8109	4x Infection control	9.31		
Reline	8267	1x Reline denture	349.90	360	1203
	8109	1x Infection control	9.31		
Repair	8269	1x Repair denture	80.70	90	289
	8109	1x Infection control	9.31		

The Dental Technician Laboratory Fee for the listed procedures is what is specified in the Government Gazette No 28247 Vol 485 of 25 November 2005 in respect of work done on contract for dentists. The fees include VAT. These fees had always been fixed, but higher fees may now theoretically be charged by prior agreement with the dentist and the dentist's patient. The dentist is by contract liable for full payment to the dental laboratory. The labour rate of Dental technicians for procedures not listed in the Government Gazette and for remaking a case is calculated at R168/hour (+VAT).

Description	Code	Composition	Unit price	Total
Full Upper & Lower	9301	4x Plaster model	72.00	1735.00
	9321	2x Occlusion block	132.00	
	9327	4x Infection control	48.00	
	9330	4x Delivery charge	120.00	
	9331	1x F/F dentures	855.00	
	9431	2x Special trays	144.00	
	9700	4x Denture teeth 1x6/8	352.00	
	9722	2x Acrylic	72.00	
4 tooth P/- Acrylic	9301	2x Plaster model	36.00	
	9327	2x Infection control	24.00	
	9330	2x Delivery charge	60.00	

	9354 9700 9722	1x 4 tooth partial 3x Denture teeth 1x6/8 1 Acrylic	278.00 246.00 18.00	650.00
4 tooth P/- Metal	9301 9303 9327 9431 9453-9493 9741 + 4 tooth P/-	1x Plaster model 1x Hard model 2x Infection control 1x Special tray (Average of) Casting Alloy	18.00 25.00 24.00 72.00 905.00 60.00 650.00	1754.00
Reline	9301 9327 9330 9413	1x Plaster model 1x Infection control 2x Delivery charge 1x Acrylic reline	18.00 12.00 60.00 292.00	352.00
Repair	9301 9327 9330 9391	1x Model 1x Infection control 2x Delivery charge 1x First fracture or tooth	18.00 12.00 60.00 145.00	235.00

Denturist Fees (Clinical + Lab)

Procedure (all including VAT)	Denturist Lab Fee	Denturist Clinical Fee	Denturist Total Fee
F/F	R1615.00	R 400.00	R2015
4 tooth P/- Acrylic	R 590.00	R 300.00	R 890
4 tooth P/- Metal	R1664.00	R 400.00	R2064
Reline	R 292.00	R 200.00	R 492
Repair (without impression)	R 175.00	N/C	R 175

The Denturist Laboratory Fee is the Dental Technicians Lab Fee minus the delivery charges that will become redundant because Denturists do the clinical as well as the Lab work themselves and will not have to deliver and pick up the case from the Dental Surgery before and after every visit of the patient. **The Denturist Clinical Fee** is calculated on the basis of the hourly labour rate that dental technicians are remunerated multiplied by the amount of hours that the clinical procedures take. The clinical procedures for a Full upper and lower set is calculated at 2 hours, a partial denture is calculated at $\pm 1\frac{1}{2}$ hours and for a reline of a denture 1 hour. No clinical fee would be charged for a repair if no impression were needed. Consumables such as impression materials were not taken into account because of the relatively low cost at the volumes consumed.

Comparison of Customary Fees and Denturist Fees (Saving)

Procedure (all including VAT)	Customary Fee (Dentist + L)	Denturist Total Fee	% Saving
F/F	R 2920 (R6650)	R2015	31% (69%)
4 tooth P/- Acrylic	R 1230 (R2415)	R 890	28% (62%)
4 tooth P/- Metal	R 2984 (R6215)	R2064	31% (67%)
Reline	R 712 (R1555)	R 492	31% (59%)
Repair (without impression)	R 325 (R515)	R 175	46% (61%)

In practical terms, this means that according to the 2006 fees, a patient pays between R3000 and R6500 for a full set of dentures, where a denturist may be able to supply a denture at \pm R2000 (minimum 31% saving). A partial metal denture would cost between R3000 and R6200 where a denturist may be able to supply directly at \pm R2100 (minimum 31% saving).