# **Oral Health System: Pandemic Response Workgroup**

# **Virtual Meeting XX**

# **November 17, 2021**

# **4:00-5:30pm EST**

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***Purpose of the 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 understand the status of the effort in Congress to add a dental benefit to Medicare, and to understand the opportunities ahead to deepen public awareness on the importance of oral health to overall health.

## Desired Outcomes

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

* An update on COVID-19, the boosters, the impact of vaccinating 5–12-year-olds, new treatments, evolving case rates, etc.
* An update on the efforts to add a dental benefit to Medicare and to make dental coverage for adults on Medicaid mandatory, and the ongoing advocacy needed
* An update on the status of the PRW collective action letters to the ONC and the ASH
* An awareness of the content and current plans of the NIH in publishing Oral Health in America (OHA): Advances and Challenges, including expected date of release and related activities
* A shared understanding of a proposal for collective action from the Communications Working Team and the CareQuest Institute, in promoting and distributing the OHA report, and in developing additional ideas on how to leverage the OHA report into an ongoing change effort
* Agreement on a design team to work with CQI to move this effort forward

## Agenda

| **What** | **When** |
| --- | --- |
| **Start Ups:**   * Welcome * Purpose of the Meeting * Desired Outcomes | 4:00-4:05 |
| **COVID-19 Updates**   * COVID Trends & Impact * Vaccine Rollout & Boosters * Vaccine Mandates | 4:05-4:15 |
| **Dental Benefits in Medicare Update**   * Dental in Medicare * Mandatory dental in Medicaid * Possible Pilot Projects through CMS | 4:15-4:25 |
| **Collective Action Letters**   * Update * Next Steps | 4:25-4:30 |
| **Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges**   * Report details as known * NIH plans re: publication and distribution * CQI & Communications Working Team proposal | 4:30-5:15 |
| **December Meeting** | 5:15-5:25 |
| **Next Steps and Close** | 5:25-5:30 |