



# Virginia Oral Health Coalition

## June 2015 Newsletter

### In This Issue

[State Oral Health Planning Meeting](#)

[Save the Date! 2015 VA Oral Health Summit](#)

[Virginia One of Seven States to Receive Perinatal Infant Oral Health HRSA Grant](#)

[Making the Case for Oral Health Integration](#)

[Opportunities for Engagement](#)

[Supreme Court Upholds ACA Subsidies](#)

[Of Interest](#)

### State Oral Health Planning Meeting

Stakeholders are invited to discuss and refine the objectives within the Virginia Oral Health Plan in Richmond on August 12, 2015. Contact [Carrie Wampler](#) if you plan to attend or to request additional information.

[Back to top](#)

***Save the Date!***  
**Friday, Nov. 13**

**2015 Virginia Oral Health**

### Virginia One of Seven States to Receive Perinatal Infant Oral Health HRSA Grant



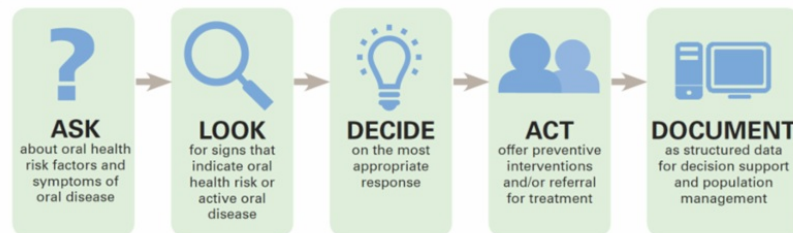
The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) was awarded one of seven HRSA grants for the Perinatal Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Expansion initiative. This four-year award, designed to fund oral health and maternal health integration efforts, will enable the VDH to work with multiple partners (including VaOHC) to:

- Build dental workforce capacity through professional trainings
- Increase integration efforts among oral health, maternal health and pediatric practices
- Enhance data collection
- Develop oral health care integration using VDH remote supervision dental hygienists and home visiting programs

The grant period begins in August. To learn more or to get involved, contact Katherine Libby at [klibby@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:klibby@vaoralhealth.org)

[Back to top](#)

### Making the Case for Oral Health Integration: White Paper and Case Study



Oral health is essential for overall health, yet nationwide there is an unacceptably high burden of oral disease. A new white paper from Qualis Health, [Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care](#), makes the case for including preventive oral health care as a component of routine medical care and enhancing partnerships between primary care and dentistry. The publication presents an *Oral Health Delivery Framework* for primary care teams of all types to engage patient and families in the prevention and early detection of oral disease, and includes strategies and case examples from health centers - big and small - about how they are integrating oral health into primary care.

**Summit  
Richmond, VA**

[Add this event to  
your calendar](#)

**Sponsorship and  
exhibit options  
available.**

Contact [Carrie  
Wampler](#) for details.

[Back to top](#)

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



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

VaOHC is partnering with community health centers and clinician groups around the state to raise awareness about oral and overall health, and to help support integration at the local level. Learn more [here](#).

[Back to top](#)

---

## Share Your Expertise!



Your expertise is crucial! The Virginia Oral Health Coalition has several ways to get involved. By seeking appropriate policy change, providing clinical expertise to inform the Coalition's programmatic efforts and/or serving as a peer educator to improve access to oral health services for young children and pregnant women, you will be a crucial part of the solution. Please share your skills.

[View information on how to be involved.](#)

[Back to top](#)

---

## Supreme Court Upholds ACA Subsidies

The Supreme Court ruled in [King v. Burwell](#) to uphold the legality of insurance subsidies in all states under the Affordable Care Act. This means that individuals who receive their health insurance through an exchange established by the federal government - as is here in Virginia - will be eligible for tax subsidies. The ruling brings much relief to approximately 286,000 Virginians who rely on subsidies to purchase health insurance through the exchange. Because a [pediatric dental benefit](#) is a mandated coverage option in the exchange, this decision will protect dental coverage for vulnerable children in Virginia.



[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.



- [Oral Cancer and Cigarettes](#)
- [Mouth Bacteria Connected to Heart Disease](#)
- [Enzyme that Links Periodontitis & Cancer](#)

---

**Shared Dental Visits Work Well with Infants and Toddlers**



According to research conducted by the Harvard School of Dental Medicine and the Cambridge Health Alliance in Massachusetts, shared dental visits in certain instances can serve dentists and their patients better than traditional one-on-one visits.

[Read more](#)

---

### Happy Father's Day!

In honor of Father's Day and Men's Health Month, here are some facts that every man should keep in mind regarding their oral health:



- [Periodontal disease](#) has a higher prevalence in men
- Men are [less likely](#) than women to report having an annual dentist visit
- Less than 50 percent of men [brush twice a day](#) and are less likely to seek preventative care until the problem is too painful

---

[Back to top](#)

---

Please visit our website for more oral health information

[www.vaoralhealth.org](http://www.vaoralhealth.org)

---

[Subscribe Me](#)