Kansas Bureau of Oral Health's School Screening Data Released

The Bureau of Oral Health (BOH) at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has completed its third year of collecting oral health screening data in schools. Kansas statutes require schools to provide an annual oral health screening to all students who do not provide proof that they have received a dental exam in the last year. In 2007, the Bureau of Oral Health developed a uniform protocol for oral health screening and an online data collection system in order to assist schools in meeting this statutory requirement. BOH has been collecting this screening data for the last three years, with increased school participation every year.
Oral Health Kansas and KAMU are preparing the 2011 Annual Conference: “Working Together for Overall Health.” Some of the sessions that will be presented include Meaningful Use, Recruitment, Fundraising, Cultural Competency, Creating Success with Community Oral Health Coalitions, and One State’s Journey to Water Fluoridation.

Make plans to join us this exciting conference, at the DoubleTree Hotel, September 14-16, 2011.

If you have any questions please contact Kari Mwathi; KAMU, 785-233-8483 or Julie Parnell, Oral Health Kansas, 785-235-6039.

**KS School Screening Results 2007-2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008-2009</th>
<th>2009-2010</th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Children Screened</td>
<td>55,532</td>
<td>75,175</td>
<td>151,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties Screened</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untreated Decay – Children with obvious untreated caries in at least one tooth.</td>
<td>24.26%</td>
<td>21.88%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treated Decay – Children with at least one restoration.</td>
<td>41.57%</td>
<td>38.63%</td>
<td>40.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Graders with Sealants Present</td>
<td>25.38%</td>
<td>29.34%</td>
<td>34.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urgent Care Needed (Swelling Present)</td>
<td>4.15%</td>
<td>4.02%</td>
<td>2.91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The KDHE approved oral screening is a very basic tongue blade and flashlight procedure, designed only to capture obvious dental decay and the presence of restorations and sealants. Each parent receives notice of the screening and once it has been done, gets a summary report of their child’s screening results with a reminder to see a dentist for a full exam and preventive care. The screenings are done by volunteer dentists and dental hygienists. As they are just simple screenings, they are not billable procedures by insurance or Medicaid, and are provided to all students free of charge.

The Bureau collects the screening data and uses it for policy and program planning. The following charts summarize the Screening Data that BOH has received to date. More screening data and details about the program are available on the BOH website: [http://www.kdheks.gov/ohi/screening_program.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/ohi/screening_program.htm). The data can be sorted by county, school district and individual school.

**THE KDHE BOH Screening Program Needs Your Help!**

The Bureau uses local dentist and dental hygienist volunteers to collect this data. Every year the Bureau receives more requests from new schools asking to be included in the screening program, so we must constantly recruit new volunteers. To be a screener you must be a licensed dental professional (DDS or RDH) and take an online training course. BOH will also do in-person training on request. The course is approved by the Dental Board for 2 CEUs. Assisting with school screening is simple, takes only a few hours and can be done in your local community on your own schedule. Many screeners only screen one or two
schools near their home, or where their own children go to school. For more information, please contact the Bureau of Oral Health at 785-296-5116 or KBOH@kdheks.gov.

NOTE: The Kansas School Screening Program is funded in part by the Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) 12HP10691-01-01 - Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities, Children's Mercy Family Health Partners and the Delta Dental Foundation of Kansas.

2011 Excellence in Oral Health Awards

Do you know of an individual who is a community leader in oral health? Maybe you know a clinician or organization that has made a positive impact? If so, Please let us know by NOMINATING SOMEONE TODAY by CLICKING HERE for the 2011 Nomination Form.

Awards will be presented at the 2011 Oral Health Kansas Conference September 14-16, 2011 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Overland Park Kansas.

Nominations will be accepted until July 29th, 2011.

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org

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