



**NCSL 2021 Legislative Summit: Oral Health Preconference  
Pandemic Checkup: What's Happening with Oral Health?**

Tuesday, November 2 | 8 - 10:30 a.m. ET  
Fort Brooke Room, JW Marriott, Tampa, Fla.

**Description:** Utilization of oral health services decreased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. This session will examine the pre-existing gaps in oral health care for maternal and child populations, and the immediate and longer-term disruptions in care caused by the pandemic. A panel of oral health experts and state legislators will discuss the effects of widespread dental office closures at the beginning of the pandemic and challenges with providing school and community dental services. Speakers will also explore policy opportunities to integrate care into other settings, address gaps in accessing care and reduce disparities in oral health outcomes.

**Draft Agenda**

**7:30 – 8 a.m. – Registration**

**8 – 8:10 a.m. – Welcome, Overview and Introductions**

NCSL Staff will welcome participants and facilitate brief introductions over breakfast.

**8:10 – 8:55 a.m. – Oral Health, Maternal and Child Health and Health Systems Panel**

NCSL staff will moderate a panel of experts in discussing challenges and successes in maintaining access to oral health care during COVID-19, ongoing integration efforts and health equity considerations for the MCH population.

Panelists:

- Dr. Jane Grover, director, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, American Dental Association
- Dr. Patricia Braun, director, Rocky Mountain Network of Oral Health Integration
- Dr. Amy Martin, professor, Medical University of South Carolina's College of Dental Medicine

**8:55 – 9:10 a.m. – Panel Q&A**

**9:10 – 9:25 a.m. – Reflections from State Legislators**

Representative Deborah Ferguson (AR) and Senator Judy Lee (ND) will share their own experiences addressing oral health in the legislature, as well as collaboration with state health agencies and other key partners among other oral health stakeholders.

**9:25 – 9:35 a.m. – HRSA Maternal and Child Oral Health Update**

Pamella Vodicka, senior public health analyst, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration

**9:35 – 9:45 a.m. – Break**

**9:45 – 10:15 a.m. – Guided Networking**

Attendees will discuss chosen topics relevant in their state with fellow attendees, NCSL staff and experts from the panel. Topics include: maternal oral health, children’s oral health, access to care in rural communities, and teledentistry and workforce. This is a time to learn from others, brainstorm and make connections.

**10:15 – 10:25 a.m. – Report Outs**

Attendees will share any “ah-ha” moments from their conversations, common challenges or opportunities, and actions they plan to take.

**10:25 – 10:30 a.m. – Wrap Up and Feedback Forms**

NCSL staff will thank the audience and speakers and close the session.