

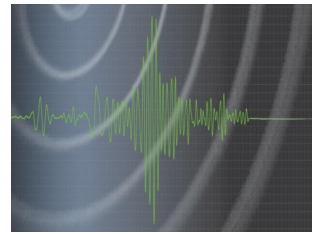
the **checkup**

your pulse on preparedness

A Kansas Healthcare Coalition Publication

Healthcare Coalition Partners of KS, LLC

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Did You Feel It?

You may have been one of the hundreds of Kansans feeling an earthquake in the last few months. Early December 2021 had several earthquakes, "...Kansas was shaken by 1 quake of magnitude 4.3, 3 quakes between 3.0 and 4.0, and 5 quakes between 2.0 and 3.0. There were also 3 quakes below magnitude 2.0 which people don't normally feel. Biggest quake: 4.3 quake 16 mi southeast of Salina, Saline County, Kansas..." according to the United States Geological Society. "Though we seldom feel them, earthquakes are not rare. Every 24 hours, more than 1,000 earthquakes occur around the world. Earthquakes are produced when rocks beneath the earth's surface suddenly move along faults, which are fractures that occur at weak points in the earth. This movement releases stress-energy that has been built up by forces inside the earth. The strength of the earthquake depends on the amount of stress released." (Don W. Steeples and Liz Brosius, Kansas Geological Survey, Public Information Circular)

Since the chance of a major earthquake exists in Kansas, what do we need to do to be prepared?

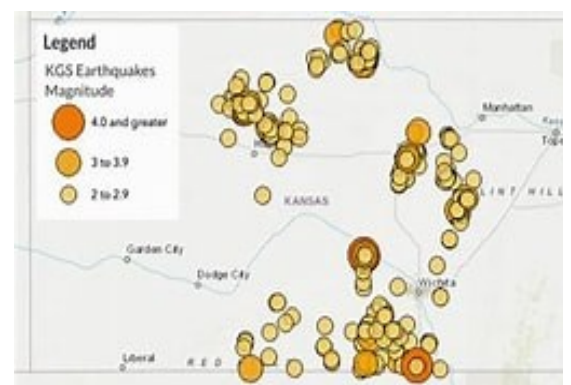
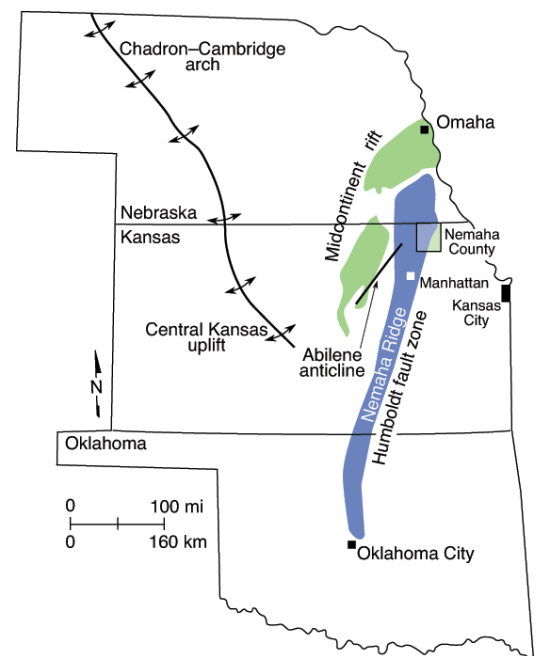
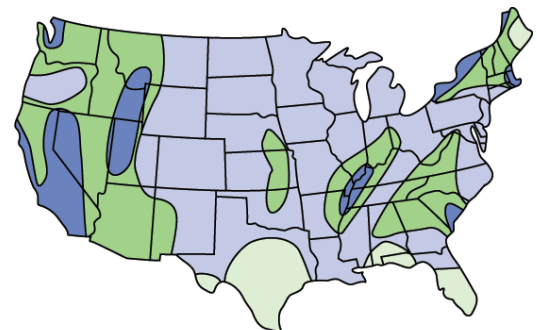
1. Secure your space by identifying hazards and securing moveable items.
 - A. Look for items around your house for things that could fall or move.
 - B. If cupboard doors can easily fly open, install door latches or fasteners to prevent dishes from falling.
 - C. Secure TVs, stereos, shelves, hanging plants, heavy pictures or mirrors to prevent them from falling from the walls.
2. Plan to be safe by creating a disaster plan and deciding how you will communicate in an emergency.
3. Organize disaster supplies in a convenient location.

Consider: fire extinguisher, adequate supplies of medications, crescent and pipe wrenches to turn off gas and water supplies, first aid kit, flashlights, portable radio, water for each family member, canned and packaged food, pet food, camp stove or grill to cook on outdoors, waterproof, heavy-duty plastic bags for waste disposal.
4. Organize important documents, strengthening your property, and considering insurance.

(Recommended by the Earthquake Country Alliance.)

What to do during an earthquake: If you are indoors—stay there. Get under a desk or table and hang on to it or move into a hallway or against an inside wall. If outside—get into the open and away from buildings, power lines, chimneys, and anything else that might fall on you. If driving—stop, but carefully. Move your car out of traffic as possible. Do not stop on or under a bridge or overpass or under trees, light posts, power lines, or signs.

(Taken from the USGS, [Earthquake Hazards](https://www.usgs.gov/earthquake-hazards) | U.S. Geological Survey (usgs.gov))





Coalition Best Practices Around Kansas



The Metro Kansas City Region is collaborating with regional partners in a request for federal staffing assistance. This request is the result of ongoing bi-state, cross agency, and multi-disciplinary collaboration and, if approved, will be utilized to the benefit the entirety of the regional health care system.



The SEK HCC recommends having a strong focus on relationships / networking between members. Not only knowing other responders, but also having specific contacts in other counties helps to streamline communication and collaboration.

North East

Some facilities are utilizing real-life COVID-19 surge scenarios to fill commissioning body exercise requirements. If choosing to do this, organizations define the operation period and /or use some form of triggered scenario in order for it to meet requirements. (Just using "COVID-19 Surge" from the last couple of years as a blanket real-life situation will not be sufficient.) One facility is utilizing the language, "scaling up and scaling down" as their trigger scenarios and their commissioning body like the language.



Teamwork has been crucial in the Northwest region. Quotes one member, "It is taking team work where other departments stepped in to help with staff shortages due to any number of sickness that popped up. Without the facility wide team work of sharing the work load it would have been tough. It has been great to see everyone helping out where they can."



DeAnn Konkel, the SC Coordinator hosts "Hospital Huddle" calls twice each week. The hospitals are able to discuss what's going on at their facility, what problems or issues they are having, what they may need, and if they are short on supplies and/or equipment.



The NC Region recommends working with your planning partners to develop a plan to provide shelter services for community residents who are bed confined, have mobility issues, deaf and blind, etc. prior to the upcoming storm season where power could be out for days. The conversations at the local level now can save stressful hours this upcoming storm season.



SHERT
Healthcare Coalition

The SW Region uses the same color of evacuation vests to tell the difference between Long Term Care (LTC) residents and hospital patients. One hospital's kits include the resident's picture, current medication records, allergies, code status and family contact information. These just clip on to the clothes they are wearing at the time of evacuation.



Kansas City Metro HCC Membership Meeting 2/24/22 at 2:00 pm via TEAMS. Please register for this meeting on KS Train using course number 1092673.

NCK HCC Membership Meeting will be held 3/11/22 at 9:00am via TEAMS. Please register for this meeting on KS Train using course number 1092953.

NEKHCC Membership Meeting will be held 2/1/22 at 9:00 am via TEAMS. Please register for this meeting on KS Train using course number 1071554.

NW HCC Membership Meeting will be held Tuesday, 2/8/22 at 1:30 pm. Please register for this meeting on KS Train using course number 1084798.

SC HCC Membership Meeting will be held 3/16/22 at 10:00 am via TEAMS. Please register for this meeting on KS Train using course number 1098828.

SEKS HCC Membership Meeting will be held 2/22/22 at 10:00 am.

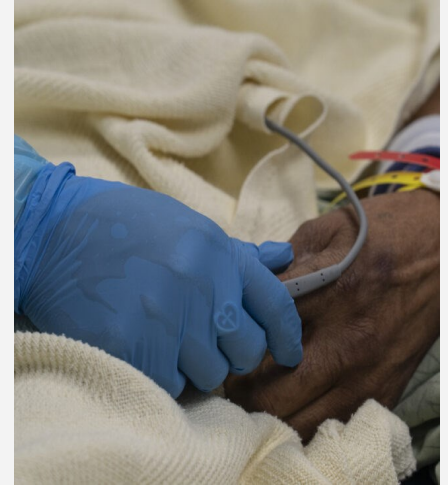
SHERT HCC Membership Meeting will be held on 3/11/22. Please register on KSTrain using course number, 1059096.

Long COVID & Fatiguing Illness Recovery Program

The Kansas Hospital Association is sharing the following CDC-funding resource for primary care clinicians caring for patients with Long COVID-19.

Family Health Centers of San Diego, the ECHO Institute, University of Washington, and University of Colorado have collaborated to provide a CDC-funded monthly webinar-style ECHO learning session to rapidly disseminate Post-acute Sequelae of SARS-COV-2 infection (PASC) and Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) findings and emerging best practices. This large-scale national monthly ECHO webinar series will offer didactic presentations by subject matter experts, examples of emerging best practices and models of care, and a facilitated Q&A. This program is open to all healthcare professionals and all Long COVID and ME/CFS patient-lived experience experts interested in learning more about the treatment of Long COVID and ME/CFS. Additional information and registration can be found on the LC&FIRP [ECHO Webpage](#).

The next session will take place on February 10, 2022.



PIO Reminders

According to FEMA's Basic Public Information Officer (PIO) Course as well as the National Incident Management System, "public information consists of the processes, procedures and systems for communicating timely, accurate and accessible incident information." Preparing ahead of time will help ensure that numerous audience's receive timely, consistent messages.

PREPARATION: Developing key messages ahead of time and having them ready will greatly assist the PIO. Making sure everyone on the team knows the PIO role, where to access prepared messages / templates, contact information, etc. is crucial as well as rehearsing and practicing messages.

PROCESS: the process of getting information to the public during an incident is on ongoing cycle that involves:

- Gathering information
- Verifying information
- Coordinating information
- Disseminating information

PLANNING: the eight step strategic communications model can help in your planning.

1. Assess the current situation
2. Set measurable communication goals
3. Define your intended/"target" audiences
4. Develop and pretest your messages
5. Select the best ways to deliver those messages
6. Create an action plan
7. Develop and pretest materials
8. Implement and evaluate the plan

Question: What Valentine's Day candy was first created on equipment made for lozenges?

Answer: Sweethearts

PIO To-Go Kit

- Mobile devices with chargers and back-up batteries/chargers. Video editing software downloaded to phone.
- Printed contact lists and information materials
- Updated media contact list
- Background information necessary to provide needed information to the public and media
- Topic specific fact sheets, backgrounders, talking points, and other news release templates.
- Personal Care & Comfort Items

Resource Reminder

Telemed equipment is available on a first come, first served basis. Please use the following link to access the application for the **free equipment**:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AAkaju_pN0GOSlFEllirrYmIlkb4FExMv2TrZk4yx3RUNzA3RUNXVlE4QlQyNEFYNDRIMVdUSUsxRy4u



Pulse Oximeter



Electronic Stethoscope





HCC Workplan Items Due:

- 3/15/22 - The Membership List is to be updated twice a year - this would be a great time to get it updated.
- 3/15/22 - The updated Inventory Management Plan to be distributed to KDHE.
- 3/31/22 - The updated Inventory Management Plan to be distributed to membership.
- 3/31/22 - Final Preparedness Plan to be reviewed and approved by the HCC, submitted to KDHE, and distributed to membership.

METRO HCC Bragging Rights

Dan Robeson, the Emergency Manager for Johnson County is being recognized this month by Andrew Conyers. Dan, as Emergency Manager, and among many other duties, has been fielding requests for ventilators from the State even late at night. Thanks for your faithful work Dan!



Collaboration is Key



Ladonna Reinhert RN is the Lincoln County Health Department Administrator and has served as the interim Emergency Manager for Lincoln County during the beginning of the pandemic. Even though Ladonna does

not have to, she still meets regularly with the North Central Kansas Emergency Managers to provide insight during these ever-changing times. Kati Hembry is the Education and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Lincoln County Hospital. Kati serves on the executive committee for the North Central Healthcare Coalition and continues to inspire other members with her ability to foster relationships that allow for the Hospital to best serve the community.

Together, these two responders made a dramatic difference in Lincoln County. January was hard on everyone with the increase in COVID-19 cases. However, Lincoln County faced an additional strain on their county's response due to not having a current disaster declaration in place. In mid-January, Kati Hembry reached out to her local Emergency Manager, searching for PPE and testing supplies as the hospital was reaching critically low supplies. The Emergency Manager informed her that the county could not utilize the State's resources due to not having a declaration in place.

Ladonna's help was secured by Katie for this situation. With Ladonna having the experience as an Emergency Manager and the knowledge of an RN, she knew how critical it was to get relief for the hospital. Together, she and Kati presented an eye-opening presentation highlighting the depth of the crisis to the Lincoln County Commission. Through these efforts, Lincoln County now has a 60-day disaster declaration that provides them with three crucial advantages – Tort liability, access to State resources, and allows the county to apply for FEMA Public Assistance for this disaster.

Critical Blood Shortage



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Trauma Program (KTP) continue to highlight the importance of blood donation amid increasingly

critical blood shortages experienced across the state and nation. KDHE and KTP encourage those able to schedule an appointment to donate blood. In recent weeks, the Red Cross has declared this the worst blood shortage in over a decade, with less than a one-day supply of critical blood types.

Locations for blood donation can be found at organization websites such as:

savealifenow.org, AmericasBlood.org, or redcrossblood.org.

Taken from KDHE announcement on 1/18/22

Need some new visual resources? [Publications | KDHE COVID-19 \(kdheks.gov\)](#) or [Medical Arts - COVID-19 POSTERS, SIGNAGE AND OTHER RESOURCES \(nih.gov\)](#) or [COVID-19 Infographics & Posters | Institute for Food Safety at Cornell University](#)



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