

OPEN OFFICE HOURS

Infection Prevention Long-Term Care & Communal Living **August 27, 2024!**

Thank you to everyone who joined us! Please know that we are available for any questions or concerns. Double check that the next call scheduled for September 24, 2024 is on your calendar, you'll use the same zoom link every month! If you would like to submit a question or suggest a discussion topic for next month's discussion ahead of time, please email lfitzgerald@kfmc.org.

August Spotlight: [Guarding Health: Elevating the Role of Infection Prevention in Healthcare Construction](#) (slides & links to resources)

- Presented by Linda Van Hoecke, Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Section, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

KS HAN:

- The Kansas Health Alert Network, visit the site to learn about KS-HAN and how request to receive alerts. From this site you can also access recent alerts that have been set out: <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/801/Kansas-Health-Alert-Network-KS-HAN>

Vaccines:

COVID-19 Vaccines

- [KS-HAN from Kansas Immunization Program regarding COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States \(Updated 8-23-24\)](#)

RSV Vaccines

- <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/billing-medicare-respiratory-vaccines.pdf>

KDHE HAI/AR Section Updates:

- Influenza recommendations have been updated to align with CDC recommendations.
- KDHE recommendations on home isolation are as follows (updated 5/22/24):
- **Influenza Control of Cases**
 - For each person hospitalized with a case, droplet precautions shall be followed for seven days following onset of illness or for the duration of the illness if the case is in an immune-compromised patient.
 - For each person with a case shall remain in home isolation for seven days following onset of illness or for the duration of illness if the case is immune compromised, except when seeking medical care.
- You can view the complete [MEMORANDUM](#) here.



- Additional guidance can be found at CDC: [Prevention Strategies for Seasonal Influenza in Healthcare Settings | CDC](#).
- Looking for more information on Infection Prevention, reach out to their team!
 - Email: kdhe.haiar@ks.gov
 - Request form: <https://forms.gle/nDsct1jh46TLMKX67>

NHSN Tips:

Influenza Annual Survey data collection begins October 1.

- Define your process for tracking employees, independent practitioners, students, volunteers, trainees, and other contract staff's vaccination status prior to October 1.
- You may enter data into NHSN weekly, monthly or wait until the conclusion of defined data collect period (10/1/24-3/31/25), but keep in mind with each update you will need enter totals into the sheet, as it will not add to previous entered data, it replaces what was previously entered.
- [CDC NHSN Influenza Vaccination Summary Reporting FAQs](#)

National Infection Prevention Forum Aims to Foster Collaboration in LTC

- How to get started: To enroll in this national forum, all you need is an email address and password. Instructions for enrolling are available [here](#).

Upcoming Educational Opportunities:

- The Kansas City APIC chapter is hosting a fall Infection Prevention conference on October 18, **early bird registration ends 8/31/2024!** [GKC Educational Conference Registration](#)

APIC, Join a chapter!

- **APIC Chapter 009- Wichita Area:** Next meeting, September 17, 2024. For more information contact <https://community.apic.org/wichitaarea/home>
- **APIC Chapter 031- Greater Kansas City:** Next meeting, September 10, 2024. For more visit their website: <https://community.apic.org/greaterkansascity/home>
- **APIC Chapter 115-Heart of America:** Next meeting, September 3, 2024. For more information contact the chapter Secretary, Lacy Bowman (lharelson@kumc.edu)



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