



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update November 2018

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**Share Your
Opinion About Our
Newsletter!**

Take the Survey

We're updating our monthly newsletter and want to hear from you! Take our short four question survey to provide your feedback as we work to make a newsletter that works best for you.

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Congress Passes Action for Dental Health Act

This week Congress passed the [Action for Dental Health Act](#). If signed by the President, this legislation will enable more organizations to qualify for HHS grants to improve oral health education and support outreach efforts. While this is a small step to improving access to affordable, comprehensive health care, it marks the first time in a long while that Congress has addressed oral health at all; this could serve as a starting point for Congress to take up policy solutions that address oral health coverage, care, and access in a meaningful way.

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Submit Comments Opposing Changes to Public Charge By December 10

Join us in opposing the proposed changes to the public charge designation. The changes would broaden the list of health-related programs considered when determining if someone is likely to become a public charge and could force nearly **600,000 people** in Virginia to choose between their health and their immigration status. [Learn more](#) about the potential impact on the health of Virginia families and submit your comments [here](#). Thank you for your support on this important issue!

On the Blog:

- [CCC+ and Medallion FAQ Blog](#): Learn more about our

FAQS on enhanced dental benefits in CCC+ and Medallion.

- [NNOHA Annual Conference Recap](#): Coalition program

manager Quan Williams shares her experience at the NNOHA Annual Conference.

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Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

View our online
[Event Calendar](#)

December 11 | Richmond
[Early Dental Home/Project Advisory Board](#)

December 11 | Richmond
[RVA/Petersburg School Age Workgroup](#)

January 11-12 | Danville
[Special Needs Dentistry - You Can Do It!](#)

January 25-26 | Richmond
[Special Needs Dentistry - You Can Do It!](#)

February 22-23 | Springfield
[Special Needs Dentistry - You Can Do It!](#)

March 15-16 | Onley
[Special Needs Dentistry - You Can Do It!](#)

May 10-11 | Radford
[Special Needs Dentistry - You Can Do It!](#)

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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 and other social factors impact overall health and well-being.

- [Seniors Cannot Age in Place Without Access to Oral Health Services](#) (Shelterforce)
- [Gum Disease Treatment Linked to Improved Blood Glucose in Type 2 Diabetes, Study Finds](#) (Diabetes.co)
- [Preventive Dental Care Associated with Fewer ED, Hospital Visits](#) (Health IT Analytics)

Register for Tooth Talk Roundtable

Join the Virginia Health Care Foundation on December 5 for the



December Tooth Talk Roundtable. The event will feature updates on Medicaid expansion, its impact on the dental safety net in Virginia, and a panel on "innovators in integration." Register to attend the free roundtable [here](#).

New Resource Available for Dentists on Opioid Prescribing, Pregnancy

Prescribing Opioids for Women of Reproductive Age: Information for Dentists

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health

Resource Center recently released a new resource: "[Prescribing Opioids for Women of Reproductive Age: Information for Dentists](#)." The guide provides an overview of different pain management options for pregnant women, or women of reproductive age, and guidelines for prescribing opioids.

November 7 | Richmond
[2019 Oral Health Summit](#)

Save the Date!

Check out our [event calendar](#) to view meeting times and exact locations for all dates listed above.

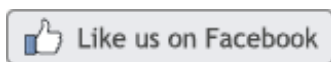
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Please take a moment and support the Coalition's work.



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

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FluidLaw.Org Launches New, Up-To-Date Website

To answer policy and legal questions on community water



fluoridation across the country, the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors Network for Public Health - Eastern Region and the Public Health Law Clinic at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law relaunched [FluidLaw.org](#). The site contains updates to fluoridation laws across the United States and serves as a resource for state and local advocates.

Oral Health America Celebrates National Family Caregiver's Month with Older Adult Resources

Older Adults & Their Caregivers



Caregivers provide crucial support for others in need. Here are some great tips to help you out.

[Tip Sheet](#) (PDF 683 kB)

Facts About Caregiving



Learn more about how oral health affects older adults' overall health.

[Fact Sheet](#) (PDF 325 kB)

This November is National Family Caregiver's Month. To recognize caregivers' hard work, Oral Health

America launched new caregiver resources highlighting the role oral health plays in overall health for older adults. [The resources](#) include tip sheets on brushing and oral hygiene for older adults, along with opportunities to recognize and thank caregivers.

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