



Excellent Oral Health for ALL Virginians

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Bluefield College Announces Founding Dean for Dental School



Bluefield College in Southwest Virginia has named **Dr. Francis G. Serio** as the inaugural dean for its School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Serio previously served as an associate dean for clinical affairs and as the interim vice dean for the East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine and has over 30 years of academic experience.

[Read the press release](#) from Bluefield College

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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.



Dr. Tegwyn Brickhouse will present at VDHI on May 3

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.

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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)

U.S. National Oral Health Alliance Colloquium: Financing Models for Oral Health (Atlanta)

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  

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[Read about the Coalition's accomplishments.](#)

Please check with your HR department to find out if your gift can be matched.

cancers, animal testing suggests that they may work to block some types of these cancers.

[Read the full article from USA Today](#)

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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.

[Read the article in Dental Compare](#)

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.



[View the presentation](#)

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.

[Read ADHA's Statement](#)

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