



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update September 2016

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Register for the Virginia Oral Health Summit!

Oral Health is Health Breaking through Barriers & Influencing Change

[Register Now](#)

Thursday, November 10
The Westin Richmond

The Virginia Oral Health Summit will profile the Virginia Oral Health Report Card and explore measures, trends, research and activities in Virginia to gauge population health and identify opportunities for improvement.

What is the Virginia Oral Health Report Card?



The Virginia Oral Health Report Card will grade Virginia's progress toward improving oral health status, coverage, preventive service delivery and provider collaboration. To measure progress, the Report Card will use a set of carefully selected indicators that reflect oral health across the life span and recognize existing disparities.

The Report Card will include a comprehensive companion narrative, potential action items for myriad professional and community groups, and a framework to view our successes and opportunities as we all work together to ensure oral health is part of comprehensive health care in the commonwealth.

A diverse and dedicated group of stakeholders from throughout the state have worked collaboratively since May (and continue to work!) to select appropriate indicators, develop the Report Card framework, and ensure it can serve as a tool for positive change.

Plan to attend the Virginia Oral Health Summit on November 10 to see the Report Card first hand and gather supplementary tools to analyze its measures, craft messaging and lead change in your local community. [Register here](#) to reserve your space.

And, stay tuned for more information about

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Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

VA Oral Health Report Card Workgroup

Wednesday, October 12
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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Early Dental Home Workgroup, Project Advisory Board

Friday, October 21
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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

[Learn about our workgroups.](#)

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Free Health Equity Event in North Carolina

The Campaign for Dental Health is hosting a free health equity event in Cary, North Carolina, "Investing in Oral Health Prevention in the Hispanic Community," on Thursday, October 13. [Register here](#) and use the promo code "NC2016."



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Save the Date: November 18 Free CE Event in Southwest Virginia

regional Report Card efforts.

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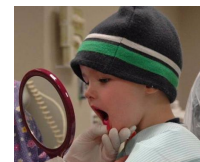
Making Dental Care Part of Accountable Care Organizations

An Accountable Care Organization (ACO) is a multi-disciplinary group of health care providers who voluntarily work together to coordinate high-quality care. A recent *Health Affairs* [blog post](#) notes that ACOs are an excellent opportunity to clinically integrate medical and dental care to improve patient outcomes, reduce emergency department spending and other avoidable care costs, and increase access to care. While the blog does note challenges, it concludes that integrating medical and dental care through an ACO can underscore the critical role oral health providers play in the health care system.

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Brief: Fulfilling the Promise of Children's Dental Health Coverage

The Affordable Care Act mandates the inclusion of pediatric dental coverage in the marketplace; yet, complications with implementing the coverage have created affordability and comprehensiveness issues. Georgetown University Health Policy Institute and the Children's Dental Health Project have co-authored an issue brief outlining 12 policy options that federal and state lawmakers should consider to strengthen pediatric dental coverage in the marketplace. [Read the full brief.](#)



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Of Interest



The Virginia Department of Health and the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services have

partnered with VaOHC to offer a free CE program in **Wytheville, Virginia on Friday, November 18**, for dental providers who wish to improve their skills in treating **adults with special health care needs**. [Contact Regina Potis](#) if you'd like to receive registration information about this event.

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Aging in Appalachia Conference

East Tennessee State University and the Southwest Virginia Area Health Education Center will co-present the Aging in Appalachia Conference on **Thursday, November 3 in Marion, Virginia**. This interprofessional conference will offer innovative solutions to the challenges faced (including dental issues) while working with aging adults in Appalachia. [Click here to register](#).

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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 matched.

Virginia Oral Health Coalition
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Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

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.

- [Insulin Resistance and Periodontal Disease](#)
- [Neighborhoods Influence Health](#)
- [Definition of Oral Health Expanded](#)

Publications from our Partners!

Check out these recent publications from our partners! (Full versions may require purchase or subscription.)

- [Effects of a comprehensive oral health curriculum on knowledge, behavior, and attitude of physician assistant students](#), by Sara Nicely, DHEd, PA-C, *The Journal of Physician Assistant Education*
- [Impacting Vulnerable Populations Through Integrating Oral Health Care Into Nurse-Managed Health Centers](#), by Loretta Vece, DNP, FNP-BC, et al, *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*

2016 Profile of Virginia's Uninsured

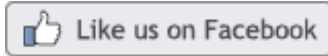
The Virginia Health Care Foundation has released its *2016 Profile of Virginia's Uninsured*,



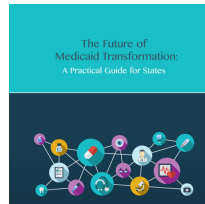
which shows that uninsured Virginians have poorer health and more unmet medical and dental care needs than insured peers. [View the full report](#).

Dental Sealants Shown to Improve Health, Reduce Costs

The New York Times [recently reported](#) that dental sealants have been shown to improve health and reduce costs by preventing cavities and their associated treatment costs. This is especially effective for children in low-income families who are at a higher risk for cavities. Learn about the Virginia Department of Health's [school-based dental sealant program](#) as well as [evidence-based clinical practice guideline for](#)



The Future of Medicaid Transformation: A Practical Guide for States



The National Governors Association Center has put together a Medicaid transformation toolkit as a "guide for states seeking to design and implement statewide transformation of their Medicaid programs." The toolkit includes a step-by-step guide states can use to design transformation proposals. [View the toolkit.](#)

Oral Health Updates on the Web

The **Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors** has updated its [communications webpage](#) to include a committee logic model and work plan. Additionally, **CDC's oral health website** has been redesigned to be more user-friendly. This month, they're featuring infection control resources in recognition of Dental Infection Control Awareness month.

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