

**Oral Health System: Pandemic Response**  
**Virtual Meeting XVIII**  
**September 15, 2021**  
**4:00-5:30pm EDT**

**Purpose of Effort in 2021**

Our overall purpose is to contribute our collective voice and influence toward making oral health more affordable and accessible to all. In 2021, we will:

- continue to monitor the impacts of COVID-19 on safety, infection control, and access;
- learn more about the work already underway in each of the prioritized areas;
- discuss and take action as opportunities arise

***Purpose of the Meeting***

To continue our work in collectively monitoring the impact of COVID-19 in the country and on the field, to reflect on the role of the oral health care system in addressing the challenges of COVID-19, to hear the current status of the effort to add a dental benefit to Medicare, and to increase our awareness of relevant news within the Biden administration.

***Desired Outcomes***

*By the end of this meeting, we will have:*

- An update on COVID-19, including the delta variant, boosters, etc.
- A shared understanding of the role of the oral health care system in addressing the most pressing issues regarding vaccination rates, equitable access to vaccines, and more
- An awareness of the status of the Oral Health in America report and next steps, including distribution
- An update on progress on adding a dental benefit to Medicare, the collective action letter, and next steps in advocacy and mobilization
- An update on Biden Administration news
- Agreement on next steps

## **Agenda**

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
<b>Start Ups:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Welcome</li><li>▪ Purpose of the Meeting</li><li>▪ Desired Outcomes</li></ul>	4:00-4:10
<b>COVID-19 Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vaccine Rollout, Mandates, &amp; Boosters</li><li>• Virus Variants</li><li>• Implications for the Field (Discussion)</li></ul>	4:10-4:50
<b>Oral Health in America Report</b>	4:50-5:00
<b>Dental Benefits in Medicare</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medicare Letter</li><li>• Raising Voices</li><li>• Equity</li></ul>	5:00- 5:20
<b>Biden Administration Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CMS</li><li>• Appropriations</li></ul>	5:20-5:25
<b>Close and Next Steps</b>	5:25-5:30