

## 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 18, 2020

Volume 11, Issue 11



### Recommended Procedures During COVID-19 For Dentists

This week, American Dental Association (ADA) recommended dentists nationwide postpone elective procedures for the next three weeks. In their statement, the ADA said, "In order for dentistry to do its part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the ADA recommends dentists

nationwide postpone elective procedures for the next three weeks. Concentrating on emergency dental care will allow us to care for our emergency patients and alleviate the burden that dental emergencies would place on hospital emergency departments. As health care professionals, it is up to dentists to make well-informed decisions about their patients and practices.” Read more and find resources [here](#).

The [Kansas Dental Association \(KDA\) has noted](#) that the ADA has not identified a start date or performed. As such, the KDA would advise that dentists implement the new recommendation at the first feasible opportunity in their office.

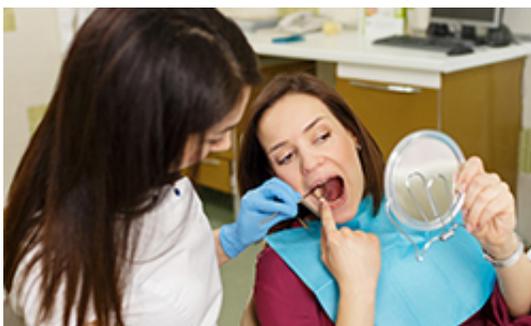


## \$3.0 Million Increase In Dental Rates Moves Forward

The Conference Committee for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and House Committee on Appropriations met over the last couple days to discuss the FY 2021 Budget. The

conference committee agreed to include the House’s position to add \$3.0 million to increase Medicaid dental reimbursement rates under KanCare for FY 2021. This is a big step for our dental provider network in Kansas! Following the conference committee’s final approval of the full FY 2021 budget, the budget must pass through both chambers to be finalized. Due to coronavirus, we expect the budget bill to pass earlier than usual, more than likely this week, so all legislators and staff can return home to practice social distancing.

As you can imagine, the coronavirus is causing uncertainty at the Statehouse, creating a strong likelihood the Legislature will break for first adjournment later in the week, instead of the original date of April 3rd. An early departure would allow a longer than normal Spring Break before the Legislature reconvenes for Veto Session on April 27th. The only item needing passage for state operations to continue is the budget bill, which could be finalized as soon as this week, in preparation for possible shutdown of the Capitol. Due to COVID-19, access to the statehouse is currently limited to legislative staff, legislators, lobbyists, and those testifying in committee hearings.



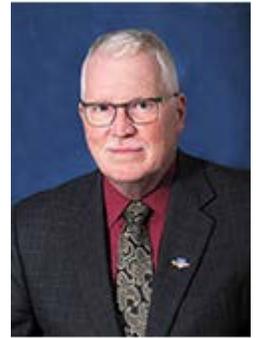
## Webinar For Clinicians Working With Children And Pregnant Women

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Clinician Outreach and Community Activity (COCA) hosted a webinar for clinicians

working with pregnant women and children and how it relates to COVID-19. It provides resources and ways to get connected. Watch the recorded webinar [here](#).



This week we want to recognize Dr. Lee Norman, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. His calm and measured leadership of the COVID-19 crisis has been something all Kansans can rely on. He has an enormous job as he looks out for the health and safety of all Kansans, and we are grateful.



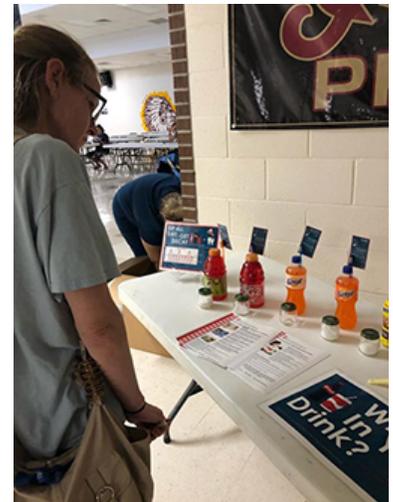
Secretary  
Lee A. Norman, M.D.  
Picture courtesy of KDHE

(He's also a great sport. Check out the comparison to Colonel Sanders on his Twitter feed!)



## Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

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.



**Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until May 1. You can begin making reservations for later in the year now, though.**

Reserve your Sugary Drink Display for a health fair, office, or event! You can also [purchase](#) a Sugary Drink Display to have as your own! What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. Click [here](#) to learn more!

**There is no charge to use the Sugary Drink Display; postage is reimbursed if you send in your receipt.**

All we ask is for you to fill out our survey included in the display materials and provide us with feedback about the display. [Click here](#) to make a reservation!

Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? [Click here](#) to download our brochure.



## Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the 2020 Conference on Oral Health scheduled for Friday, November 13! Location in Johnson County! Watch for more details!

## Follow Us



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