



Virginia Oral Health Coalition

September 2015

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Register Today!

2015 Virginia Oral Health Summit

***Achievable Wellness:
Engaging Communities
and Clinicians for
Better Health***

Nov. 13 | Richmond

Register Now

**Register by October 9
and save \$30!**

CE credit will be provided for dental and medical professionals and social workers. Contact [Carrie](#)

**Bright Futures Includes
Pediatric Fluoride Varnish
Recommendation**

Bright Futures is a national health promotion and prevention initiative, led by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and supported by HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau, that offers physicians evidence-driven guidance for all preventive care screenings and well-child visits.

The latest release of the Bright Futures/AAP [periodicity schedule](#) for recommended preventive pediatric health care includes a new recommendation for fluoride varnish from 6 months through 5 years. The Bright Futures National Center has also redesigned its [website](#) to include resources that support implementation of Bright Futures into clinical practice, state and community health programs.

Pediatricians and other medical providers in Virginia can help [reduce early childhood caries](#) and improve the oral and overall health of their patients by providing reimbursable oral health prevention services including education, fluoride varnish and referrals to a dental provider into patient care.

Contact [Katherine Libby](#) for more information about incorporating oral health into medical primary care, or to set up a training for your practice.

[Wampler](#) for details and sponsorship opportunities.

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Smiles for Life Updates

Smiles for Life now provides **dental CERP credits** as an ADA accredited provider, for all 8 Smiles for Life [courses](#) and [online modules](#).

Additionally, Smiles for Life now has an **Android/iOS App** designed to assist primary care providers with real-time diagnosis of oral conditions. [Read more about the app](#)

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Navigator Grants Awarded

Three Virginia organizations were [awarded grants](#) from The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to support outreach to consumers who seek to establish insurance eligibility, enroll in Marketplace coverage or understand the insurance affordability programs. The grants will fund navigators across the Commonwealth who will provide targeted assistance to vulnerable and underserved populations.

To view descriptions of the grantees and their work, [click here](#) (pages 43-44). For more information about dental coverage options available in Virginia's Marketplace, view our [Dental Coverage Fact Sheet for Exchange Enrollment](#). Open enrollment for the 2016 plan year begins November 1, 2015.

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Landmark Report on Health Disparities

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Health Braintrust released the 2015 Kelly Report on Health Disparities in America, which examines the cases and impact of health disparities among minorities.

Compiled by Health Braintrust Chair and U.S. Rep. Robin Kelly, the report includes a comprehensive set of legislative and policy recommendations to reduce health

disparities and improve health outcomes nationwide. In the report's chapter on oral health, American Dental Association President Maxine Feinberg, highlights several important facts:



- Untreated dental disease disproportionately afflicts racial and ethnic minorities. Forty-two percent of African American adults and 36 percent of Hispanic adults have untreated dental disease, as compared to the 22 percent of Caucasians.
- Untreated tooth decay in primary teeth among children ages two to eight is twice as high for Hispanic and African American children, compared with Caucasian children.
- While treating existing disease is critical, providing culturally competent oral health education and helping patients navigate an often daunting and confusing public health system are critical to helping families in underserved communities.

[Read the full report online.](#)

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CDC National Health Interview Survey

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released early estimates from the January-March 2015 [National Health Interview Survey](#). The report includes trend data for 15 key health indicators since 1997. Positive findings include:

- The prevalence of cigarette smoking

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among US adults is 15.2 percent, the lowest ever reported since 1965.

- The prevalence of persons of all ages in the US without medical health insurance was 9.2 percent, the lowest ever.
- The annual percentage of adults aged 18 and over met the 2008 federal physical activity guidelines for aerobic activity increased from 41.4 percent in 2006 to 49.5 percent in 2012.

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Toolkit: Oral Health in the School-Setting

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) has created a toolkit of resources to assist in integrating oral health into the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model. The toolkit is useful for oral health programs, school nurses and other health professionals, teachers and school administrators, community health workers, parents and others who are interested in promoting oral health in the school-setting. The kit follows a model to address the whole child with a goal to improve learning and health among school-aged children.

- [WSCC Oral Health Fact Sheet](#)
- [WSCC Introductory PowerPoint](#)
- [WSCC PowerPoint Notes](#)
- [Capacity Building Tool: Recommendations for Integrating Oral Health into the WSCC Model](#)
- [ASTDD Basic Screening Survey Tool](#)
- [WSCC Overview](#) (CDC)
- [WSCC Fact Sheet](#) (CDC)

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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.

- [Oral Health and Childhood Poverty](#)
- [Oral Health and Dental Anxiety](#)

- [Oral Health and Emergency Department Visits](#)

School is Back in Session!

"Freshen up" on oral health tips and discover how a healthy mouth can boost a student's academic career.



- [Healthy Kids Make Better Students](#)
- [8 Secrets to a Successful Back to School Dental Checkup](#)
- [Oral Health Can Lead to Classroom Success](#)
- [Try These Healthy Back to School Foods to Combat Tooth Decay](#)

Global Economic of Dental Disease

The International and American Associations for Dental Research published an article titled "Global Economic Impact of Dental Disease." The authors estimate the direct costs of dental disease worldwide at \$298 billion yearly - an average of 4.6% of global health expenditure; annual indirect costs were estimated at \$144 billion.

[Read the full article online.](#)

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