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Dental Champions Corner

Dr. Allison Lesko, DDS (Class 7) gave a great presentation on the successful Salina fluoridation campaign at the National Oral Health Conference.



Oral Health Kansas Staff at the National Oral Health Conference

This week the nation's oral health community gathered in Kansas City for the 2015 National Oral Health Conference. Oral Health Kansas staff attended sessions, participated in regional and national meetings, and hosted meetings in conjunction with the conference.

Staff led the fifth annual meeting of our own national network. Oral Health Kansas is a founding member of the American Network of Oral Health Coalitions (ANOHC). Forty state oral health coalitions are members of ANOHC, and members focused this week on strategies to advocate for Medicaid adult dental benefits.



ANOHC members held their annual meeting Sunday

The conference offered numerous



Join In: WSU Dental Day

Wichita State University Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program is hosting a Dental Day for students interested in a career in dentistry. Dental Day is a great opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in the field of dentistry and dental hygiene. This camp is geared toward high school students interested in the field of dentistry, including dental hygiene and dental assisting.

This program will be held Friday, June 26, and registration closes June 1st or until all spots are filled. Find out more about this opportunity at the [Dental Day website!](#)



Traveling Sugary Drink Display

Reserve our traveling sugary drink display for your event! Our display shows how much sugar is in a variety of your favorite drinks, emphasizing which drinks are good and bad for you. A few recent display locations include Reno County Head Start, All Smiles Dental Care in Minneapolis, Harper Public Library, and Southeast Kansas Multi-County Health

opportunities to share some of the good work being done in Kansas, including round table presentations about the highly successful Salina water fluoridation campaign and about about cultivating community coalitions.



OHK Staff met with other state oral health coalitions this week

Staff also co-hosted an exhibit with the Missouri Coalition for Oral Health. The exhibit was a chance for the two local oral health advocacy organizations to share our work with people in the region and across the country.



The Oral Health Kansas and Missouri Coalition for Oral Health exhibit

HHS Finalizes Fluoride Recommendations

On Monday the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the final recommendation for the optimal level of fluoride in community water systems. This recommendation of 0.7 milligrams per liter will replace the 1962 recommendation to prevent tooth decay.

Departments.



This display is completely free, and return shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas. Learn more [on our website](#) and [email Sarah](#) if you are interested in hosting the display!

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The Campaign for Dental Health explained in [this blog post](#) that it was previously understood that more fluoride was needed in some places and less in others because research had shown people consumed different amounts of water according to where they lived geographically (warm versus cool climates). With the advent of air conditioning, new research shows there is no longer a difference across the country in the consumption of water. Also, fluoride is now found in a variety of sources, including toothpaste, mouth rinse, professionally applied treatments, water and processed foods. Both factors influenced [the new recommendation](#). The optimal level is set to prevent tooth decay, while minimizing the incidence of dental fluorosis (a mild change in the appearance of the tooth's enamel). HHS now recommends one level for the entire nation.

Read more about this recommendation from the [American Dental Association](#) and the [Children's Dental Health Project](#).



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