



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update December 2016

In This Issue

[NOVA Oral Health Forum](#)
[Holland Named Equity and Health Fellow](#)
[Save the Date!](#)
[Legislative Updates](#)
[500 Cities Project](#)
[Of Interest](#)

Northern Virginia Oral Health Forum Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017 Tysons, Virginia

The **Northern Virginia Oral Health Forum** on January 26 will provide an opportunity for local stakeholders to examine regional oral health data, identify areas to target for improvement, and collaborate on potential solutions. This event is free and open to all who are interested. Early registration is recommended.

[REGISTER](#)

[Back to top](#)

Holland Named Equity and Health

Legislative Updates

The Virginia Oral Health Coalition is monitoring several key legislative updates that affect access to oral health care.

Governor's Budget and Medicaid Expansion

Today, Governor McAuliffe unveiled a biennial budget for 2016-2018 that does not include funds for Medicaid expansion, citing the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) under the Trump Administration and a "fiscally prudent approach."

The Governor stated, however, that if the ACA's Medicaid provision is not repealed in early 2017, the budget will allow him to revisit expansion next fall. Medicaid expansion would make over 400,000 working Virginians eligible for the health coverage, which includes a limited dental benefit.

Dental Hygienists Practicing Under Remote Supervision

Earlier this week, Delegate Orrock introduced [HB 1474](#) to amend and reenact a bill intended to allow dental hygienists to practice under the remote supervision of a licensed dentist in safety net settings. If passed, the amendment will effectively allow hygienists who work at safety net sites (FQHCs, free clinics and others) to deliver dental care under remote supervision.

To learn more, join us next **Wednesday, December 21 at 9:30 a.m.** for our [Legislative Webinar](#) or **Tuesday, January 31** for our [2017 Legislative Day](#).

Fellow

VaOHC executive director Sarah Bedard Holland is one of 18 individuals in the greater Richmond



region chosen to participate in Richmond Memorial Health Foundation's (RMHF) new Equity and Health Fellowship. The fellows are tasked with helping RMHF develop an equity and health agenda and serve as advocates for that vision. [Read the full press release](#) and [learn more about the Fellowship](#).

[Back to top](#)

Save the Date Thursday, Nov. 2 2017 Virginia Oral Health Summit

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, November 2, 2017**, for the 2017 Virginia Oral Health Summit in Richmond. The 2017 Summit will focus on innovative care models to meet Virginians' oral health care needs across the lifespan. Registration will open next summer. Contact [Samantha Dorr](#) for sponsorship options.

[Back to top](#)

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

[Donate](#)

Please check with your HR department to find out if your gift

[Back to top](#)

500 Cities Project Provides Local Data, Maps of Disease

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched its **500 Cities Project**, which provides data on 27 chronic disease measures for the 500 largest



American cities, including 11 Virginia cities. This data also includes a downloadable, printable Map Book for every city with project methodology, a data table, and maps for each measure. The goal of the project is to inform public health prevention activities, identify emerging health problems, and establish and track health objectives at the city level. The data will also be available online by Spring 2017. [View the 500 Cities website](#) and the [Map Books for Virginia cities](#).

[Back to top](#)

Of Interest

Oral Health and Overall Health

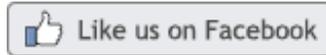
Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health is connected to overall health and well-being.

- [Dental Visits and Pneumonia Prevention](#)
- [Tooth Loss and Physical/Mental Ability in Seniors](#)
- [Diet and Gum Disease](#)

Health Affairs Features Oral Health

can be matched.

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The December 2016 issue of *Health Affairs* titled "Oral Health & More" features articles related to oral health workforce, policy, population health, and more. [View the issue \(requires subscription\)](#).

Free Download: Oral Health and Pregnancy Handouts

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center has made available several stand-alone PDF handouts, including:

- [Guidance for Oral Health Professionals](#)
- [Guidance for Prenatal Care Health Professionals](#)
- [Pharmacological Considerations for Pregnant Women](#)
- [Tips for Good Oral Health During Pregnancy](#) (with translations)

The handouts are free to download and share. [View and download the handouts.](#)

Shop and Support Oral Health

This holiday season, shop Amazon Smile and a portion of your proceeds will be donated to the Virginia Oral Health Coalition.

It's the same Amazon you know and love, with a little something in return. [Start shopping!](#)



[Back to top](#)