

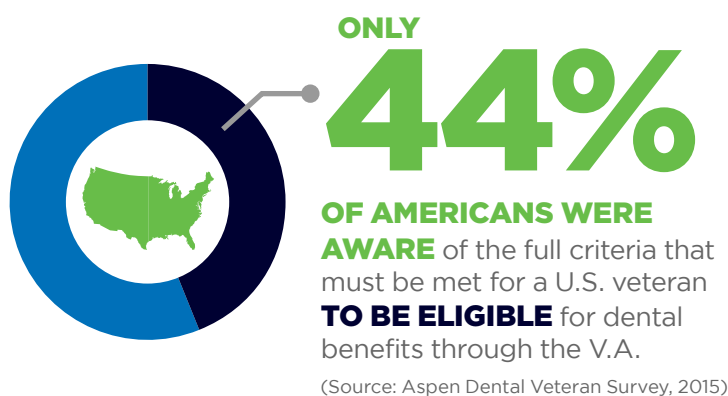
The Missing Link in Veterans' Health:

DENTAL CARE



U.S. veterans must meet one of the following criteria **TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR DENTAL BENEFITS** through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:¹

- **BE PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY 100% DISABLED DUE TO A SERVICE-CONNECTED INCIDENT**
- **HAVE A SERVICE-RELATED DENTAL CONDITION**
- **HAVE A SERVICE-RELATED MEDICAL CONDITION THAT IS AFFECTED BY THEIR MOUTH**



THIS LACK IN DENTAL CARE ACCESS IS NOT WIDELY KNOWN

When asked about the greatest challenges facing U.S. military veterans, access to dental care benefits was not widely acknowledged.

AND ONLY 8%
considered it to be one of the top challenges.



READJUSTING TO CIVILIAN LIFE (63%)



FINDING EMPLOYMENT (61%)

were most frequently ranked as the top barriers.

Americans most frequently **ATTRIBUTED VETERANS' HINDERED ACCESS** to dental care to



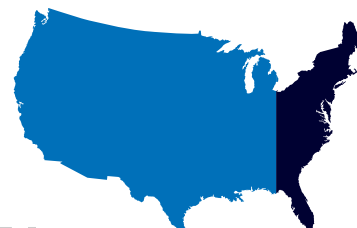
75% LACK OF FINANCES



72% LACK OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

The benefits of good oral health care can transcend physical health benefits. **THREE-QUARTERS OF AMERICANS** believe that good oral health can result in

- **IMPROVED SELF-ESTEEM**
- **GREATER CONFIDENCE**
- **HIGHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



¹ U.S. Veterans Administration (February, 2014) Dental Benefits for Veterans. Retrieved from: http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/publications/IB10-442_dental_benefits_for_veterans_2_14.pdf