Priorities of the Office of the Surgeon General

2019 Virginia Oral Health Summit

November 7, 2019
“the Commissioned Corps… a mobile, duty-bound group of health officers willing to go anywhere, at any time, to meet the nation’s most urgent public health needs.”

Craig Collins
The PHS Commissioned Corps
Two Centuries and Counting
I, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, VADM Jerome Adams, am emphasizing the importance of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone. For patients currently taking high doses of opioids as prescribed for pain, individuals misusing prescription opioids, individuals using illicit opioids such as heroin or fentanyl, health care practitioners, family and friends of people who have an opioid use disorder, and community members who come into contact with people at risk for opioid overdose, **knowing how to use naloxone and keeping it within reach can save a life.**

BE PREPARED. GET NALOXONE. SAVE A LIFE.
SURGEON GENERAL’S DIGITAL POSTCARD ON OPIOID MISUSE

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT OPIOID MISUSE?

TALK ABOUT IT.
Opioids can be addictive and dangerous. We all should have a conversation about preventing drug misuse and overdose.

BE SAFE.
Only take opioid medications as prescribed. Always store in a secure place. Dispose of unused medication properly.

UNDERSTAND PAIN.
Treatments other than opioids are effective in managing pain and may have less risk for harm. Talk with your healthcare provider about an individualized plan that is right for your pain.

KNOW ADDICTION.
Addiction is a chronic disease that changes the brain and alters decision-making. With the right treatment and supports, people do recover. There is hope.

BE PREPARED.
Many opioid overdose deaths occur at home. Having naloxone, an opioid overdose reversing drug, could mean saving a life. Know where to get it and how to use it.

For help, resources, and information:
https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/
1-800-662-HELP (4357)
Community Health and Economic Prosperity

An Initiative of the Office of the Surgeon General

Engaging businesses
To be community changemakers and forces for health in their communities

Implementing solutions
To help improve and sustain the health of communities, such as comprehensive smoke-free policies and affordable housing

Strengthening communities
To be places of opportunity for health and prosperity for all
UNFIT TO SERVE
OBESITY
IS IMPACTING NATIONAL SECURITY

THE PROBLEM
- Approximately 1 in 5 children and 2 in 5 adults in the U.S. struggle with obesity.
- Only half of adults and about one quarter of youth get recommended amounts of aerobic physical activity.
- About 1 in 4 young adults is too heavy to serve in our military.

INELIGIBLE TO SERVE
- 71% of young people in the U.S. would not be able to join the military if they wanted to.
- 3 most common reasons young people are ineligible:
  - Overweight or obesity
  - Educational deficits
  - Criminal or drug abuse record
Cost: A Major Obstacle to Health Care

Percent of people who did not get selected health care services they needed in the past 12 months because of cost

Access to Professional Dental Care Affects OH

• 5,862 Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) affect 58 million*

First Surgeon General’s Report on Oral Health

Major Message of 2000: Oral Health is more than healthy teeth and is integral to the general health and well-being of all Americans.

- Safe and effective measures exist to improve oral health and prevent disease.
- Health risk factors, such as tobacco use and poor dietary practices, affect oral and craniofacial health.
The 2003 Call to Action Urged That We:

- Change perceptions of oral health
- Replicate effective programs
- Build the science base and accelerate science transfer
- Increase oral health workforce diversity, capacity, and flexibility
- Increase collaborations
The Charge from the Surgeon General

The report will describe and evaluate oral health and the interaction between oral health and general health throughout the lifespan, considering advances in science, health care integration, and social influences to articulate promising new directions for improving oral health and oral health equity across communities.
Big Questions to Answer

- Where we are now,
- Where we have made advances since 2000,
- What challenges persist since the last report,
- What new threats are emerging, and
- What are some promising new directions for research and improvement in oral health?
Structure of the Report: Six Sections

1. Effect of Oral Health on the Community, Overall Well-Being and the Economy
2. Oral Health in Children and Adolescents
3. Oral Health in Working-Age and Older Adults
4. Oral Health Integration, Workforce, and Practice
5. Substance Use Disorders, the Opioid Epidemic, High-Risk Behaviors, and Mental Health
6. Emerging Technologies and Promising Science to Transform Oral Health
State and Local Assistance with the SGROH

- Inform communities about the upcoming Report
- Integrate information about the Report into your work
- Disseminate the recommendations
- Implement the recommendations
- Contribute to collecting information about the impact of the Report
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

For Media Requests:
Phone: 202-205-0143
E-mail: ashmedia@hhs.gov

Event Invitations Requests:
E-mail: sginvitations@hhs.gov
Link to Invitations Form:
https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/about/contact-us/surgeon-general-invitation-form/index.html

@Surgeon_General
@USSurgeongeneral
@u.s.surgeongeneral

www.surgeongeneral.gov