

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Report details 20 years of advances and challenges of Americans' oral health



Despite important advances in the understanding and treatment of oral diseases and conditions, many people in the U.S. still have chronic oral health problems and lack of access to care, according to a report by the National Institutes of Health. *Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges*, is a follow-up to the seminal 2000 *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General*. The new report, which is intended to provide a road map on how to improve the nation's oral health, draws primarily on information from public research and evidence-based practices and was compiled and reviewed by NIH's National

Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) and a large, diverse, multi-disciplinary team of more than 400 experts.

The report updates the findings of the 2000 publication and highlights the national importance of oral health and its relationship to overall health. It also focuses on new scientific and technological knowledge – as well as innovations in health care delivery – that offer promising new directions for improving oral health care and

creating greater equity in oral health across communities. Achieving that equity is an ongoing challenge for many who struggle to obtain dental insurance and access to affordable care.

“This is a very significant report,” said NIH Acting Director Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D. “It is the most comprehensive assessment of oral health currently available in the United States and it shows, unequivocally, that oral health plays a central role in overall health. Yet millions of Americans still do not have access to routine and preventative oral care.”

The newly issued report provides a comprehensive snapshot of oral health in America, including an examination of oral health across the lifespan and a look at the impact the issue has on communities and the economy. Major take-aways from the report include:

- Healthy behaviors can improve and maintain an individual’s oral health, but these behaviors are also shaped by social and economic conditions.
- Oral and medical conditions often share common risk factors, and just as medical conditions and their treatments can influence oral health, so can oral conditions and their treatments affect other health issues.
- Substance misuse and mental health conditions negatively affect the oral health of many.
- Group disparities around oral health, identified 20 years ago, have not been adequately addressed, and greater efforts are needed to tackle both the social and commercial determinants that create these inequities and the systemic biases that perpetuate them.

“This is an in-depth review of the scientific knowledge surrounding oral health that has accumulated over the last two decades,” said Rena D’Souza D.D.S., Ph.D., director of NIDCR, which oversaw and funded the project’s three-year research program. “It provides an important window into how many societal factors intersect to create advantages and disadvantages with respect to oral health, and, critically, overall health.”

The COVID-19 pandemic emerged while the report was being written. The science around SARS-CoV-2 continues to come into focus in real-time, and, although data were only starting to surface about the oral implications of the disease, the authors

included a preliminary analysis of it to assess initial impacts.

The authors make several recommendations to improve oral health in America, which include the need for health care professionals to work together to provide integrated oral, medical, and behavioral health care in schools, community health centers, nursing homes, and medical care settings, as well as dental clinics. They also identify the need to improve access to care by developing a more diverse oral health care workforce, addressing the rising cost of dental education, expanding insurance coverage, and improving the overall affordability of care.

“Although there are challenges ahead, the report gives us a starting point and some clear goals that offer reasons to be hopeful, despite those challenges,” added D’Souza. “It imagines a future, as I do, in which systemic inequities that affect oral health and access to care are more fully addressed, and one in which dental and medical professionals work together to provide integrated care for all.”

Scientists and public health professionals will use the report to identify areas of scientific inquiry and research as well as develop and implement programs that ultimately will improve the oral health of individuals, communities, and the nation.

To view or download the report, please visit the NIDCR website at www.nidcr.nih.gov/oralhealthinamerica.

Questions about the report? Email OralHealthReport@nih.gov or call NIDCR at 1-866-232-4528.

-- NIH NIDCR

The USPHS Chief Dental Officer Newsletter

Good morning Colleagues,

As we close out another year amidst the pandemic that has changed our lives, I thank you all for your resiliency and commitment to oral health. My wish for you is to



have a joyful and safe holiday season, mindful of precautions we all must continue to take to protect ourselves and our friends and family. Let us not forget the many lives lost, and families altered, due to the pandemic and other disasters such as recent tornadoes. 2022 will bring us all a renewed sense of hope and purpose as we all work together to improve the oral health of all Americans.

[Linked here is the 60th issue of The USPHS Chief Dental Officer Newsletter.](#) Feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. This issue introduces the newly released (today) Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges, focuses on oral health and those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and has multiple pages devoted to the latest news of the pandemic. Please continue to go to the CDC and FDA pages for the latest information on the pandemic.

Thanks for your continued support, and as always, please let me know if you have any comments or suggestions about the newsletter.

In sincerest appreciation,
RADM Tim Ricks

Timothy L. Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD, FACD
Rear Admiral (RADM), Assistant Surgeon General
Chief Dental Officer, U.S. Public Health Service

Check Out the New Consumer-Friendly Handouts Based on the Dietary Guidelines!

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has added 5 new consumer-friendly handouts based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2020-2025 to our [Toolkit for Professionals](#). The new handouts take a life



stage approach and reflect the science-based nutrition guidance in the current edition of the Dietary Guidelines.

[Read the full post here!](#)

-- US Department of HHS, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

January Webinar

Behavioral Healthcare and Geriatric Dentistry

[Registration is Open](#)

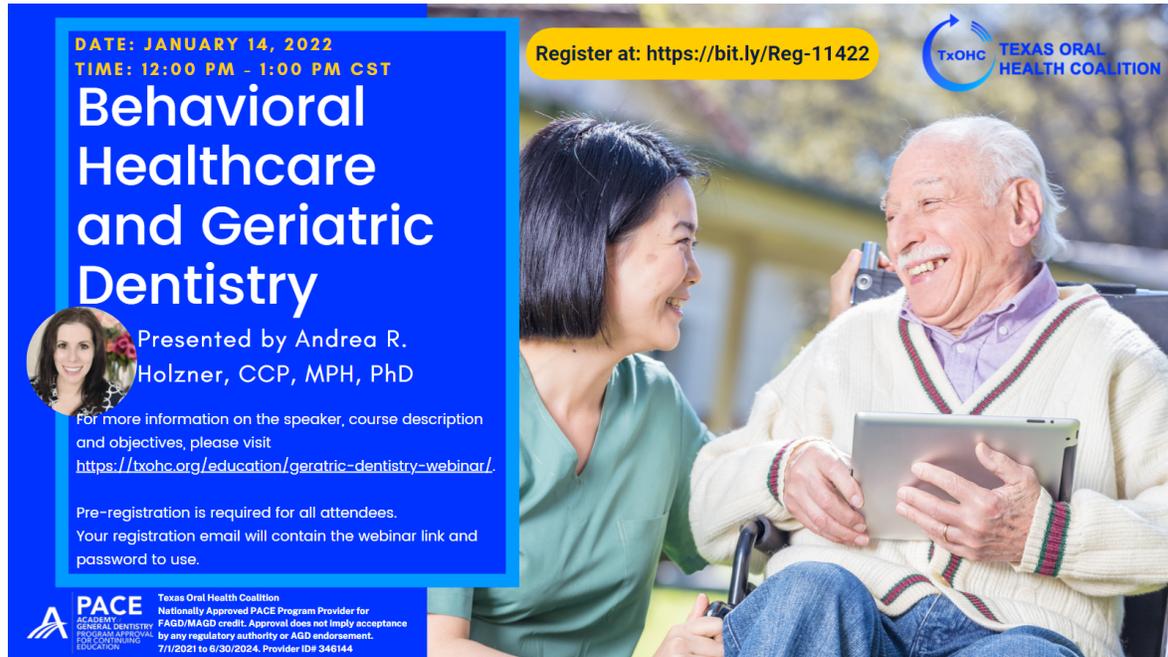
We are pleased to host “Behavioral Healthcare and Geriatric Dentistry” with Dr. Andrea R. Holzner, CCP, MPH, PhD Friday, January 14, 2022, at 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST for 1.0 hour of continuing dental education credit.

This course outlines common oral health conditions within the geriatric population focusing on practicum, behavioral health, and changes and needed with cognitive decline. A brief overview of recognizing elder abuse or neglect, recognizing cognitive challenges, enhancing communication, and re-evaluating treatment planning with patients and caregivers.

Registration is complimentary but required at <https://bit.ly/Reg-11422> to receive your webinar link and passcode.

To learn more about our featured speaker, course description, and learning

objectives, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/geriatric-dentistry-webinar/>.



DATE: JANUARY 14, 2022
TIME: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CST

Behavioral Healthcare and Geriatric Dentistry

Presented by Andrea R. Holzner, CCP, MPH, PhD

For more information on the speaker, course description and objectives, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/geriatric-dentistry-webinar/>.

Pre-registration is required for all attendees. Your registration email will contain the webinar link and password to use.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/Reg-11422>

TXOHC TEXAS ORAL HEALTH COALITION

PACE Texas Oral Health Coalition
ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY
Nationally Approved PACE Program Provider for FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority or AOD endorsement.
7/1/2021 to 6/30/2024. Provider ID# 346144

Employment Opportunities in Texas

Special Needs Facility Needs Dentist in Abilene, TX

Exciting, non-private practice opportunity. Steady pay, great benefits and great work-life balance. No billing, no insurance, no quotas. Just provide the very best, comprehensive dental care to a very special patient population.

Please refer to the [job handout](#) for additional employment details.



Visit [AbSSLC.org](https://jobshportal.hhsc.state.tx.us/ENG/careerportal/Job_Profile.cfm?szOrderID=489814&szReturnToSearch=1&szWordsToHighlight=dentist) or call 325-795- 3298 and ask for Dr. Bullock, or apply today at: https://jobshportal.hhsc.state.tx.us/ENG/careerportal/Job_Profile.cfm?szOrderID=489814&szReturnToSearch=1&szWordsToHighlight=dentist.

School-based Setting Needs Dentist in Houston, TX

The CATCH Healthy Smiles program is a coordinated school health approach to reduce the risk of dental caries among elementary school children in Texas.

We are currently seeking Dentists who have an interest in working with this program to conduct oral examinations on children in kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 2nd Grade in a school-based setting.

Position requirements:

- Licensed Texas Dentist
- Availability to be trained in the International Caries Detection and Assessment System (ICDAS)
- Reliable transportation (schools are located in Houston, TX)

Candidate preferences:

- Experience working in a school-based oral surveillance program

Anticipated start date: January 2022

The program is affiliated with an ongoing clinical trial and training will be provided.

If you would like more information about this opportunity, please forward a current CV or resume to the contacts below:

Dr. Kila Johnson - kila.johnson@phs.hctx.net

Alissa Ensor - alissa.ensor@phs.hctx.net

Self-Instructional Lecture Series

In case you missed Dr. Paras Patel's live webinar series, TxOHC is pleased to offer each of these three presentations as self-instructional videos where participants may earn continuing dental education (CDE) credit upon completion of the online evaluation at <https://txohc.org/education/patel-lecture-series/>.

For those that do not need CDE, you may view these videos for edification free of charge. Dental and dental hygiene students may want to review these videos before a test or their upcoming national exam.

These sessions are meant to view as a series but can be viewed separately as they are offered as standalone courses. As part of the evaluation process, self-instructional courses contain post-training questions so learners may assess their mastery of the material.

The three sessions are:

- Oral Cancer Update
- Oral Manifestations of Systemic Diseases and Conditions
- Common Lesions of the Oral Cavity, from Diagnosis to Treatment

<https://txohc.org/education/patel-lecture-series/>

Oral Pathology Lecture Series

This three course learning series is a product of the Texas Oral Health Coalition's fall 2021 monthly webinar series with Dr. Paras Patel, DDS.

- Oral Cancer Update
- Oral Manifestations of Systemic Diseases and Conditions
- Common Lesions of the Oral Cavity, from Diagnosis to Treatment

PACE
ACADEMY OF
GENERAL DENTISTRY
PROGRAM APPROVAL
FOR CONTINUING
EDUCATION

Texas Oral Health Coalition
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7/1/2021 to 6/30/2024.
Provider ID# 346144

Dental Prescribers Online Learning Series

Three complimentary self-instructional videos for prescribers to receive CDE are currently offered on the TxOHC website. Topics include:

- Statewide Mandate Compliance Using the PMP to Provide Patient-Centered Care

- Maximizing Your Limited Time: Navigating Challenging Patient Conversations
- Single Use Disposal Systems (SUDS) Training for Dentists

To learn more and access these complimentary video courses, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/prescribers-online-series/>.

TEXAS ORAL HEALTH COALITION

THREE SELF-INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES FOR CDE

PREScriBERS ONLINE LEARNING SERIES

- Statewide Mandate Compliance Using the PMP to Provide Patient-Centered Care
- Maximizing Your Limited Time: Navigating Challenging Patient Conversations
- Single Use Disposal Systems (SUDS) Training for Dentists

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This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the standards of the Academy of General Dentistry Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE) through the joint program provider approval of the (Texas Oral Health Coalition) and the (The University of Texas at Austin Center for Health Communication, Moody College of Communication) The (Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.) is approved for awarding FAGB/MAGD credit.

<https://txohc.org/education/prescribers-online-series/>

TxOHC Member Announcement

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who joined after December 17, 2021.

- Madhuri Uppuluri, BDS, MPH
Texas Department of State Health Services Epidemiologist II
Austin, TX
- Catherine Wong, BDS, MPH
Biostatistician, LA County Department of Public Health
Houston, TX



Invitation to Join TxOHC



If you represent an organization, professional association, academic institution, or nonprofit you are invited to join TxOHC as an organizational member to participate in policy discussions and develop strategies and viable solutions to address oral health challenges many Texans face.

Our goal is to complete the Coalition Organizational Framework with members across eight different categories for a diverse and inclusive culture.

TxOHC began invoicing active members on December 1, 2021, for their 2022 annual membership fees. You may renew online any time before January 30, 2022, to keep your membership active and without disruption to your benefits https://fs25.formsite.com/TxOHC1/Member/form_login.html.

New members may also join online now and the annual 2022 fee will be added to the prorated 2021 dues.

Membership Renewal

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Texas Oral Health Coalition, it



is through our members that our diverse portfolio of work interests continues to increase allowing us to encourage collaboration to foster whole-person health, eliminate oral disparities and address health inequalities for all Texans.

Our members are the physical embodiment of our commitment, and it is through your desire and dedication to oral health that the organization

flourishes. With your physical and monetary support, we have been able to develop programs to further the mission of the Coalition, provide our members with valuable benefits, and the opportunity to engage and grow the network to make oral health accessible, equitable, and available to all.

The close of the year gives rise to our annual request for members to renew their support for 2022. Please renew your membership today to keep your membership active and without disruption to your benefits and communications.

To renew your membership you will need your Member ID# and establish a password. Since this system is new you do not have a password so select change password to set one up. Please save your password with your member ID # for easy reference when needed.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Coalition and we look forward to your participation in 2022.

[Renew Membership Online](#)

For those that prefer hard copies and wish to mail their form and check in, please complete [this fillable form](#), print and mail with your payment to:

Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
4614 Bowie Dr.
Midland, TX 79703

Announcing New Member Categories for 2022!

TxOHC new membership structure to begin January 1, 2022. For more information about these membership categories, please visit <https://txohc.org/get-involved/membership/>.

- **Associate Member: No fee**

Individuals or organizations who support the mission of the organization may attend coalition meetings, volunteer time, and receive communication.

- **Student Member: No fee**

Students are required to be enrolled in Accredited Programs, Colleges or Universities.

- **Active Member: \$50 / year**

An individual person at-large may join the coalition unaffiliated with any specific organization. This person speaks and votes on his/her own behalf and volunteers independently.

- **Organizational Member: \$150 / year**

An organization, institution, or agency may support the coalition as an entity, and designate one contact to represent the organization's commitment to the coalition. This person speaks and votes on behalf of his/her organization.



TxOHC provides opportunities for members to:

- **Share your strategies** with peers and learn innovative approaches from early adopters.
- **Lead your community** toward equitable oral health with advocacy efforts.
- **Contribute your knowledge** to publications and scientific resources.
- **Connect with other advocates** through events and member-only opportunities.
- **Access support** through professional development, advocacy training, and peer networking.

- **Stay connected** to funding opportunity notices, webinars, workshops, and employment leads.

Make your voice heard. Mobilize your community.

Learn more about our new member benefits and join TxOHC today
at <https://txohc.org/get-involved/membership>.

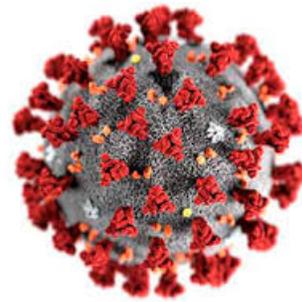
New members joining the Associate/Student member category can complete the online membership application now and be good through December 31, 2022.

[New Member Online Form](#)

Texas COVID-19 Vaccination Update

According to the Texas Health and Human Services | Texas Department of State Health Services as of 12/20/2021 approximately:

- **70.75%** of Texans age 5+ have been vaccinated with at least one dose
- **60.46%** of Texans age 5+ have been fully vaccinated
- **92.68%** of Texans age 65+ have been vaccinated with at least one dose
- **82.93%** of Texans age 65+ have been fully vaccinated



As of 11/4/2021, children 5-11 are included in the vaccination numbers and the eligible population denominator is now all Texans 5 years of age and older.

Please encourage your friends, colleagues, and family members to get fully vaccinated as quickly as possible. To locate where they are administering COVID-19 vaccinations nearest you, please visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/search/> and type in your zip code.

SAVE THE DATES

TxOHC Webinars in 2022



January 14, 2022 – ***Behavioral Healthcare and Geriatric Dentistry*** presented by Dr. Andrea R. Holzner, CCP, MPH, PhD [Registration is OPEN](#)

February 11, 2022 – ***Providing Care Under Advanced Anesthesia (General Anesthesia/TIVA and Oral/IV***

Sedation) presented by Mark Bullock, DDS

This is the first presentation in a 3-part series to provide dental providers information on how to treat individuals with disabilities.

March 11, 2022 - Open

April 8, 2022 - ***Let's Prevent Oropharyngeal Cancer (and Avoid Awkward Conversations While Doing It!)*** presented by Rhonda Stokley, DDS

May 13, 2022 - ***Special Conditions and Barriers and Challenges Providing Dental Care to Patients with IDD*** presented by Mark Bullock, DDS

June 10, 2022 - Open

August 12, 2022 - ***Understanding and working with caregivers and group homes, Dental Desensitization/Advanced Behavior techniques for patients with IDD at AbSSLC*** presented by Mark Bullock, DDS

Call for Presenters

The Texas Oral Health Coalition is excited to continue hosting monthly webinars in 2022 with different topics and presenters on the second Friday of each month during the noon hour, 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT. These live webinars will offer 1.0 of continuing dental education for each course.

If you are interested in sharing your research or dental passion, please complete and submit the linked documents below for consideration.

[Financial Disclosure and Bio](#)
[Speaker Proposal Submission](#)



Please send forms to Beth Stewart .

TxOHC Quarterly Member Meetings

Save the Dates

The Coalition will continue hosting quarterly member meetings on the third Friday of the month from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Regional coalitions will be meeting in separate breakout rooms. If you have not joined your local coalition you may do so [here](#).

Upcoming meetings:

- Friday, February 18, 2022 – [Register](#)
- Friday, May 20, 2022

A promotional graphic for the TxOHC Quarterly Member Meeting. The background is a vibrant blue with a circular inset on the right showing two dental professionals in white coats reviewing documents at a desk. The text is white and yellow. At the top, it reads 'TXOHC QUARTERLY MEMBER MEETING' in large white letters. Below that, in yellow, is 'Friday, February 18, 2022' and '11:30 AM - 1:00 PM'. On the left, it says 'Save the Date to join the discussion!'. At the bottom left is the TxOHC logo and the text 'TEXAS ORAL HEALTH COALITION'. A circular callout on the right contains the text 'Regional Coalition Breakout Rooms' in white.

TXOHC QUARTERLY MEMBER MEETING

Friday, February 18, 2022
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Save the Date to join the discussion!

Regional Coalition Breakout Rooms

TXOHC TEXAS ORAL HEALTH COALITION

SAVE THE DATE



**TEXAS ORAL
HEALTH
CONFERENCE**

A True Collaboration To Improve Oral Health In Texas

**Virtual Conference
July 14-15, 2022**

<https://www.texasoralhealthconference.com/>

Donate to TxOHC

Please make plans to contribute to your favorite nonprofit either through [AmazonSmile](#), by choosing TxOHC as your cause as you do your online shopping, or by the donation button below.

Your contribution is essential to our continued efforts and will make a real difference in the lives of thousands of your neighbors. Please share in our vision to make optimal health a reality for all Texans by donating today. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to you joining our efforts to continue this forward momentum.

DONATE

Many Thanks To Our Coalition Partners!

