



UPDATE

March 15, 2018

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<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>

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*Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health*

NIH SCIENTISTS SEARCH FOR THE CLOCKS BEHIND AGING BRAIN DISORDERS; STUDY OF FLIES SUGGESTS NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS MAY SPEED UP AGING PROCESS

To understand the link between aging and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, scientists from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) compared the genetic clocks that tick during the lives of normal and mutant flies. They found that altering the activity of a gene called Cdk5 appeared to make the clocks run faster than normal and the flies older than their chronological age. This caused the flies to have problems walking or flying later in life, to show signs of neurodegeneration, and to die earlier.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-scientists-search-clocks-behind-aging-brain-disorders>

ED DATA SHOW RAPID INCREASES IN OPIOID OVERDOSES; WAKE-UP CALL TO THE FAST-MOVING OPIOID OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC

Data from emergency departments (EDs) show that the U.S. opioid overdose epidemic continues to worsen, according to the latest *Vital Signs* report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The report examines the timeliest data available to CDC on ED visits for opioid overdoses across multiple states. Overall, ED visits (reported by 52 jurisdictions in 45 states) for suspected opioid overdoses increased 30 percent in the U.S. from July 2016 through September 2017. Opioid overdoses increased for men and women, all age groups, and all regions, but varied by state, with rural/urban differences. The findings highlight the need for enhanced prevention and treatment efforts in EDs and for greater access to evidence-based opioid use disorder treatments, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and harm reduction services. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2018/p0306-vs-opioids-overdoses.html>

AHRQ DATA SHOW IMPACT OF OPIOID CRISIS AT COUNTY LEVEL; NEW INSIGHTS INTO COMMUNITY HOSPITALIZATION RATES FOR SUBSTANCE USE

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) released an online statistical resource that for the first time provides county-level comparisons of hospitalization rates for substance use, including opioids, alcohol, stimulants, and other drugs. While statistics show that alcohol-related hospitalizations ranked first in most communities, opioids and stimulants ranked second or third for hospitalizations in nearly all of the more than 1,600 counties and two cities that provided data in the analysis.

<https://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/press-releases/opioid-crisis-at-county-level.html>

VA LAUNCHES TELEHEALTH PROGRAM FOR RURAL VETS WITH PTSD

With a focus on improving access to mental health care for Veterans living in rural areas, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it has launched a pilot telehealth program that will give rural Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) remote access to psychotherapy and related services. VA's Office of Rural Health, in partnership with VA's Quality Enhancement Research Initiative, is supporting the Telemedicine Outreach for PTSD program to deliver therapy and other care through phone and interactive video contact. <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=4018>

VA PARTNERS WITH COHEN VETERANS NETWORK TO INCREASE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The VA and the Cohen Veterans Network, Inc., (CVN) announced a new partnership to increase Veterans' access to mental health resources to reduce Veteran suicides. The partnership will allow VA and CVN to work together to advance and improve Veterans' mental health and well-being, and expand and promote community collaboration to increase Veterans' access to mental health resources.

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=4017>

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NEW FROM NIMH

SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER TWITTER CHAT: ARCHIVED CONVERSATION

The archived NIMH Twitter Chat on seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is now available. The chat, co-hosted with the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, covered SAD signs and symptoms, risk factors, and treatments and therapies. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/twitter-chats/index.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: MENTAL DISORDERS MAY SHARE MOLECULAR ORIGINS

This online article summarizes recent findings from a study seeking to understand the molecular processes that underlie mental disorders. The study found patterns of gene expression in the brains of people with five major mental disorders that suggest some overlapping mechanisms. The findings help provide a framework for understanding the processes that affect the risk for developing mental disorders.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/mental-disorders-may-share-molecular-origins>

PARTNERS FOR PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

This annual newsletter provides an update from the NIH Office of Disease Prevention about its activities with the Community Preventive Services Task Force, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, and the Healthy People program. <https://prevention.nih.gov/docs/partners-for-prevention/odp-newsletter-feb2018.pdf>

WHY MARIJUANA DISPLEASES

This study demonstrated how tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) produces aversive effects in mice. The new research, conducted by scientists at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the Beijing Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, suggests a mechanism to explain why people experience rewarding, aversive, or mixed effects from marijuana. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2018/03/why-marijuana-displeases>

TEENS, E-CIGARETTES, AND TOXINS

NIDA-funded scientists have found at least five potentially harmful toxins in the body of human adolescents who use electronic cigarettes. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/teens-e-cigs-toxins>

REPURPOSED ARTHRITIS DRUG COULD BECOME A NON-OPIOID PAIN RELIEVER

A compound once studied as an arthritis therapy has been given new life as a possible non-opioid pain reliever by NIDA-funded scientists. When used in combination with morphine, the cannabinoid agonist drug appears to block chemotherapy-induced neuropathic pain while decreasing signs of opioid dependence in mice. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/repurposed-arthrits-drug-could-become-non-opioid-pain-reliever>

BLOG POST: HOW DO DRUGS CHANGE YOUR BRAIN? TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

When drugs enter the brain, they interfere with its normal functions and, over time, can even change how well it works. This NIDA blog post offers a quiz to learn some of the ways drugs affect the brain. <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/how-do-drugs-change-your-brain-test-your-knowledge>

STIMULATING NEWS ABOUT BRAIN GLUTAMATE

Prescription stimulants are widely used for attention issues, but they can also be misused. NIDA-funded scientists conducted the first study showing that the signaling transmitter glutamate increases in the brain after stimulant use in humans, which has a greater effect in females. The rise in brain glutamate predicts the extent and duration of the drug high and future drug seeking. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/stimulating-news-about-brain-glutamate>

ALL OF US RELEASES DOWNLOADABLE MATERIALS FOR COMMUNITIES

The *All of Us* Research Program has released a new webpage with free downloadable materials, including fact sheets, brochures, and videos, to help community members spread the word about the program. Many of the materials are available in both English and Spanish. <https://allofus.nih.gov/news-events-and-media/announcements/spread-word-all-us-releases-downloadable-materials-communities>

HHS BLOG POST: BUSTING MYTHS ABOUT EATING DISORDERS

In the United States (U.S.), an estimated 30 million people may have an eating disorder in their lifetime. In recognition of Eating Disorder Awareness Week, this U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) blog post addresses common misunderstandings about eating disorders.

<https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2018/03/01/busting-5-myths-about-eating-disorders.html>

NEW FROM AHRQ

PORTAL COMBINES OPIOID PREVENTION, TRAINING, AND TREATMENT RESOURCES

AHRQ's Academy for Integrating Behavioral Health and Primary Care now offers an updated online list of resources and tools to integrate behavioral health with primary care. Resources on MAT for opioid use disorders are available to help patients, providers, and community organizations battle the opioid epidemic.

<https://integrationacademy.ahrq.gov/products/opioid-substance-use-resources>

DEFINITION OF TREATMENT-RESISTANT DEPRESSION IN THE MEDICARE POPULATION

AHRQ prepared this report at the request of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to review the current definitions of treatment-resistant depression (TRD), to assess how closely current TRD treatment studies fit the most common definition, and to suggest how to improve TRD treatment research. TRD is commonly defined as a failure of treatment to produce response or remission for patients after two or more treatment attempts of adequate dose and duration, but no clear consensus exists about this definition.

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/technology-assessments-details.aspx?TAId=105&bc=AAAQAAAAAAA&>

NATIONAL CENTER FOR PTSD: DEBUNKING MYTHS ABOUT PTSD

PTSD is a mental health issue that is often associated with a great deal of stigma, both in military and civilian populations. This National Center for PTSD e-newsletter addresses common misunderstandings about PTSD.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/1de32d7>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

TRAUMA-INFORMED, INTEGRATED CARE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration's (SAMHSA) National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) released this new policy brief, which provides policymakers and other stakeholders with an overview of trauma-informed, integrated care and its importance for children who have experienced trauma.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/trauma_informed_integrated_care_for_children_and_families_in_healthcare_settings.pdf

GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATED TO TRAUMA-INFORMED, INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

The NCTSN has compiled a brief glossary that will help those working in integrated health care to become more trauma-informed.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/glossary_of_terms_related_to_trauma-Informed_integrated_healthcare.pdf

NEW FROM CDC

NEW STUDY DESCRIBES SUICIDE TRENDS AMONG AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVES

CDC has released an analysis of suicide trends among American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/AN). Using data from the National Violent Death Reporting System, the analysis found that AI/AN suicide decedents were younger and had higher odds of living in a non-metropolitan area than non-Hispanic whites who died by suicide. Alcohol use and deaths of friends and family occurred more often among AI/AN decedents than among non-Hispanic white decedents. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6708a1.htm>

ISSUES IN DEVELOPING A SURVEILLANCE CASE DEFINITION FOR NON-FATAL SUICIDE ATTEMPT AND INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM USING ICD-10-CM CODED DATA

This report provides guidance on the use of the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10-CM)* codes to identify cases of non-fatal suicide attempts and intentional self-harm.

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr108.pdf>

QUICKSTATS: PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS OVER 20 YEARS REPORTING DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS IN THE PAST 2 WEEKS, BY SEX

From 2013 to 2016, 76.3 percent of adults aged 20 years and older had no or minimal depressive symptoms, 15.6 percent had mild symptoms, 5.1 percent had moderate symptoms, and 2.9 percent had severe symptoms. A lower percentage of women than men had no or minimal depressive symptoms, but a higher percentage of women than men had mild, moderate, or severe symptoms.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6709a5.htm>

EVENTS

WEBINAR: RESPONDING TO THE YOUNTVILLE SHOOTING: TAKING CARE OF YOUR PATIENTS AND YOURSELF AFTER TRAGEDY

MARCH 21, 2018, 2:00 PM ET

On the third Wednesday of each month, the VA National Center for PTSD's Consultation Program hosts a webinar on a topic relevant to treating PTSD. The next in the series will be a special lecture to address response to the Yountville Shooting. <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/consult/lecture-series.asp>

WEBINAR: THE BENEFITS OF FAMILY PEER SUPPORT: LET'S EXAMINE THE EVIDENCE

MARCH 21, 2018, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

In this SAMHSA-sponsored webinar, participants will learn the definition of family peer support, the foundation of family peer support, and how this practice has emerged over the years from a grass roots, volunteer service to an effective and valuable service for parents within any child-serving system. During this presentation, participants will review numerous studies and be provided with multiple research resources showing the benefits of family peer support as a service delivery component, its cost effectiveness, and the return on investment. https://events-na3.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/986655080/en/events/event/shared/1700946820/event_landing.html?sco-id=2076476804&_charset_=utf-8

WEBINAR: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EQUITY TOWN HALL

MARCH 22, 2018, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) webinar will provide behavioral health practitioners with strategies and resources for reducing disparities. Participants will learn to identify engagement, culturally-based, and data-driven strategies for reducing disparities in access to behavioral health care across populations. In addition, the webinar will provide an overview of resources on health disparities and health care quality among diverse populations, cultural and linguistic competencies, and health literacy. https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1114521017/en/events/event/shared/1747686691/event_landing.html

WEBINAR: OPIOID EPIDEMIC: STRENGTHENING YOUR COMMUNITY'S CAPACITY TO CONNECT TO VITAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT

MARCH 28, 2018, 12:00-1:00 PM ET

Faith and community leaders are seizing the opportunity to strengthen their response to the current opioid epidemic. With the help of local experts, they are learning how to respond to an emergency, provide on-going recovery support, and even make referrals to treatment. Join the HHS Partnership Center, Monty Burks, State Director of Special Projects and Faith-based Initiative for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and Kevin Hoffman, President and Program Director of Three Oaks Center in Dayton, Ohio to learn how faith and community-based leaders are joining their compassion with a proven expertise that's bringing hope and healing to their communities.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5556569317196825601>

WEBINAR: DIVERSITY BY DESIGN: STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN BIO-MEDICAL RESEARCH

MARCH 29, 2018, 12:30-1:30 PM ET

This NIH webinar will cover how community-engaged research strategies impacted the successful recruitment of diverse populations in two biomedical research recruitment projects: Project CHURCH – Saliva Sample Collection and The Komen Tissue Bank Event in Houston.

<https://epi.grants.cancer.gov/events/enrich-forum/>

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL 2018

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and promotes the social and emotional well-being of children and families. A resource guide and outreach materials are available to support community activities.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

APRIL 2018

The theme for the 2018 National Minority Health Month is “Partnering for Health Equity.” Partnerships at the national, state, tribal, and local levels are vital to the work of reducing health disparities and advancing health equity. During National Minority Health Month, the HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) will join with partners, health advocates, and organizations in highlighting the role of partnerships in improving the health of people and communities across the country.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USOPHSOMH/bulletins/1d5cf12>

PUBLIC MEETING: PATIENT-FOCUSED DRUG DEVELOPMENT ON OUD

APRIL 17, 2018, SILVER SPRING, MD

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in collaboration with NIDA, is hosting a public meeting on patient-focused drug development for opioid use disorder (OUD). The FDA is also working closely with patient advocacy and community organizations to encourage participation from persons with OUD. This meeting aligns with FDA’s ongoing work aimed at reducing the impact of opioid abuse and addiction. The FDA is interested in learning patients’ perspectives on OUD, including the effects on their health and well-being that have the greatest impact on daily life, their experience using prescription medical treatments and other treatments or therapies for OUD, and challenges or barriers to accessing or using medical treatments for OUD. Participants can attend in person or via webcast. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/public-meeting-for-patient-focused-drug-development-on-opioid-use-disorder-oud-registration-42531194949>

WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF SUICIDE IN RURAL AMERICA

APRIL 24, 2018, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

The HRSA-supported Rural Health Information Hub is hosting a webinar to discuss the policy brief on suicide in rural America recently released by the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services. <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/webinars/suicide-impact-rural-america>

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

APRIL 26, 2017, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM ET

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications. The Drug Enforcement Agency has created a new partnership toolbox of materials to help promote the event. The toolbox includes print materials, digital and print billboards, bus ads, site location banners, and a web button. https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

APRIL 26-27, 2018, BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY – BEMIDJI, MN

The HHS OMH Resource Center offers a series of University Vision, Design and Capacity technical grant writing workshops to provide university and health professionals with strategies to make grant proposals more competitive. These hands-on, two-day workshops are for junior faculty, staff and college/university health professionals who are interested in community-based participatory research; committed to working with underserved populations; and want to build their institution's capacity to compete and receive competitive grant awards. <https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvid=100>

NIH REGIONAL SEMINAR ON PROGRAM FUNDING AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

MAY 2-4, 2018, WASHINGTON, DC

This seminar serves the NIH mission of providing education and training for the next generation of biomedical and behavioral scientists. This seminar is intended to: demystify the application and review process, clarify federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. The seminar and optional workshops are appropriate for those who are new to working with the NIH grants process – administrators, early stage investigators, researchers, graduate students, etc.

<https://regionalseminars.od.nih.gov/washingtondc2018>

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

MAY 10, 2018

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day shines a national spotlight on the importance of caring for every child's mental health and reinforces that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development. The Awareness Day theme for 2018 is "Partnering for Health and Hope Following Trauma." This year's national observance focuses on the importance of an integrated health approach to supporting children, youth, and young adults with serious emotional disturbance who have experienced trauma.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/children/awareness-day>

NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK 2018

MAY 13-19, 2018

National Prevention Week is an annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, mental and/or substance use disorders. Each year around this observance, communities and organizations across the country come together to raise awareness about the importance of substance use prevention and positive mental health. This year's theme is "Action Today. Healthier Tomorrow."

<https://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

SOLICITING INPUT FOR THE NIH STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DATA SCIENCE

The purpose of this request for information is to invite comments and suggestions on the first *NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science*. NIH is seeking input on topics under consideration for the strategic plan from its stakeholders, including members of the scientific community, academic institutions, the private sector, health professionals, professional societies, advocacy groups, patient communities, and other interested members of the public. Comments accepted through April 2, 2018.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-18-134.html>

FUNDING INFORMATION

HEALTHY TRANSITIONS: IMPROVING LIFE TRAJECTORIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL DISORDERS PROGRAM

<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-010>

FISCAL YEAR 2018 COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY INITIATIVE

<https://nij.gov/funding/Documents/solicitations/NIJ-2018-14140.pdf>

FISCAL YEAR 2018 COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS: CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=301475>

2018 EMPOWERING OLDER ADULTS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH CHRONIC DISEASE SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS FINANCED BY THE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=299734>



National Institute
of Mental Health

The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to increase the public's access to science-based mental health information through partnerships with national and state organizations. For more information about the program, please visit: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml>. To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>.

The information provided in the **Update** is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education, and partnership programs.