



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](#).

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Wednesday
Update.**](#)

Former Chief Dental Officer to Speak at Conference on Oral Health

Rear Admiral (retired) Tim Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD, FACD, FPFA, will be presenting virtually at our annual Conference on Oral Health, Friday, October 27. Dr. Ricks presented at our annual conference in 2019 and we are pleased that he can join us again this year.



Dr. Ricks served as the 20th Chief Dental Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service as well as Assistant Surgeon General from 2018 to 2022. Dr. Ricks served in the U.S. Public Health Service for over 23 years as a clinician and an administrator, and over 35 years of total federal service including military service. He currently serves in various roles in the Indian Health Service including as the IHS representative to the Healthy People 2030 Oral Health Workgroup, Continuing Dental Education Coordinator, Expanded Function Dental Assistant Coordinator, IHS National Oral Health Surveillance Coordinator, and National Oral

Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Coordinator.

Dr. Ricks will be part of the Oral Health's Impact on Overall Health session beginning at 8:45am. Get your registration in and join us virtually or in person.

View the full agenda [here](#).

When: Friday, October 27

Registration opens at 7:30am. The day ends at 3:30pm.

Where: University of Kansas Edwards Campus, 12600 Quivira Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213
Or join us virtually.

For lodging: TownePlace Suites Kansas City Overland Park, 7020 W. 133rd Street Overland Park, Kansas 66209, will have a limited number of rooms available. Click [here](#) to reserve your room.



Guideline Recommends Treatment for Dental Pain in Children

A new clinical practice guideline developed by the American Dental Association Science and Research Institute, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and the Center for Integrative Global Oral Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine recommends acetaminophen or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

like ibuprofen as first-line treatments for acute dental pain in children younger than 12. The guideline will be published in the September issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association. Full Story: [ADA News](#) (8/25)



Is Your Child's Mouth Safe?

Now that children are back in school, they'll be getting ready to participate in sports again. Gather all the safety equipment needed and don't forget that mouth guard. Mouth guards help cover the teeth in case there is injury to the mouth or face. If injury is caused to the mouth, [here](#) is a guide to dental trauma that can help you determine what your next step is, should there be damage to your child's teeth.

Also, keep the mouth guard clean! Make sure you clean it with a toothbrush and toothpaste after each use. Put it in a container to avoid damage and do not leave in hot weather. If the mouth guard becomes worn down, it's time to get a new one!



National Community Health Workers Week

This week we are celebrating Community Health Workers (CHW's)! CHW's do exactly what their title says. They are out in your community helping residents stay healthy! They serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

Oral Health Kansas has been working closely with CHW's in Kansas to ensure they have oral health resources available for families. In 2022, they attended the Conference in Oral Health and shared their experiences and how oral health is a big concern with their families. They were grateful for the information they received at our conference and what they could take back to their families. We'll look forward having CHW's at our conference again this year!

For more information about CHW's visit the [Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition website](#).



Free Educational Programs

Through its Think Cultural Health website, Office of Minority Health offers free, accredited online educational programs tailored for a variety of health care professionals, including physicians; nurses; oral health, maternal health, and behavioral health providers; disaster and emergency management personnel; and community health workers/promotores de salud.

Each e-learning program is designed to build knowledge, skills, and awareness of cultural and linguistic competency and culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) to improve quality of care. Click [here](#) to learn about the programs.



Adam Barefoot, DMD, MPH, American Network of Oral Health Coalition Board Member and Secretary, will be presenting on Friday, October 13 to start off the Conference on Oral Health

with a Pre-Conference Session, "Introduction to Public Oral Health". During this free webinar, attendees will learn about the stakeholders and resources involved in the public oral health community and will explore how collaboration among dental professionals, healthcare stakeholders, and community members fosters healthier communities and drives advancements in health outcomes. Click [here](#) to register.



Sugary Drink Display

We have Adult and Children's Sugary Drink Display's available for reservations. These displays are eye catching at exhibits, schools, library, dental offices, clinics and just about anywhere you see them!

We only have a limited amount so please sign up soon if you're interested in reserving one.
Click [here](#) to learn more about sugary drink display reservations!

Follow Us



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