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### **The importance of maintaining good oral health and overall health during COVID-19**

**August 12, 2020** – Delta Dental Plans Association issued the below statement following new guidance issued by the WHO on preventive dental care during COVID-19. Delta Dental remains aligned with other dental industry leaders in following guidance from U.S. health authorities to ensure Americans can safely receive the oral health care they need.

“As we navigate this public health crisis, it is important to remember that maintaining good oral health is critical. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Dental Association (ADA) have closely monitored the COVID-19 pandemic and established clear guidance on how dentists can safely and effectively deliver care to patients, including critical preventive oral health care, which has a tremendous impact on overall health,” said Joseph Dill, DDS, MBA, Vice President of Dental Science, Delta Dental Plans Association. “Chief among the protocols established by health authorities is the need for personal protective equipment (PPE) to safely deliver care. To address this and other equipment and safety measures needed to reopen and operate safely, Delta Dental has provided nearly \$486 million in funding for dental offices across the country.”

The latest information on what Delta Dental is doing in your community to support COVID-19 response efforts can be found [here](#). For more information on oral health care during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit Delta Dental’s COVID-19 [webpage](#).

#### **About Delta Dental Plans Association**

Delta Dental Plans Association, based in Oak Brook, Illinois, is the non-profit national association of the 39 independent Delta Dental companies. Through these companies, Delta Dental is the nation’s largest provider of dental insurance, covering more than 80 million Americans, and offering the country’s largest dental network with approximately 156,000 participating dentists. For more information, visit: [deltadental.com](http://deltadental.com).

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