



Oral Health Policy Statement
February, 2017

Caring for Colorado believes that all Coloradans, especially those most vulnerable, should be able to access high-quality, evidence-based, cost-effective oral health services and that our health care system must provide accessible and affordable health care coverage to prevent and/or address diseases of the mouth.

We believe that individuals, families, businesses, health care providers and the government are collectively responsible for the oral health and well-being of our state. Specifically, this means:

- Focusing research and programs on disease prevention.
- Providing public insurance options that include dental benefits.
- Ensuring that all children and adults are able to obtain on-going high-quality, cost-effective preventive and restorative dental care.
- Investing in public health measures, such as community water fluoridation, to improve oral health.
- Addressing workforce issues including diversity, scope of practice, education, and distribution of dental care providers.
- Ensuring integration of oral health and medical services.
- Developing new models of care delivery to eliminate barriers to care and expand access.
- Ensuring culturally competent oral health education for families and individuals.

Caring for Colorado strives to improve oral health status among Coloradans as a means toward greater health, well-being and prosperity for all.