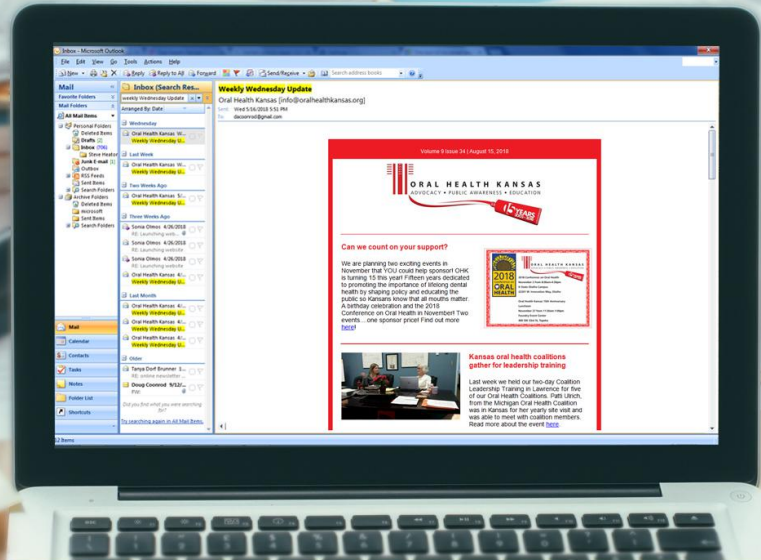




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

June 24, 2020

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Watch A Guide To Dental Visits During The COVID-19 Outbreak

As the COVID-19 pandemic progressed, Oral Health Kansas provided resources for what to do while dental offices were closed as well as what to expect when they opened. Individuals reached out to us with questions about the changes dental offices would have. We thought it was important to show you what a dental office may look like now that

more and more offices are opening up during the pandemic. Not all dental offices will look the same but this may help you understand what changes have been made.

Two clinics in Kansas showed us what changes they've implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c78dlc9VQ1E&feature=youtu.be>



KanCare Oversight Committee Meets

The KanCare Oversight Committee met on June 22nd and 23rd to hear public testimony and updates from state agencies regarding the Medicaid program and COVID-19. Oral Health Kansas presented written testimony to the Committee to share updates regarding dental reimbursement rates, dental research studies, and teledentistry. OHK shared that we have been working alongside the Kansas Dental Association and the Division of Health Care Finance to implement the FY2021 Budget which included a Medicaid dental reimbursement rate increase of \$3 million. OHK is also working with the Health Policy Institute on a study that would estimate the cost and offsets of introducing a comprehensive adult dental benefit in Kansas. That study is projected to be finished in Fall 2020. We are also finalizing plans with another state organization to study the number of Kansans who have dental insurance, and the final report is expected in Fall 2020 as well. OHK continues to respond to advocacy and resource requests from both consumers and dental providers during the COVID-19 crisis. Teledentistry has been a common theme throughout the requests and OHK is currently working on a letter to Governor Kelly to ask for an Emergency Order to authorize the use of teledentistry throughout the COVID crisis. Teledentistry would allow dental providers to connect with their patients virtually to assess and triage their dental needs. Read OHK's full testimony [here](#).



Celebrate National Toothbrush Day

Friday, June 26 is National Toothbrush Day! Here's a fun fact about toothbrushes. Nylon bristles were not introduced until 1938. Before that, toothbrushes were made with boar-hair bristles! Woah, that's interesting!

Here's a question for you. When should you replace your toothbrush? You should replace your toothbrush every 3-4 months or if the bristles

are worn down before that. Learn more [fun facts](#) and see if others can guess the answer!



Medicaid Expansion Advocacy Training

The Alliance for a Healthy Kansas will host a series of advocacy training workshops in July in several cities in Kansas. These Zoom workshops will provide attendees with the tools to talk to their networks and community leaders about expansion in anticipation of the two upcoming elections.

You can find full details and register on our Events page: expandkancare.com/events



This week it's time to say goodbye to one of our board members, Alex Martinez. Alex has served on the board since 2018 and was a member of Dental Champions Class VIII. Alex is insightful, creative, and has boundless energy. We certainly are a better organization because Alex has been a part of Oral Health Kansas. We wish Alex the best of luck!



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 further notice.

Follow Us



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