



KHA's Current Report
November 27, 2024

President's Perspective – Thankful for Our Members and Partners

With the Thanksgiving holiday falling so late this year, I feel it has given us more time to reflect on how we are thankful. I am full of gratitude for my family, friends, good health and the opportunity to work in this field with so many of you.

While this is a short workweek for many people, we know many members will be working during the holiday to care for the health of Kansans. We at the Kansas Hospital Association would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the countless health care professionals who unselfishly sacrifice themselves to care for our family, friends and those who are the most vulnerable among us.

One of our strategic priorities at KHA is member partner and engagement. I am so grateful we have much to be thankful for in this area of focus. In 2024, we focused on collecting and sharing best practices, engaging and involving our members in guiding the work of the association, strengthening relationships, collaborating with health care stakeholders and industry leaders and helping members facilitate critical conversations and build local partnerships.

We appreciate the tremendous leadership and support provided by so many of you to ensure this association is a valuable asset to all our members. We are especially thankful to be able to represent Kansas hospitals, the cornerstones in nearly every Kansas community. Your commitment to care, compassion and healing is nothing short of remarkable. I hope each of you can take some time this week to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving from a grateful KHA staff!

--Chad Austin

KHA HIDI Advantage Optics Update and HIDI Academy Learning

[Advantage Optics](#), the online reporting tool accessed from the [HIDI Advantage User Portal](#), is where your KHA hospital-level data resides. This week, the site was updated with the September 2024 data and now contains October 2019 – September 2024 inpatient, outpatient and emergency department discharges. This includes Executive Snapshot Dashboards, located under Market Optics.

As a reminder, HIDI recently launched the HIDI Academy. This new service enhances users' learning experience by providing access to HIDI-specific Market Optics training modules and resources through a user-friendly interface.

For assistance with access to Advantage Optics or to the HIDI Academy, please contact [Dee Lewis](#) or [Sally Othmer](#).

--Sally Othmer

CMS Releases Guidance for Time-Share and Leased Space Arrangements for CAHs

On Nov. 20, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released [QSO-25-08-CAH](#) to state survey agency directors to provide greater clarity on how a Critical Access Hospital may provide leased space and timeshare arrangements to other health care entities, including private physician practice while maintaining compliance with the Social Security Act and the Conditions of Participation. When a CAH participates in space-sharing arrangements, it is expected the CAH will consistently demonstrate independent compliance with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, including the risk of implicating the physician self-referral law.

--Ron Marshall

Breaking Down Barriers to Health Care by Addressing the Social Determinants of Health – Webinar Dec. 11

The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has announced its next Healthy People 2030 webinar: *Breaking Down Barriers to Health Care by Addressing the Social Determinants of Health*. This webinar will take place from noon to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 11.



--Karen Braman

ACIP Approves and CDC Adopts Pneumococcal, COVID-19 and Meningococcal Vaccine Recommendations

In its Oct. 23-24, meeting, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices approved several recommendations regarding pneumococcal, COVID-19, and meningococcal vaccines as summarized below:

- Pneumococcal Vaccines – ACIP recommends a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for all PCV-naïve adults aged ≥50 years.
- COVID-19 Vaccines – In addition to previously recommended 2024-2025 vaccination:
 - ACIP recommends a second dose* of 2024-2025 COVID-19 for adults ages 65 years and older
 - ACIP recommends a second dose** of 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine for people ages six months-64 years who are moderately or severely immunocompromised
 - ACIP recommends additional doses (i.e., 3 or more doses) of 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine for people ages six months and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised under shared clinical decision making
 - *If previously unvaccinated and receiving Novavax, two doses are recommended as initial vaccination series followed by a third dose of any age-appropriate 2024-

2025 COVID-19 vaccine six months (minimum interval two months) after second dose

- ****If** previously unvaccinated or receiving initial vaccination series, at least two doses of 2024-2025 vaccine are recommended, and depending on vaccination history more may be needed. This additional 2024-2025 vaccine dose is recommended six months (minimum interval two months) after completion of initial vaccination series.
- Meningococcal Vaccines
 - ACIP recommends MenB-4C (Bexsero®) be administered as a two-dose series at birth and six months when given to healthy adolescents and young adults aged 16-23 years based on shared clinical decision-making for the prevention of serogroup B meningococcal disease.
 - ACIP recommends MenB-4C (Bexsero®) be administered as a 3-dose series at birth, one-two, and six months when given to persons aged ≥10 years at increased risk for serogroup B meningococcal disease (i.e., persons with anatomic or functional asplenia, complement component deficiencies, or complement inhibitor use; microbiologists routinely exposed to N. meningitidis isolates; and persons at increased risk during an outbreak).

The CDC adopted ACIP's recommendations and they are now official. The official recommendations will be published in CDC's resources in the coming months, including in MMWR.

--Karen Braman

Health Observances and Recognition Days for December Month-Long Observances

- Gift of Sight Month
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month (National)
- Sharps Injury Prevention Month (International)

Week-Long Observances

- Dec. 1-7 – Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week and Handwashing Awareness Week (National)
- Dec. 2-6 – Influenza Vaccination Week (National)

Recognition Days | Events

- Dec. 1 – AIDS Day (World)
- Dec. 3 – Day of Persons with Disability (International)
- Dec. 21 – Shake And Freeze™ Day (Shorts Day) - Parkinson's Awareness Day
- Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve – Quit Smoking Resolutions

The Kansas Hospital Association and Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development are pleased to bring you the [2025 Calendar of Health Observances & Recognition Days](#). Yet another example of our commitment to providing health care strategists with practical, timely resources. This calendar is designed to help you plan your 2025 community health events, internal and external communications, social media campaigns and more. The 2025 calendar is easy to navigate, interactive and features more than 230 health observances and recognition days. Don't miss out on receiving calendar updates from SHSMD sponsor Baldwin Publishing. Not only do they provide you with a Health Observance Guide with ALL the content you need to post every day for the following month, they also give access to healthy recipes, cooking videos, branded cookbooks, recipe calendars, wellness content and solutions.

Access the 2024 Calendar of Health Observances & Recognition Days to help you plan for the remainder of the year.

[Download the 2024 Calendar](#)

[Download the 2025 Calendar](#)

--Jan Fenwick

Federal and National News

CMS Posts New, Revised Regulatory Guidance

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services posted [revised](#) guidance for all hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals related to immediate jeopardy. The revision creates a Core Appendix Q to be used by surveyors for all provider and supplier types to determine when to cite immediate jeopardy. The most notable change appears to be that CMS moved all CLIA guidance previously in Appendix Q to new Subpart XI: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment of 1988.

In addition, CMS [published](#) new guidance for CAHs on time share and lease space arrangements. The guidance provides clarity on how a CAH may leverage space-sharing arrangements with other health care entities to increase access to additional care and services within the community while maintaining compliance with distance requirements.

MLN Connects Provider eNews Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the following [updates](#) to *MLN Connects Provider eNews*:

- [Opioid Treatment Programs: CY 2025 Updates](#)
- [HIV Screening and Prevention](#)