April 2013 Bulletin

Dental Home CE Training Offers Opportunity to Grow Practice

The Coalition's Virginia Dental Home Initiative (VDHI) was created to increase the number of dental providers comfortable providing dental care to young children and pregnant women - enabling all Virginia children to access a dental home by age one. Taught by a pediatric dentist, the course offers dental providers practical skills, evidence-based research and techniques to encourage caregiver compliance.

The next VDHI training will be in Richmond on Friday, May 3. Dental professionals, educators, pediatricians, OBGYNs and anyone interested in oral health for young children and pregnant women are encouraged to attend. 4.5 CERP credits for dental providers and lunch will be provided for just $40.

View the event homepage to register online or download the event brochure.

HPV-Related Oral Cancers on the Rise

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month

Despite an overall decrease in oral cancers, a new report shows a rise in HPV-related oral tumors among several population groups. Additionally, the proportion of HPV-related oral tumors has increased from 16% of all oral cancers (1984-1989) to 72% of these tumors (2000-2004). The increase is likely a result of changes in sexual practice over the past 30-40 years.

More than 10% of men and 3.6% of women have a current HPV infection, and 7,100 people develop HPV-related oral cancers each year. Though researchers haven’t tested HPV vaccines on oral
Coalition Travels!

April has been a busy month for Coalition staff. Here’s where we’ve been (and where we’re going!) this month:

- VA Chamber of Commerce Executive Healthcare Meeting (Richmond)
- Eastern Virginia Medical School Care Day 2013 (Norfolk)
- VFHY’s Weight of the State Meeting (Richmond)
- National Oral Health Conference (Huntsville, AL)

Follow our travels on Facebook and Twitter.

Of Interest

Oral Health and Overall Health

Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health is connected to overall health well-being.

- Oral Health Care and Psychology
- Dental Scaling and Reduced Atrial Fibrillation Risk
- Bottled Water Consumption and Dental Health

Cigna Study Shows Periodontal Disease Treatment Can Lower Healthcare Costs

A recent study by Cigna shows that treating periodontal disease can reduce trips to the hospital and emergency room as well as lower overall medical costs by more than $1,000 per year.

Telehealth Summit Features Teledentistry Presentation

The Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center’s 2013 Annual Summit featured a presentation on Teledentistry by Fred Summerfelt, RDH, MEd, from Northern Arizona University.

ADHA Releases Statement on Boston Tragedy

The ADHA has released a response to the April 15 bombings in Boston with an update on their upcoming Annual Session.

Please visit our website for more oral health information: www.vaoralhealth.org

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