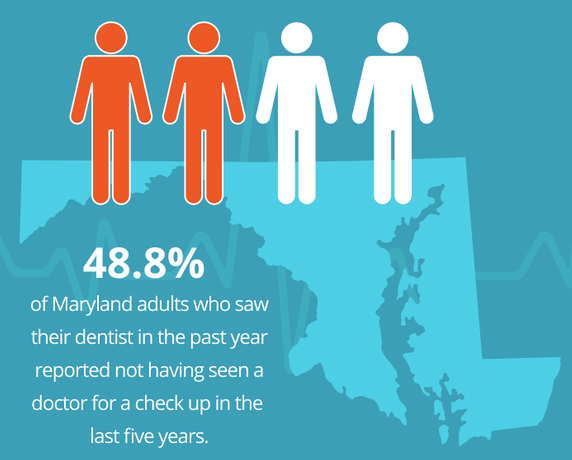
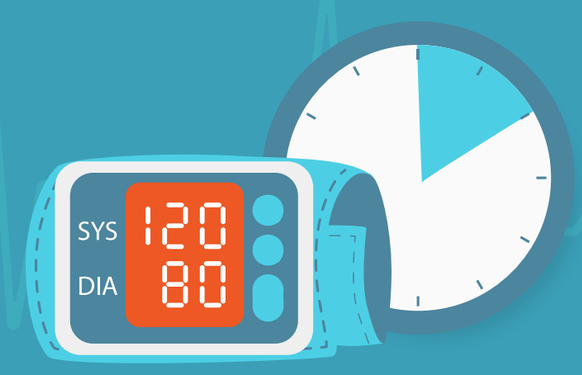
2 MINUTES WITH YOUR PATIENT

CAN SAVE THEIR LIFE

Marylanders are more likely to visit their dentist than see a doctor for a routine check up.



Oral health professionals can play an important role by screening for hypertension.



With so many more people seeing their dentist than their doctor, you and your staff have a unique opportunity to play an important role in identifying undiagnosed hypertension.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), hypertension is a symptomless "silent killer." Hypertension is a major risk factor for heart disease, the leading cause of death in Maryland. It only takes a few minutes to check your patient's blood pressure to determine if they are at risk for hypertension.

If they are at risk, refer them to a primary care physician or community resource for follow-up screenings and diagnosis.

Every visit. Every time.

SCREEN YOUR PATIENTS FOR HYPERTENSION

www.OralHealth4BetterHealth.com

Maryland's 1-800 QUIT NOW SmokingStopsHere.com

Ask your patients about their tobacco use. Tobacco use is a risk factor for heart disease. If your patient uses tobacco and wants to quit, free resources are available through the Maryland Tobacco Quitline; 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669).

MARYLAND Department of Health

Brought to you by Maryland Department of Health's Office of Oral Health and the Centers for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control.