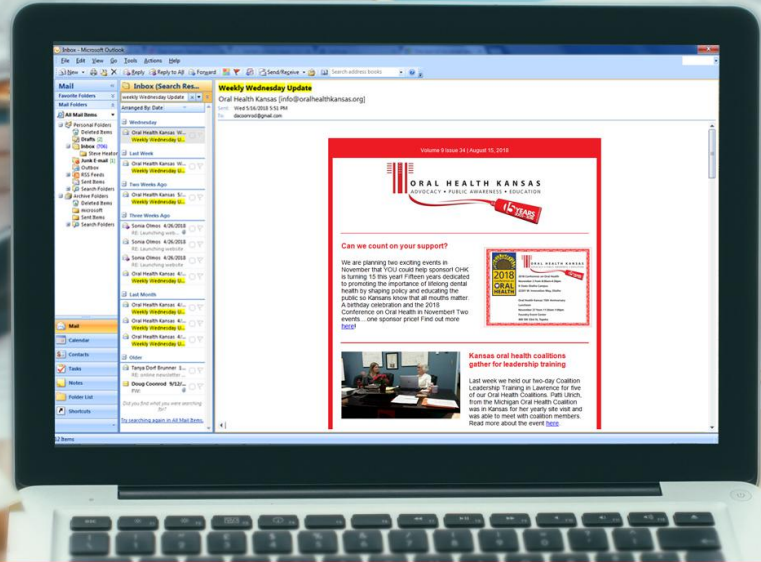




**ORAL HEALTH KANSAS**  
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



## WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues [click here](#).

Click here to sign up for our [Weekly Wednesday Update](#).

## March 10, 2021

Volume 12, Issue 10



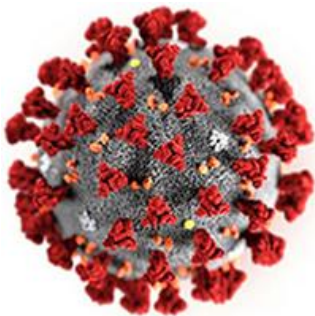
## Save The Date

We are so very excited to announce the dates for the virtual 2021 Conference on Oral Health! We will have two half days on November 4 and 5, 2021. Watch the Weekly Wednesday Update and social media for updates but for now, mark November 4 and 5 on your calendar!



## OHK Impact Evident In New Annual Report

This week Oral Health Kansas released our first [annual report](#). In the report we share the challenges and accomplishments of 2020. We were proud to be a resource to consumers and providers in the midst of the COVID crisis, and we saw major increases in calls from them throughout the year. The Medicaid dental rate increase we advocated for in 2020 was one of the only state budget enhancements to be implemented in the pandemic year. We held a successful virtual conference and created powerful new virtual education programs. Read all about it in our [2020 Annual Report](#). Then tell us what you learned and what you would like to learn more about.



## Update On Dental Professionals Providing The COVID Vaccine

Last week we told you about Governor Kelly's Executive Order authorizing most healthcare professionals to provide COVID vaccines. [Executive Order 21-06](#) is a temporary authorization of additional vaccinators, including dentists and dental hygienists, during the public health state of disaster emergency.

We are learning more about what this means for dentists and hygienists. **If dental professionals are interested in volunteering at COVID vaccine sites, the best course of action is to contact the local health department to ask how to be a part of the community vaccination process.** Contact information for each county's local health department in Kansas can be found on page 6 of [this directory](#).

Providers can find additional information about being a COVID vaccine provider at this state website:

<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/31/Vaccine-Providers>

The state remains in Phase 2 of a [five-phase COVID vaccination plan](#). Frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine plan are available [on this page](#) from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

If you have any questions about the opportunity for dentists and hygienists to provide COVID vaccines, please contact us at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org). If we do not have the answer, we will do our best to find it for you.



## The Impact Of Covid On Dental Offices

In February, the American Dental Association's Health Policy Institute held a webinar talking about the various impacts the Covid pandemic had on dental offices and dental visits. At least 90% of the patients they surveyed had been back to the dentist's office or felt comfortable going back to the dentist. Watch the [webinar](#) to learn

more about what dentists have done or are doing to help patients get back to the dentist's office.



## National Oral Health Conference Registration Now Open

Registration for the 2021 National Oral Health Conference (NOHC) virtual meeting *Connecting Globally for Oral Health* is now open. The conference will be held on Friday's and Saturday's April 16-30. They will have live

streaming sessions on Friday, April 16, 23, and 30. The Roundtable sessions will be held on April 17 and the General Poster sessions will be held on April 24. You can view a list of the sessions [here](#) and register [here](#).



## Upcoming Events

- Voices for Kids will host an interactive training on telemedicine for Kansas families who have children with disabilities and/or special health care needs. Two dates are March 16 and April 15. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Accelerating Health Equity, March 16-18, 2021, hosted by the American Hospital Association's Community Health Improvement and the Institute for Diversity and Health Equity. Click [here](#) to register.
- The American Dental Association will host a "Health Effects of Vaping" webinar on March 25, 2021 at 12pm CST. Click [here](#) for more information.



March is Women's History Month and a perfect opportunity to share about Irene Newman, the first dental hygienist. She was trained in 1905 by her cousin, Dr. Alfred Fones, to clean teeth and perform other preventive treatments on children,



making her the world's first dental hygienist. In November of 1913 Dr. Alfred Fones opened the Fones School of Dental Hygiene. In 1917 Irene Newman received the world's first dental hygiene license and she became the first president of the first dental hygiene association, the ADHA-CT North Western Dental Hygienist Association.



## Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

**Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until further notice.**



During this time, hand washing and social distancing is on everyone's mind. We want everyone to have the comfort of knowing

we sanitize our sugary drink displays. They are wiped down and cleaned off after they have been returned.

Follow Us



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