

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.

# TeleNews

KU Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth



Welcome to the latest edition of *TeleNews* from the Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Feel free to [share TeleNews](#) with business colleagues by forwarding it to your associates. If you are receiving a forwarded copy of *TeleNews* and would like to receive your own copy, you can [request a subscription](#).

To keep *TeleNews* from possibly being filtered by your firewall as spam, please add our return address - [telenews@kumc.edu](mailto:telenews@kumc.edu) - to your address book or firewall's "whitelist."

## *Feature Articles*

- [HIT Conference Update](#)
- [Health Care in Economic Stimulus Package](#)
- [Healthy Kansans 2010](#)
- [EHR Care Study](#)
- [KUCTT Assists Educators](#)

---

## **DON'T MISS IT!**

# **HEALTH 3.0: KANSAS HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE 2009**

*July 14 & 15, 2009  
Hilton Airport Hotel  
Wichita, KS*

*Emerging Innovations for Improved Access and  
Integration of Quality Health Care*

**FEATURES: Technology, Technology, Technology!**

- What's New
- What's Working in Kansas
- Benefits in using technology

### 3 TRACKS -- Designed to make the best use of your time

- **TELEMEDICINE AND TELEHEALTH** -- technology for health care delivery and service
- **INFORMATICS** -- clinical information management for efficient health care
- **INTEGRATED HIT** -- where medical meets community

*For more information:*

<http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine/>

(913) 588-2257

[galloway@kumc.edu](mailto:galloway@kumc.edu)

## HEALTH CARE & HITECH - BIG PARTS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY



There has been a buzz throughout the health care community this month as President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, containing \$59 billion to be spent for health care activity. A component of that Act, called the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) allocates approximately \$36 billion over the next six years for health information exchange infrastructure as well as incentive payments to physician practices adopting electronic health records (EHR), disease management

systems, and other technologies.

According to reports in *Healthcare IT News*, President Barack Obama has always had health IT initiatives intended for his proposed Economic Stimulus plan. During his campaign for the presidency, Obama pledged he would spend \$10 billion each year through 2014 in support of health IT utilization. As recently as last month he stated, "To save not only jobs, but money and lives, we will update and computerize our health care system to cut red tape, prevent medical mistakes and help reduce health care costs by billions of dollars each year."

Health-related federal agencies receiving economic recovery funds include:

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** - for short-term research; construction, renovation and repairs; equipment purchase
- **Health Resources and Services Admin (HRSA)** - build/repair health centers; equipment purchase
- **National Science Foundation (NSF)** - academic research; education and human resources; facilities construction
- **Department of Energy (DOE)** - advanced scientific computing; construction and upgrades; research projects
- **National Aeronautics and Space Admin (NASA)** - scientific and aeronautics research
- **Department of Agriculture (USDA)** - deferred maintenance at laboratories
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** - habitat and fisheries restoration; satellite development
- **U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS)** - repair and restoration of science facilities
- **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)** - comparative effectiveness research

## HEALTH RESOURCE ON THE INTERNET - HEALTHY KANSAS 2010



*Healthy People 2010* is a national health initiative designed to help Americans to reach and maintain high levels of good health by engaging in healthy activity and measuring their progress against leading health indicators. This program, designed from the best of scientific knowledge within the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is designed to build on health initiatives of the past and establish measurements that will prove valuable over time.

While the national web site - <http://www.healthypeople.gov> - is a valuable resource for information, publications, and data that can be applied to a variety of wellness initiatives, related programs developed specifically for Kansans are also available. A check of the web site <http://www.healthykansans2010.org> will link you with related health issues being identified and addressed by Kansas' legislators and other state leaders. In addition to information on the overall goals established for Kansas, the Healthy Kansas 2010 web site gives you 200 specific steps Kansans can take that will ensure healthy lifestyles for you and others in our state.

Take a look at the 200 steps, and bring your agency or organization into the effort to live healthier lives as part of Healthy Kansas 2010.

## EHR USE AT SAFETY NET CLINICS



A new study has just been released by the California Healthcare Foundation containing results of the implementation of electronic health records (EHR) systems in three California safety net clinics. This study is of particular interest because safety net clinics, in general, tend to be slower to adopt the use of EHRs due to complexity of their patient care and billing systems.

The study goes into great detail regarding each clinic's implementation, and clearly points out that in adopting the use of an EHR system, clinic administrators should be very clear in what objectives they want to obtain with the new system. The dramatic change that occurs in EHR data management may result in totally different data sets after implementation than existed before.

The full report is available at [www.chcf.org/documents](http://www.chcf.org/documents), or contact Gordon Alloway at KUCTT - [galloway@kumc.edu](mailto:galloway@kumc.edu) or 913-588-2257.

## KUCTT ASSISTS EDUCATORS



The KU Center for Telemedicine & Telehealth (KUCTT) serves as KU Medical Center's "hub" for a variety of activities related to telehealth and other health information technology. Examples of KUCTT activity include:

- Assisting KUMC physicians as they connect with patients in remote locations for both clinical and preventive services
- Developing new telemedicine or telehealth programs specifically for Kansans in rural areas
- Serving as a Telehealth Resource Center available to the public
- Educating the public and government policy-makers on the benefits of telemedicine and telehealth use
- Conducting research on telemedicine and telehealth use, measuring factors such as effectiveness, feasibility and financial impact

During the past two weeks, KUCTT has provided telemedicine demonstration sessions for students ranging from high school to post-college level. We provided demonstrations to two groups of students from area high schools who had demonstrated an interest in studying science and technology. While visiting various departments within KUMC, the students were able to view a live, interactive video conferencing event as well as discuss advancements in telehealth technology that may affect them by the time they graduate.

Our most recent demonstration was organized for occupational therapy students at KUMC School of Medicine. The class instructors, Louann Rinner and Wendy Hildenbrand, ensure that each year's students are aware of current uses of telehealth and other health information technology. This year they linked their two classes with the office of Kathy Davis, the Project Manager for the Connected Kansas Kids program and long-time user of telemedicine for delivery of pediatric services, who discussed with them the topic of grief and its effect on patients and family members.

If you have questions about the use of telemedicine or telehealth and how it relates to areas in which you are working, feel free to contact KUCTT at (913) 588-2226, or check our web site at <http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine>.

You received this newsletter because you either participated in past Telemedicine consultations, or you requested a subscription.

[Unsubscribe](mailto:kidsauth@everestkc.net) kidsauth@everestkc.net from this list.

Our mailing address is:

KU Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth  
3901 Rainbow Blvd -- Mail Stop 1048 -- Kansas City, KS 66160

Our telephone:

913-588-2226

Managing Editor: [Gordon Alloway](#)

Copyright (C) 2008 KU Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth All rights reserved.

[View Archives.](#)

[Forward](#) this email to a friend

[Update your profile](#)