

Word of Mouth

The Importance of Oral Health In Kentucky

TOOTH FACTS



TEETH ARE THE HARDEST SUBSTANCE IN THE HUMAN BODY

25%

OF KENTUCKIANS AGE 65 AND OLDER HAVE HAD ALL THEIR NATURAL TEETH REMOVED

ADULTS HAVE 32 TEETH



8 INCISORS



4 CANINES



8 PREMOLARS



12 MOLARS

BEFORE TOOTHBRUSHES, PEOPLE USED TWIGS AND THEIR FINGERS TO CLEAN THEIR TEETH



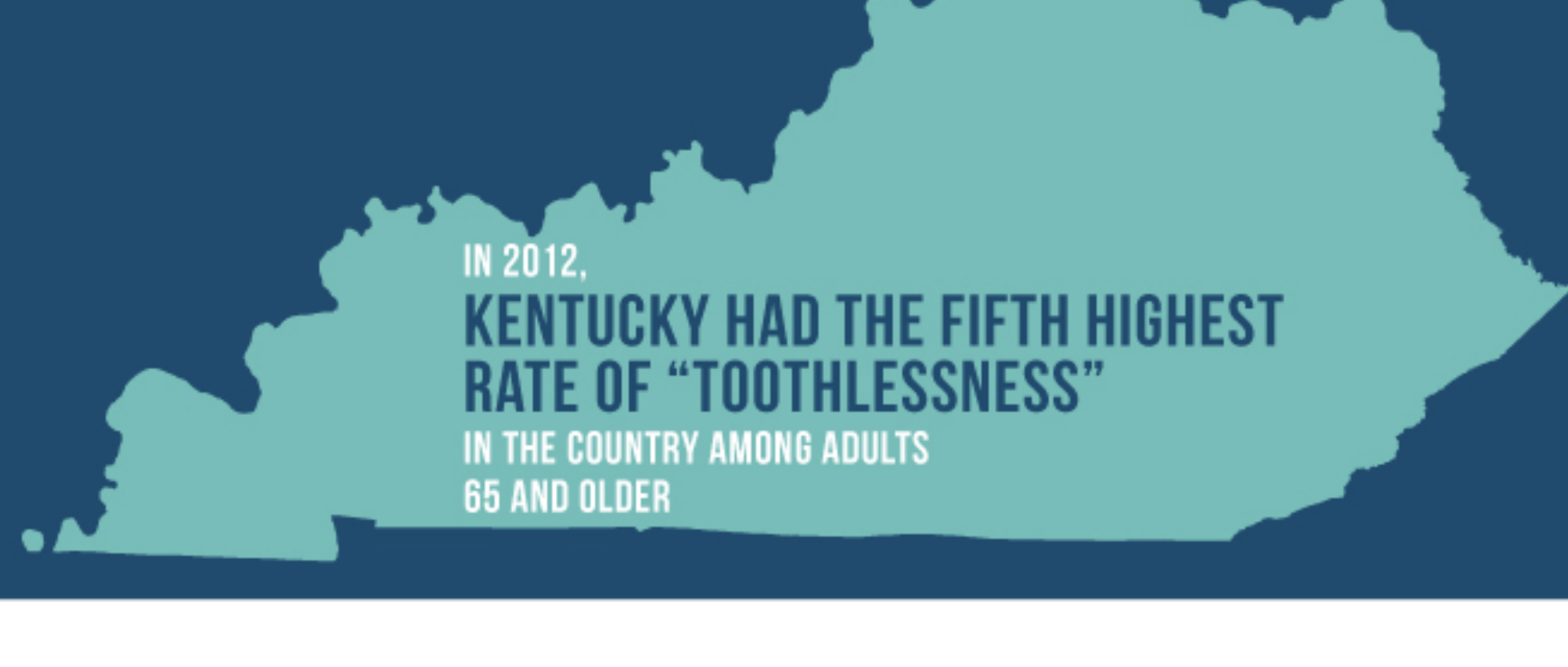
WHAT MIGHT RESULT FROM POOR ORAL HYGIENE:

- CAVITIES
- TOOTH DECAY
- TOOTH SENSITIVITY
- GINGIVITIS
- PLAQUE
- TARTAR
- PERIODONTITIS



IN THE US, 47% OF ADULTS AGE 30 AND OLDER (64.7 MILLION ADULTS) HAVE A FORM OF CHRONIC GUM DISEASE (AKA, PERIODONTITIS)

Caused by plaque buildup



WHAT PREVENTS KENTUCKIANS FROM MAINTAINING OPTIMAL ORAL HEALTH?

1. COST OF DENTAL CARE

IN 2012, THE MEDIAN ANNUAL INCOME FOR KENTUCKY FAMILIES WAS

\$51,400

That's \$4,283 per month



AVERAGE COST OF DENTAL CARE AND PROCEDURES (STATEWIDE IN KENTUCKY)

6 MONTH CHECK UP \$57 1.3%

SEALANT (PER TOOTH) \$61 1.4%

FILLING (PER TOOTH) \$175 4%

CROWN (PER TOOTH) \$1,162 27%

ROOT CANAL (PER TOOTH) \$1,170 27%

COST PER PROCEDURE

MONTHLY PAY % PER PROCEDURE

These numbers are without dental insurance.

FOR FAMILY OF 4 A 6 MONTH CHECK UP WOULD COST \$228 5.3% OF MONTHLY INCOME

2. LACK OF PREVENTION

DENTAL CARE REMAINS THE GREATEST UNMET HEALTH NEED AMONG U.S. CHILDREN

ESPECIALLY IN LOW-INCOME CHILDREN WHO ARE 2X AS LIKELY TO DEVELOP CAVITIES



DENTAL SEALANTS: CLEAR PLASTIC COATINGS APPLIED TO THE CHEWING SURFACES OF PERMANENT MOLARS



RESEARCH SHOWS THAT SCHOOL-BASED SEALANT PROGRAMS REDUCE TOOTH DECAY BY

60%



SEALANTS COST 1/3 AS MUCH AS A SINGLE FILLING



SEALANT



FILLING

LESS THAN 25% OF HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS HAVE SEALANT PROGRAMS



REPORT CARD

ACCORDING TO THE PEW CENTER ON THE STATES

STATE: KENTUCKY

PEW STUDY	GRADE
PROVIDING ORAL HEALTH CARE TO CHILDREN	C
OVERALL ORAL HEALTH PREVENTION	D

3. LACK OF ACCESS TO A DENTIST

- LACK OF TRANSPORTATION
- GEOGRAPHY
- COST
- OFFICE HOURS
- PAYMENT
- PRIORITY
- NUMBER OF DENTISTS

RATE OF GENERAL AND PEDIATRIC DENTISTS PER 10,000 PEOPLE IN KENTUCKY (2011)

DENTISTS ARE NOT EVENLY DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE STATE

FOR INSTANCE APPALACHIAN REGION HAS HALF AS MANY DENTISTS COMPARED TO THE LOUISVILLE AREA. (3.5 VERSUS 7.0 DENTISTS PER 10,000 PEOPLE)



IS ANYTHING BEING DONE TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH IN KENTUCKY?

CHILDREN ENROLLED IN MEDICAID OR KCHIP WHO RECEIVED DENTAL SERVICES



FORMATION OF THE

Kentucky Oral Health Coalition

KOHC'S SUCCESSSES:

- Sustainability:** SECURING FUNDING PARTNERS FOR A STATEWIDE ORAL HEALTH LITERACY CAMPAIGN
- Advocacy:** WORKING TO CHANGE POLICY TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH FOR ALL
- Diversity:** HUNDREDS OF STAKEHOLDERS FROM A WIDE-ARRAY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS ENGAGED IN CAMPAIGN PLANNING
- Research:** UTILIZING DATA, SURVEYS AND FOCUS GROUPS TO DETERMINE CURRENT NEEDS AND TRENDS
- Collaboration:** ADVOCATES WORKING TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO HIGH-PRIORITY ISSUES

KOHC'S PRIORITIES:

- Improve** ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS
- Expand** SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH SERVICES
- Increase** THE NUMBER OF DENTISTS ACCEPTING MEDICAID

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Become** A MEMBER TODAY
- Sponsor** AN EVENT OR PROGRAM
- LIKE US ON Facebook**
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- FOLLOW US ON Twitter**
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