



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update April 2018

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Join us May 3!

Join us this Thursday, May 3, for the Spring Appalachian Oral Health Forum!



[Register Today!](#)

Today (April 30) is the last day to pre-register.

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Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

[View our online Event Calendar](#)

May 3 | Abingdon
[Spring Appalachian Oral Health Forum](#)

A State of Decay Offers Key Findings for Virginia Seniors

Oral Health America's national report [A State of Decay, Vol. IV](#) examines



key indicators that impact the oral health of older adults in all states. Virginia

narrowly earned a "Good" rating with a 70% score, putting us 11th in the nation for our efforts to improve oral health in seniors. With 1.35 million seniors living in Virginia (16% of our total population), this report illustrates Virginia's progress and identifies a need for continued action to ensure America's rapidly growing older population ages healthily and independently.

[Read more about key findings for Virginia.](#)

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Will Virginia Expand Medicaid?

The Virginia General Assembly convened this year without a budget because the House and Senate were unable to come to an agreement on Medicaid expansion (the House supports expansion, the Senate does not).

To address the budget impasse, Governor Northam called a special session on April 11 to address the budget, and the Virginia House of Delegates again approved a state budget that will expand Medicaid eligibility, and coverage for emergency dental extractions, to about 400,000 low-income Virginia adults.

May 11 | Video Conference
[NOVA Oral Health Alliance
Children Workgroup](#)

May 14 | Manassas
[Northern Virginia Oral Health
Alliance Spring Convening](#)

May 21 | Video Conference
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Grassroots Advocacy
Workgroup](#)

May 21 | Video Conference
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Pregnant Women's Workgroup](#)

May 22 | Richmond
[Greater Richmond and
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Spring Convening](#)

June 5 | Fairfax
[NOVA Oral Health Alliance Adult
Workgroup](#)

June 18 | Video Conference
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Pregnant Women's Workgroup](#)

July 13 | Fairfax
[NOVA Oral Health Alliance
Children Workgroup](#)

July 16 | Video Conference
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Pregnant Women's Workgroup](#)

August 7 | Fairfax
[NOVA Oral Health Alliance Adult
Workgroup](#)

August 20 | Video Conference
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Pregnant Women's Workgroup](#)

August 28 | Richmond
[Greater Richmond &
Petersburg Oral Health Alliance
Meeting](#)

November 8 | Richmond
2018 Virginia Oral Health
Summit
Save the Date

Now all eyes are on the Senate, which will convene to take up budget discussions on May 14. There appears to be momentum toward expansion, as two republican senators recently went on record expressing support for Medicaid expansion; however, Senate Finance Committee chair Tommy Norment remains staunchly opposed.

While we wait for the Senate to convene, take a moment to [let your senator know](#) how you feel about Medicaid expansion.

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Of Interest

Oral Health and Overall Health

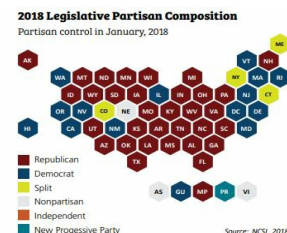
Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health and other social factors impact overall health and well-being.

- [Tooth Health May Indicate Diabetes Risk](#) (The Endocrine Society)
- [Pediatrician's Role in Early Dental Care](#) (Contemporary Pediatrics)
- [Oral Health Varies by Immigration Status](#) (JADA)

Oral Health Professionals' Guide for Working with State Legislators

The National Conference of State Legislatures released [State Legislators: Who They Are and How to Work with Them: A Guide for Oral Health Professionals](#) to help oral health professionals and directors better understand state legislatures and oral health policy-making and how to identify community partners who can amplify their message to legislators.

[Read the full report.](#)



CDHP Announces Multi-Generational Oral Health Initiative

Check out our [event calendar](#) to view meeting times and exact locations for all dates listed above.


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Please take a moment and support the Coalition's work.

[Donate](#)

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

Virginia Oral Health Coalition
4200 Innslake Drive
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
sholland@vaoralhealth.org
804.269.8720

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Children's Dental Health Project (CDHP) announces a new initiative to explore multi-generational policy solutions that address oral health within the context of the whole family. Parents' access to dental care influences the health and stability of the entire family; CDHP will explore how oral health intersects with the economic stability of families, children's educational outcomes and other areas.

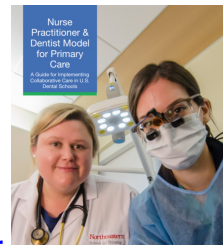


[Watch this video to learn more.](#)

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Nurse Practitioner & Dentist Model for Primary Care

Harvard School of Dental Medicine and Northeastern University School of Nursing partnered to develop [The Nurse Practitioner & Dentist Model for Primary Care: A Guide for Implementing Collaborative Care in U.S.](#)



[Dental Schools](#) - a person-centered care model to address patients' chronic conditions along with their oral health needs. The American Dental Education Association will hold a free webinar on May 1 at 12:00 p.m. ET to discuss this new resources and implementation steps.

[View the Guide](#) or [register for the informational webinar.](#)

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