



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update May 2016

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Integration Toolkit Includes List of CE Programs

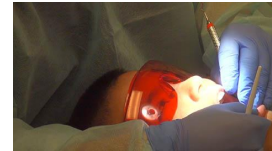


The [Oral Health Integration Toolkit](#) is an online resource for health providers interested in oral health integration. The Toolkit now features a list of online and in-person **continuing education programs** under "Clinical Practice Tools."

[View the Toolkit](#) and help [spread the word](#) about this new resource.

Evidence Shows Economic and Health Benefits of School-based Dental Sealants

The Community Preventive Services Task Force recently conducted a [systemic review](#) of school-based sealant programs, finding that, within two years, the programs reduced dental caries by up to 81% and saved costs by preventing expensive dental issues among children at high risk for caries. The findings note that school-based sealant programs can also increase caries identification and serve as an important way for low-income children and families to access clinical care and dental referrals.



Learn more about the Virginia Department of Health's [Dental Sealant Program](#).

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Oral Health Integration Brief Highlights Virginia Initiatives

The Center for Health Care Strategies brief [Oral Health Integration in Statewide Delivery System and Payment Reform](#) explores how Virginia and other states are including oral health in Medicaid benefit design and expansion, practice-level oral health reforms, and statewide delivery reform

VaOHC developed the toolkit with funding from the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, in partnership with The Daily Planet and Community Health Solutions.

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Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

VA Oral Health Report Card Workgroup

Thursday, June 2

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

To RSVP, contact [Regina Potis](#).

[Learn about our workgroups.](#)

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Save the Date!

Virginia Oral Health Summit

November 10

The Westin Richmond

Sponsorship and exhibit opportunities are available. Contact [Samantha Dorr](#) for details.

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Virginia Oral Health Coalition
4200 Innslake Drive

models. Of note, the brief highlights Virginia's comprehensive Medicaid dental benefit for pregnant women, State Innovation Model oral health initiatives, and the [Oral Health Integration Toolkit](#). The brief also spotlights efforts underway in other states which are increasing access to oral health services and promoting integration.

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Dental Care Included as Top Health Issue Candidates Aren't Talking About

Kaiser Health News [lists](#) dental care as one of the top five issues presidential candidates aren't talking about - but should be. Citing well-known associations between poor oral health and conditions like heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease, as well as significant health and social consequences for children and adults with dental problems.

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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 and well-being.


- [Dental Care for Seniors](#)
 - [Sugary Drinks and Oral Health](#)
 - [Dental Health and Communities of Color](#)
-

Oral Health Resources for State Legislators

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) provides legislators with the tools, information and resources, including policy briefs, to "craft the best solutions to difficult problems." Recognizing the importance of oral health to overall health, NCSL recently sent the following oral health-related resources to over 2,000 state legislators:

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- [Improving Lifetime Oral Health: Policy Options and Innovations Brief](#)
- [Oral Health Utilization for Children and Adults Postcard](#)
- [Oral Health Coverage for Low-Income Adults Postcard](#)

Free CE Course: Dental Care for CSHCN and Very Young Children: A Case-Based Approach



The Virginia Department of Health is hosting a free two-day CE course for Virginia dentists who wish to improve their skills in caring for children with special health care needs (CSHCN) and very young children. The courses will be held June 24-25 in Kilmarnock and July 15-16 in Lynchburg; pre-registration is required.

[Download](#) the flyer and registration form.

Summary Report: Improving Oral Health Measurement Systems

Children's Dental Health Project and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors conducted a project, with DentaQuest Foundation support, to ask agencies and organizations who use oral health data what additions or changes in data gathering would be most useful to improve oral health. Their comprehensive findings, along with priority statements and next steps, are included in the summary report [Improving Oral Health Measurement Systems](#).

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