

2012 Health Observances

January

Month-long Observances

Blood Donor Month, Cervical Cancer Screening Month, Cervical Health Awareness Month, Glaucoma Awareness Month, National Birth Defects Prevention Awareness Month, Radon Action Month, Thyroid Awareness Month

Other Health Observances

4 Louis Braille's Birthday (1809-1852)
6 Find a Dentist Day
15-21 Healthy Weight Week
19 Women's Healthy Weight Day
22-28 Nurse Anesthetists Week
23-27 Medical Group Practice Week
25 National IV Nurse Day

February

Month-long Observances

Age-Related Macular Degeneration/Low Vision Awareness Month, American Heart Month, Children's Dental Health Month, Condom Month, International Prenatal Infection Prevention Month, Kids ENT (Ears, Nose, Throat) Health Month, Wise Health Care Consumer Month

Other Health Observances

1-7 Patient Recognition Week
3 Wear Red Day
4 Cancer Day (World)
5-11 Burn Awareness Week
5-11 PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week
6-10 Pride in Food Service Week
7-14 Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week
11 Day of the Sick (World)
12-18 Cardiac Rehabilitation Week
12-18 Cardiovascular Professionals Week
14 Donor Day
17 Woman's Heart Day
19-25 Poison Prevention Week
26-March 3 Eating Disorders Awareness Week

March

Month-long Observances

Athletic Training Month, Brain Injury Awareness Month, Child Life Month, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, Eye Donor Month, Kidney Month, Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month, Nutrition Month, Professional Social Work Month, Save Your Vision Month, Workplace Eye Wellness Month

Other Health Observances

4-10 Dental Assistants Recognition Week
4-10 Patient Safety Awareness Week
5-9 School Breakfast Week
11 Kidney Day (World)
11-17 Health Care Human Resources Week
11-17 Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week
12-18 Brain Awareness Week
12-18 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week
14 Registered Dietitian Day
17-24 Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week
18-24 Poison Prevention Week
24 TB Day (World)
25-31 Health Information Professionals Week
25-31 Root Canal Awareness Week
27 Diabetes Alert Day
27 Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen's Birthday (1845-1923)
30 Doctors' Day

April

Month-long Observances

Alcohol Awareness Month, Autism Awareness Month, Cancer Control Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, Counseling Awareness Month, Donate Life Month, Facial Protection Month, Foot Health Awareness Month, Humor Month, Irritable Bowel Syndrome Awareness Month, March for Babies, Minority Health Month, Occupational Therapy Month, Sexually Transmitted Infection Awareness Month, Sports Eye Safety Month, Women's Eye Health and Safety Month, Youth Sports Safety Month

Other Health Observances

1-7 Healthcare Access Personnel Week
2-8 Public Health Week (National)
5 Sir Joseph Lister's Birthday (1827-1912)
7 Alcohol Screening Day

April continued...

7	Health Day (World)
9-13	Cancer Registrars Week
9-15	Healthcare Patient Advocacy Week
11-17	Health Information Privacy and Security Week
12	Radiology Nurses Day
15-21	Healthcare Volunteer Week
15-21	Neurodiagnostic Week
16	Healthcare Decisions Day
16-22	Medical Fitness Week
16	Voice Day
20-22	Youth Service Day
21-28	Infant Immunization Week
22-28	Healthcare Administrative Professionals Week
22-28	Medical Laboratory Professionals Week
23-28	Safe Kids Week
25	Noise Awareness Day
28	YMCA Healthy Kids [®] Day
29-May 5	Occupational Safety and Health Week

May

Month-long Observances

Arthritis Awareness Month, Arthritis Walk[®], Better Hearing and Speech Month, Better Sleep Month, Bike Month, Clean Air Month, Critical Care Awareness and Recognition Month, Employee Health and Fitness Month, Healthy Vision Month, Hepatitis Awareness Month, High Blood Pressure Education Month, Huntington's Disease Awareness Month, Lupus Awareness Month, Lyme Disease Awareness Month, Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month[®], Mental Health Month, Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month, Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Month, NF (Neurofibromatosis) Awareness Month, Older Americans Month, Oncology Nursing Month, Osteoporosis Month, Physical Fitness and Sports Month, Stroke Awareness Month, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, Trauma Awareness Month, Ultraviolet Awareness Month, Vasculitis Awareness Month

Other Health Observances

1-7	Physical Education and Sport Week
2	Asthma Awareness Day on Capitol Hill
6-12	Alcohol and Other Drug-Related Birth Defects Week
6-12	Anxiety and Depression Awareness Week
6-12	Children's Mental Health Week
6-12	Hospital Week
6-12	Hug Holiday Week

May continued...

6-12	North American Occupational Safety and Health Week
6-12	Nurses Week (Day, 6)
7	Melanoma Monday [®]
9	Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day
9	School Nurse Day
10	Children's Mental Health Awareness Day
12	CFS Awareness Day
12	Fibromyalgia Awareness Day
12	Florence Nightingale's Birthday (1820-1910)
13-19	Food Allergy Awareness Week
13-19	Nursing Home Week
13-19	Women's Health Week
14-18	Medical Transcriptionist Week
14-18	Neuropathy Week
14-20	Stuttering Awareness Week
16	Employee Health and Fitness Day
18	HIV Vaccine Awareness Day
20-26	Emergency Medical Services Week
25	Missing Children's Day
30	Senior Health and Fitness Day
31	No Tobacco Day (World)

June

Month-long Observances

Aphasia Awareness Month, Fireworks Eye Safety Month, Hernia Awareness Month, Home Safety Month, Men's Health Month, Migraine Awareness Month, Scleroderma Awareness Month, Vision Research Month

Other Health Observances

3	Cancer Survivors Day
3-9	Community Health Improvement Week
3-9	Sun Safety Week
5-11	Headache Awareness Week
5	Healthcare Recruiter Recognition Day
10-16	Vascular Nursing Week
11-17	Men's Health Week
14	Blood Donor Day (World)
14	Career Nursing Assistants' Day
14-21	Nursing Assistants Week
15	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini's Birthday (1850-1917)
18-22	Healthcare Risk Management Week

June continued...

21	ASK (Asking Saves Kids) Day
24-30	Deaf-Blind Awareness Week
27	HIV Testing Day
27-July 5	Eye Safety Awareness Week

July

Month-long Observances

Cord Blood Awareness Month, Fireworks Safety Month, Group B Strep Awareness Month, Hemochromatosis Awareness Month, Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month, UV Safety Month

Other Health Observances

2-9	Nurses in Staff Development Week
8-14	Therapeutic Recreation Week
22-28	Hospitality House Week
28	World Hepatitis Day

August

Month-long Observances

Cataract Awareness Month, Children's Eye Health and Safety Month, Immunization Awareness Month, Neurosurgery Outreach Month, Psoriasis Awareness Month, Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month

Other Health Observances

1-7	Breastfeeding Week (World)
5	KidsDay®
12-18	Health Center Week
23	Health Unit Coordinator Day

September

Month-long Observances

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, Alzheimer's Month, America on the Move® STEPtember Campaign, Baby Safety Month, Cholesterol Education Month, Craniofacial Acceptance Month, Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month, Head Lice Prevention Month, Healthy Aging® Month, Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Awareness Month, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, Pain Awareness Month, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, Prostate Health Month, Reye's Syndrome Awareness Month, Sickle Cell Awareness Month, Sports and Home Eye Safety Month, Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month

September continued...

Other Health Observances

2	MDA Labor Day Telethon
9	Grandparents Day
9-15	Assisted Living Week
9-15	Environmental Services and Housekeeping Week
9-15	Nephrology Nurses Week
9-15	Suicide Prevention Week (Day, 10 World)
15	Neonatal Nurses Day
16-22	Childhood Passenger Safety Week
16-22	Farm Safety and Health Week
16-22	Prostate Cancer Awareness Week
16-22	Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration
16-22	Surgical Technologist Week
21	Alzheimer's Day (World)
23-29	Hearing Aid Awareness Week
25-Oct.1	Adult Immunization Awareness Week
26	Women's Health & Fitness Day
28	Rabies Day (World)
29	Family Health & Fitness Day
29	Heart Day (World)
30-Oct.6	Gerontological Nursing Week

October

Month-long Observances

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Celiac Disease Awareness Month, Chiropractic Health Month, Dental Hygiene Month, Disability Employment Awareness Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Eye Injury Prevention Month, Family Sexuality Education Month, Halloween Safety Month, Health Literacy Month, Healthy Lung Month, Liver Awareness Month, Medical Librarians Month, Medical Ultrasound Awareness Month, Patient-Centered Care Awareness Month, Pharmacists Month, Physical Therapy Month, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), Pregnancy, and Infant Loss Awareness Month, Talk About Prescriptions Month

Other Health Observances

1	Child Health Day
1-7	Healthcare Foodservice Workers Week
1-8	Gerontological Nurses Week
1-7	Midwifery Week
5	Rudolph Virchow's Birthday (1821-1902)
6	Depression Screening Day®

October continued...

6-12	Physician Assistants Week
7-13	Emergency Nurses Week
7-13	Fire Prevention Week
7-13	Healthcare Central Service and Sterile Processing Week
7-13	Healthcare Resource and Materials Management Week
7-13	Mental Illness Awareness Week
7-13	Nuclear Medicine Week
7-13	Pediatric Nurses Week
8-12	Dialysis Technician Recognition Week
10	Mental Health Day (World)
10	Stop America's Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Today
12	Arthritis Day
12-20	Awareness Week
13	Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day
13	Sight Day (World)
14-20	Case Management Week
14-20	Infection Prevention Week
15-19	Medical Assistants Week
16	Food Day (World)
19	Mammography Day
21-27	Healthcare Facilities and Engineering Week
21-27	Healthcare Quality Week
21-27	Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Week
21-27	Kids Care Week
21-27	Pastoral Care Week
21-27	Respiratory Care Week
22-26	School Bus Safety Week
22	Stuttering Awareness Day
23-31	Red Ribbon Week
24	Lung Health Day
27	Make a Difference Day
29	Psoriasis Day

November

Month-long Observances

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, Diabetes Month[®], Diabetic Eye Disease Month, Epilepsy Awareness Month, Family Caregivers Month, Healthy Skin Month, Home Care Month, Hospice and Palliative Care Month, Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis, Lung Cancer Awareness Month, Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, Prematurity Awareness, Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month, Sexual Health Month

November continued...

Other Health Observances

1-7	Medical-Surgical Nurses Week
1-7	Urology Nurses and Associates Week
4-10	Allied Health Professions Week
4-10	Aspiring Nurse Leader Week
4-10	Diabetes Education Week
4-10	National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week
4-10	Patient Transport Week
4-10	Radiologic Technology Week [®]
5-9	Blood Management Awareness Week
5-11	Perioperative Nurse Week
11-17	Mental Health Wellness Week
12	Pneumonia Day (World)
14	Diabetes Day (World)
15	Great American Smokeout
17	Family Volunteer Day

December

Month-long Observances

Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, Safe Toys and Celebrations Month, Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Other Health Observances

1	AIDS Day (World)
1-7	Aplastic Anemia and MDS Awareness Week
6-12	National Handwashing Awareness Week
25	Clara Barton's Birthday (1821-1912)
27	Louis Pasteur's Birthday (1822-1895)

Note: These health observance dates have been compiled as a service for AlaHA members and statewide media. This information does not in any way represent the opinions or views of the Alabama Hospital Association or its staff, and no endorsement should be implied. Although AlaHA staff strives to provide correct information, we cannot guarantee its accuracy or validity and users are encouraged to verify information before referencing.

Sources: *Health Observances & Recognition Days: 2012 Calendar*. Provides descriptions of the observances, as well as contact information. Available from the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development. To order, visit www.shsmstore.com and search for "Health Observances."

2012 National Health Observances. Published by the National Health Information Center, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Lists dates, contact information and links to sponsoring organizations, when available. Download free of charge at www.healthfinder.gov/nho.

World Health Organization– <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/annual/en/>

Individual organizations contacted for date verification in some instances.