



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](#).

September 13, 2023

Volume 14, Issue 37

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**Weekly
Wednesday
Update.**



Addressing Dental Care Needs in Rural & Underserved Areas

At the Conference on Oral Health, we'll be discussing dental care access issues. During this session, attendees will gain insights into the challenges faced communities in accessing dental care and learn about innovative programs designed to empower dental professionals to overcome barriers and

provide much-needed care in remote or underserved areas. **Sign up to receive the early bird special for \$99. Early bird registration ends September 15!**

When: Friday, October 27

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

Click [here](#) to view the full schedule and register.

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.

CE's will be available.



Sign Up to Exhibit

We're still looking to fill exhibitor spots for the [Conference on Oral Health](#), Friday, October 27. Set up in one location at the Best Conference Center at the KU Edwards Campus and be among participants to share your resources. As an exhibitor, you will receive the benefits below:

- One complimentary conference registration
- A 5 foot table. A tablecloth will not be provided
- Two chairs, and electricity upon request
- Complimentary internet access
- Complimentary access to all conference meal functions and speakers
- Access to virtual conference platform to interact with virtual attendees

[Sign up here!](#) If you have any questions, email at info@oralhealthkansas.org



New Medicaid Code Will Aid in Sedation Dental Access

The Kansas Medicaid program has begun covering a new code that pays hospitals for the use of an operating room when dental care is provided under general anesthesia. While most people do not need hospital sedation to access dental care, those who do need that level of service face many barriers, and the cost of the operating room is one of the biggest barriers. The Kansas Medicaid program began covering [code G0330](#) on September 1, 2023, at the Medicare rate of \$1722.43.

Adding coverage of this code in Kansas makes it financially feasible for hospitals to allocate valuable operating room time for dental care. Oral Health Kansas has created a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document to help providers, hospitals, and ambulatory surgical centers understand how to use G0330. This FAQ can be shared with dental offices, safety net clinics, hospitals, and ambulatory surgical centers. Please contact Oral Health Kansas at info@oralhealthkansas.org with questions.



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated from September 15th to October 15th each year, is a time to honor the diverse cultures, histories, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities in the United States. This celebration is an opportunity to recognize the importance of various aspects of life within these communities, such as oral health. Disparities in oral health affecting the most vulnerable populations in the U.S. are especially impacting Latino communities. Factors such as culture, language, immigration policies, antiimmigrant sentiments, and racism, in addition to other social determinants of health, are influencing Latinos' inability to access oral health care.

In a [white paper](#) supported by CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, a survey was conducted by the Hispanic Dental Association. The Hispanic Dental Association Research Team conducted a scoping review of the existing databases with data representation for Hispanic/Latino populations at the national and state level.

Some of the findings are below:

1. Family poverty level and education are major predictors of oral health inequities. The prevalence of untreated dental decay among Hispanics ranged from 10% to 25%.
2. On average, less than half of Hispanic children from 12 to 19 years had one or more dental sealants.
3. About 15% of Hispanic adults who are 65 years old or older have lost all of their teeth.
4. Across all age groups, Hispanics reported lower “excellent” or “very good” status of teeth and gums than non-Hispanic Whites.

It is essential to understand the micro-cultures within the Latino community to address behavioral patterns in oral health. OHK is sensitive to various cultures and have provided resources in English and Spanish. Check out our [consumer resources](#) section on our website.



Upcoming Events

- Course: An Introduction to Value-Based Care in Oral Health: Moving from Volume to Value, 1 CE. Click [here](#) for the course information.
- Self paced courses: [Providing Oral Health Care to Autistic Individuals](#) and [Caring for Individuals with Disabilities: Practical Considerations for Dental Providers](#).
- **Webinar:** How Policy Influences Hispanic Oral Health, September 14 at 12:00pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Connecting to the Community: A Provider’s Work Beyond the Dental Chair, September 27. Find out more here. <https://bit.ly/3RcEqcO>
- Community Care Network of Kansas conference, October 4-6, in Lawrence. Learn more [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Oral Health Workforce Learning Community Registration, October 11. Click here: <bit.ly/3R5yqTn>
- [Conference on Oral Health](#) - hybrid conference on Friday, October 27 at the KU Edwards Campus.
- **Webinar:** Community Engagement & Cross-Sector Collaboration Learning Community Registration, December 13. Click here: <bit.ly/3L2Yz11>



Congratulations to Mallory Lutz for receiving the 2023 Alumni Gold Award through Washburn University. Mallory is an Associate at Little Government Relations, which provides OHK's lobbying



services. Previously, Mallory worked as a Park Ranger for the National Park Service at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka. She also serves on several local boards such as the YWCA, Forge Young Professionals, the Shawnee County Historical Society, Friends of the Free State Capitol, and the Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy. We enjoy working with Mallory and appreciate the long hours she works to give us remarkable services.



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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