



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update May 2017

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Upcoming VaOHC Meetings & Free Trainings

View our new online [Event Calendar](#)

June 12 | Oakton
Northern Virginia
Subcommittee on Children
[RSVP](#)

June 13 | Glen Allen
Early Dental Home Workgroup
[RSVP](#)

July 11 | Glen Allen
School Age Oral Health
Workgroup
[RSVP](#)

July 12 | Oakton
Northern Virginia Oral Health
Steering Committee
[RSVP](#)

July 13 | Martinsville
Oral Health in Pregnancy and
Early Childhood
[REGISTER](#)

We Need Your Feedback!

The Virginia Oral Health Coalition (VaOHC) strives to ensure oral health is a key component of comprehensive healthcare. **We need your feedback** on how we can best leverage resources, support your great work, and create a healthier Virginia.



[Click here to send VaOHC
feedback](#)

Please [complete the survey](#) by Friday, June 16. If you have questions, please contact [Sarah Bedard Holland](#) at 804.269.8721. Thank you to the Virginia Department of Health for designing the survey.

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Richmond and Petersburg Area Partners Kick Off Regional Activities

Over 70 individuals from the greater Richmond and Petersburg area gathered on May 22 to create a plan to improve the oral health of regional residents.



As next step, a [Richmond-Petersburg workgroup](#)

July 20 | Abingdon

Oral Health in Pregnancy and Early Childhood

[REGISTER](#)

July 27 | Weyers Cave

Community Conversation: Oral Health Care for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs

[REGISTER](#)

July 28-29 | Weyers Cave

Practical Guide to Treating Dental Patients with Special Health Care Needs

[REGISTER](#)

October 12 | Oakton

Northern Virginia Oral Health Steering Committee

[RSVP](#)

November 2 | Richmond

2017 Virginia Oral Health Summit

Save the date

January 11, 2018 | Oakton

Northern Virginia Oral Health Steering Committee

[RSVP](#)

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Upcoming Community Events

June 14 | Glen Allen

Federal Policy Implications for State Medicaid Programs, hosted by VCHI

[REGISTER](#)

June 24-25 | Emporia

RAM of Virginia Medical Clinic
Volunteers needed

[View flyer for more info](#)

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



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

is forming to lead regional efforts, with VaOHC providing backbone support. The workgroup will develop and implement community-based strategies to improve health and access to care.

If you're interested in joining the steering committee or learning more about it, contact [Lauren Gray](#) at 804.299.5506.

To participate in any regional convening or steering committee, complete our [Partnership Form](#) or email [Lauren Gray](#). [Learn more about our regional efforts.](#)

Thanks to Richmond Memorial Health Foundation for supporting the workgroup's ongoing efforts.

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Of Interest

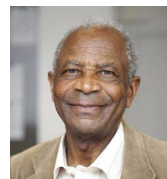
Oral Health and Overall Health

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

- [Perio Treatment Aids Heart Health in People with Diabetes](#) (Dr. Bicuspid)
- [Improving Quality of Life for Nursing Home Residents](#) (Dr. Bicuspid)
- [Seniors Seeks Affordable Dental Care Options](#) (Chicago Tribune)

New Resource: Help Your Community Smile: Start or Enhance an Oral Health Program for Older Adults


One in five older adults in the U.S. has lost all of his/her teeth, affecting wellness, nutrition and quality of life. A [new website](#) from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' Administration offers a searchable database of nearly 200 vetted community oral health programs with "how-to" guides that can be adapted or replicated in your locality. [Visit the site](#) or [view a snapshot](#).



New White Paper Offers Insight into Interprofessional Oral Health Networks in Rural Communities

matched.

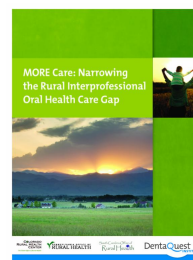
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In rural communities across the U.S., significant disparities exist when it comes to oral health. More adults live with untreated tooth decay and children are less likely to have seen a dentist in the past year, compared to those living in non-rural areas.



Interprofessional collaboration and better coordination between primary care and oral health providers can help address these gaps. This white paper from DentaQuest Institute's MORE Care initiative provides key information on developing these interprofessional oral health networks (IPOHNs). [Download and share.](#)

Oral Health Gains National Attention as Americans Struggle to Find Care

Recent articles from the [Washington Post](#) and the [New York Times](#) highlight the relationship between oral health and poverty, rising healthcare costs, and well-being. Even though oral diseases are largely preventable, many Americans lack access to affordable dental coverage and care.

The American Health Care Act and Dentistry

Dr. Bicuspid's piece [6 ways the AHCA may affect your dental practice](#) outlines the how the American Health Care Act (AHCA) impacts dentistry through Medicaid cuts, changes to essential health benefits mandates, and protections for older Americans and those with pre-existing conditions. [This article](#) from the Center for Health Care Strategies lays out 6 ways state oral health programs can address AHCA changes and further strengthen cross-sector collaboration to continue meeting the needs of vulnerable populations.

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