



COVID-19 Resources

Each Friday Virginia Health Catalyst shares the latest oral health-related COVID-19 resources. For additional information visit the Catalyst [COVID-19 resource page](#).

Governor Northam Extends Executive Orders for Health Providers

This week the Governor extended Executive Orders 57 and 58 to ensure Virginians can access the care they need during the COVID-19 pandemic. These changes to Medicaid include:

- All co-payments for services covered by Medicaid and Family Access to Medical Insurance Security (FAMIS), including COVID-19-related treatment as well as other medical care have been eliminated.
- Medicaid members can continue to obtain a 90-day supply of many routine prescriptions, an increase from the 30-day supply under previous rules.
- Pre-approval requirements for many critical medical services have been waived, and there are automatic extensions for approvals that are already in place.

The extension means these changes will stay in effect until the declared state of emergency is over. There is currently no end date for the state of emergency. Visit the [DMAS website](#) for patient and provider resources related to the changes in Medicaid.

Clinical Resources

[- ADA HPI Webinar and Survey Highlights Positive Economic Signs for Dentistry](#) (ADA HPI)

The latest data from ADA HPI on the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the dental industry shows signs of improvement. In a webinar this week panelists discussed national takeaways from the survey data including:

- Only 1% of private practice dental providers do not intend to re-open. The deep economic impact from temporarily closing offices in April does not appear to be having a long-term impact on practice solvency, however, issues related to PPE cost and availability, and infection control protocols will likely impact dental care delivery for some time.
- The majority of enrolled Medicaid providers intend to remain Medicaid providers, only 7% intend to drop out.

[- Successful Communication Tips for People with Disabilities, COVID-19 Testing Sites](#) (VDH)

The VDH has released a new document for providers and health care workers at COVID-19 testing sites. It includes tips and guidelines for communicating with people with disabilities effectively.

News to Know

- [Virginia Revenue Shortfalls Remain, but Smaller than Expected](#) (Richmond Times-Dispatch)

According to Virginia's Secretary of Finance Aubrey Lane, the projected revenue shortfalls because of the COVID-19 pandemic will be less than originally projected, but are still large (\$800 million as opposed to the projected \$1 billion). This projection, along with a decrease in state revenues for the year will be an important factor in the budget decisions the General Assembly will make when it reconvenes later this summer. Legislators will reconvene in August to discuss the budget and determine whether to fund important health initiatives like a comprehensive dental benefit for all adults enrolled in Medicaid.

- [Program Shows Opportunities for Integration Through Teledentistry](#) (The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

To continue patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's dental clinic began offering patient appointments through teledentistry. The school has made integrating oral health care with social support services a priority and has found ways to treat both the oral health and overall health needs of patients virtually. As more clinics in Virginia offer virtual visits, these same techniques can be applied.

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