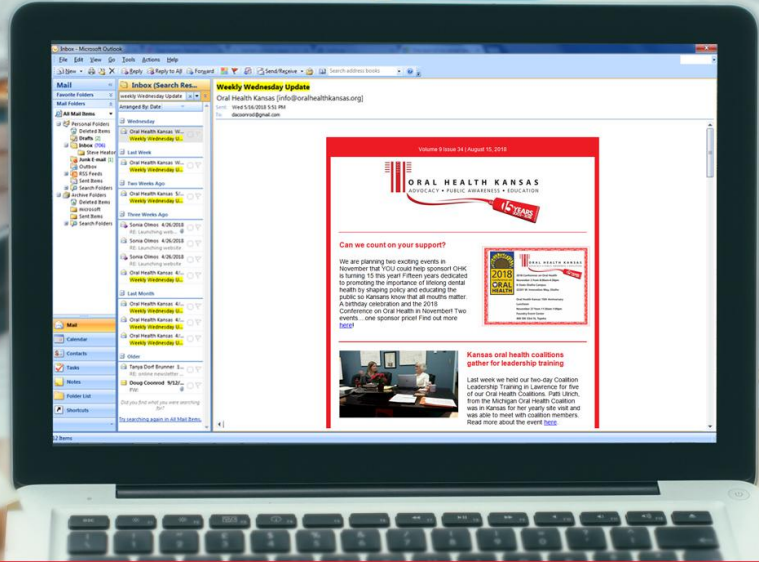




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
 ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

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Give The Recognition Deserved!

Recently we had someone tell us a story about an individual she knew and all of the hard work this person is doing around oral health. She said, "I wish there was a way to show her that her work really is making a difference". Light bulb! There IS a way to show her! We suggested she nominate her for the Excellence in Oral Health Awards! There are different categories to choose from. Individuals who are selected will be honored during our virtual Conference on Oral Health

November 4 and 5. The deadline is quickly approaching. Submit nominations by Friday, September 10 by 5pm. Click [here](#) for information for the nomination forms.

What is a rumor and what is a fact? Check your facts!



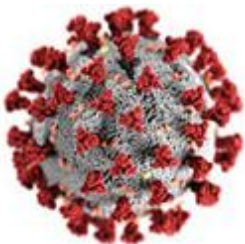
Check The Facts

During the COVID19 pandemic, we have learned the amount of information passed around may not be factual but people don't always take the time to check the facts. Many times this information can be considered rumors or myths. The World Health Organization and the United Nations have characterized this unprecedented spread of information as an "infodemic."

The U.S. Surgeon General, Vice Admiral Vivek H. Murthy, urges everyone to help slow the misinformation being passed around:

"I am urging all Americans to help slow the spread of health misinformation during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Health misinformation is a serious threat to public health. It can cause confusion, sow mistrust, harm people's health, and undermine public health efforts. Limiting the spread of health misinformation is a moral and civic imperative that will require a whole-of-society effort".

A new video explaining community water fluoridation was published last week by popular science educator "Professor Dave." The video called "Lies People Tell About Water" debunks the common misconceptions and misunderstandings about water fluoridation in a quick and easy way. Pseudo-science, as is often seen in community water fluoridation discussions, endangers people's health and spreads mistrust. It is important to turn to scientifically-valid sources for information on public health issues, including water fluoridation. We are proud to share this new, entertaining, and fascinating scientific video about one of our favorite public health issues, community water fluoridation.



COVID19 Resources

As new information surfaces regarding COVID19 illness rates and vaccines, keep yourself up to date on the information as it comes out and continue to keep yourself safe. OHK has a COVID19 resources page, and we do our best to keep it updated for you. Check out our page if you have questions regarding going to the dentist during the pandemic or if you are a provider and would like to know how you can administer vaccines.

We recently added information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approving the first COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. Click here to read more information from the [COVID19 Updates and Resources page](#).



Upcoming Events

- 2021 Conference on Oral Health, presented by Oral Health Kansas, November 4 and 5. More information will be provided [here](#).
- Webinar series: Integrating Race Conversations into Healthy Patient-Provider Interactions, 3rd Friday of every month at 12:00pm CST. Find more information [here](#).
- Families Together, Together We Can Learn Virtual Conference, September 11 beginning at 9am CST. Click [here](#) to learn more information.
- Community Care Network of Kansas Virtual Conference, September 20 - 23, 2021. Register [here](#).
- Kansas Public Health Association Virtual Conference, September 21 - 23, 2021. Register [here](#).



The Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition held their monthly meeting over the lunch hour. Today's guest speaker was Kevin Robertson, Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Association.

Robertson shared the current movement in Congress to enact a dental benefit in the Medicare program. He also discussed the upcoming KanCare 3.0 re-procurement process.



The Shawnee County Coalition is made up of almost 20 members surrounding the Topeka area. They have been going strong for five years and are continuing to work on the [Brush](#),

[Book, Bed Project](#), providing books and dental health kits to families. If you are interested in learning more or becoming a member, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



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.



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Oral Health Kansas • PO BOX 4567Topeka, KS 66604
785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax info@oralhealthkansas.org
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