



UPDATE

September 1, 2015

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*Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health,
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison*

PSYCHOSIS TREATMENT PROGRAM EXPANDS IN NEW YORK

Last month, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that the state is expanding its \$6.75 million OnTrackNY program for treating youth with first-episode psychosis. OnTrackNY is an offshoot of one of the two Recovery After an Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE) studies funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/psychosis-treatment-program-expands-in-new-york.shtml>

NIH RESEARCHERS FIND KEY REGULATOR OF INTERACTIONS BETWEEN BRAIN NETWORKS: FINDINGS MAY HELP IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF SCHIZOPHRENIA, DEPRESSION, AND EPILEPSY

Stimulating a type of brain cell receptor launches a series of events that ultimately lead to the receptor's deactivation in a subset of cells important for coordinating the activity of brain networks, report a team of scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Future study of this sequence of chemical events may contribute to the increased understanding of such conditions as schizophrenia, depression, stroke, and epilepsy, and ultimately lead to new treatments for these conditions. The study was published in *Nature Communications* and conducted by researchers in the NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Press Release: <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/070915-brain-networks.aspx>

NIH ANALYSIS SHOWS AMERICANS ARE IN PAIN

A new analysis of data from the 2012 National Health Interview Survey has found that most American adults have experienced some level of pain, from brief to more lasting (chronic) pain, and from relatively minor to more severe pain. It found that an estimated 25.3 million adults experience chronic pain—that is, they had pain every day for the preceding three months. Nearly 40 million adults experience severe levels of pain. Those with severe pain are also likely to have worse health status. The analysis was funded by the NIH's National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) and was published in *The Journal of Pain*.

Press Release: <https://nccih.nih.gov/news/press/08112015>

FIRST-OF-A-KIND STUDY SHOWS COLLEGE STUDENTS OFTEN START USING SUBSTANCES DURING SUMMER; HOWEVER, WINTER IS THE PEAK TIME FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS TO START THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF CERTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

A study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for the first time provides insight on substance use initiation patterns among the one in every five full-time college students (aged 18 to 22) using illicit or potentially harmful substances. The study, which tracks initiation by month, shows the peak times for the initiation of substances including alcohol, marijuana, and inhalants.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201508271215>

HRSA AWARDS \$2.7 MILLION TO IMPROVE RURAL HEALTH

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced \$2.7 million in grants for two pilot programs to increase access to and improve health care in rural communities. These three-year grants will provide rural communities an opportunity to collaborate in training allied health professionals and expanding health insurance coverage.

Press Release: <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/pressreleases/150803ruralhealth.html>

EXPANDED NATIONAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL FACTS WEEK BEGINS JANUARY 25; TWO NIH INSTITUTES JOIN FORCES TO EDUCATE TEENS ABOUT THE RISKS OF USING DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

An annual, week-long observance that brings together teens and scientific experts to shatter persistent myths about substance use and addiction will feature information about alcohol in addition to drug use. Now called National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week (NDAFW), the observance will be held January 25-31, 2016, and is sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), both part of NIH. The institutes often work together on research and prevention initiatives.

Press Release: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/expanded-national-drug-and-alcohol-facts-week-begins-january-25>

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: LOOK WHO IS GETTING INTO MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

Tech companies are bringing their ability to extract knowledge from data to health care. NIMH Director Thomas Insel gives some examples that show the potential of new tech-based approaches to diagnosis and treatment. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/look-who-is-getting-into-mental-health-research.shtml>

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: AUGUST AT NIMH

NIMH Director Thomas Insel provides an update on NIMH-supported clinical trials. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/august-at-nimh.shtml>

CDC QUICKSTATS: PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS AGED 5–17 YEARS WITH DIAGNOSED ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER

This QuickStats from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides the percentage of children and adolescents diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). From 1997–1999 to 2012–2014, the percentage increased significantly from seven percent to 10.2 percent, and so did the prevalence among non-Hispanic white children, non-Hispanic black children, and Hispanic children. Throughout 1997 to 2014, Hispanic children were the least likely to have diagnosed ADHD. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6433a11.htm>

FDA: CONSUMER UPDATE: DEALING WITH ADHD: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

This consumer update from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provides an overview of ADHD, including available treatments, and FDA's policy on testing medications in younger children. <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm269188.htm>

VA: HOW TO TALK TO A CHILD ABOUT A SUICIDE ATTEMPT IN YOUR FAMILY

This online resource from the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) provides age-specific information for talking with children and adolescents about a suicide attempt by a family member. Information includes why talking about a suicide attempt is important; ideas about when to talk about an attempt and how much information to share; and examples on what to say and how it could be said. <http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/talk2kids/e/#sthash.vSC9Hlrn.dpuf>

NEW FROM NIH

NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: BIOMARKERS AND QUESTIONNAIRES PREDICT SUICIDE RISK

Researchers have identified several genes in blood whose activity is related to suicidal thoughts and actions in men with psychiatric disorders. The genetic findings, combined with app-based questionnaires, may help clinicians predict which patients are likely to attempt suicide.

<http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/august2015/08312015suicide.htm>

NIH NEWS IN HEALTH: POSITIVE EMOTIONS AND HEALTH: DEVELOPING A BRIGHTER OUTLOOK

This NIH *News in Health* article summarizes the growing body of research that suggests that having a positive outlook can benefit physical health. NIH-funded scientists are working to better understand the links between attitude and body. They're finding some evidence that emotional wellness can be improved by developing certain skills. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/aug2015/Feature1>

NIDA: SUBSTANCE USE IN WOMEN

This new online resource provides information on the importance of scientific research into sex and gender issues related to drug use. It includes research summaries about women and commonly abused drugs, including marijuana and prescription medications. Additionally, this new web section summarizes the latest research related to drug use while pregnant or breastfeeding, along with what science has told us about sex and gender differences in drug addiction treatment. It also looks at other issues related to drug use, including co-occurring mental disorders, women and violence, and the importance of including women in research. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/women-drugs>

NIDA: THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITIES RESEARCH REPORT

Therapeutic Communities (TCs) are a common model of long-term residential treatment for substance use disorders. They have a recovery orientation, focusing on the whole person and overall lifestyle changes, not simply abstinence from drug use. This orientation acknowledges the chronic, relapsing nature of substance use disorders and holds the view that lapses are opportunities for learning. This revised Research Report discusses the approach, key components and effectiveness of TCs, how treatment is provided, and how TCs treat populations with special needs, including mental illness, homelessness, as well as for women and adolescents. It also addresses how TCs are integrated into the criminal justice system.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/therapeutic-communities>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

SAMHSA NEWS: ENDING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

This *SAMHSA News* article highlights efforts to end chronic homelessness while promoting well-being. <http://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2015/07/24/ending-chronic-homelessness/>

SAMHSA NEWS: SOCIAL MEDIA AS A TOOL FOR ADDRESSING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

This *SAMHSA News* article describes SAMHSA's social media activities. <http://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2015/08/13/social-media-as-a-tool-for-addressing-behavioral-health/>

BLOG POST: IOM RECOMMENDATIONS REFLECT IMPORTANCE OF IMPROVING QUALITY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

This blog post describes a recently released Institute of Medicine report that provides a framework for interventions as well as recommendations to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) “to support policy, research, and implementation strategies that promote the use of evidence-based psychosocial interventions.” The IOM report represents a call to action for ensuring that appropriate psychosocial interventions take their place alongside other effective health care treatments.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2015/08/03/iom-recommendations-reflect-importance-of-improving-quality-of-behavioral-health-services/>

E-SOLUTIONS: PHARMACISTS: AN UNTAPPED RESOURCE IN INTEGRATED CARE

This issue describes the role pharmacists can play in integrated primary care and behavioral health organizations — as part of the multidisciplinary team to support early identification of emerging health concerns, in offering supports to help ensure individuals take their medications safely and effectively, and by offering mobile or in-home services to reduce barriers to access.

<http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/esolutions-newsletter/e-solutions-july-2015#feature>

THE DIALOGUE: REMEMBERING KATRINA: RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY IN THE GULF COAST

The latest issue of *The Dialogue* from SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center looks back at the events of Katrina. It includes an infographic and seven articles that are written in memory of all those who lost their lives, and in honor of all those who survived.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/dtac/dialogue-vol11-is3-4.pdf>

SEPTEMBER 11TH AND HURRICANE KATRINA ANNIVERSARIES: RESOURCES

The anniversary of a natural disaster or terrorist attack can serve as a powerful reminder of earlier reactions to the tragedy, and can trigger renewed feelings of anxiety, sorrow, and concerns about the future. SAMHSA's National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) has compiled resources for disaster response workers, educators, families, medical personnel, mental health professionals, and youth with re-occurring and current stresses. <http://nctsn.org/resources/public-awareness/september-11-anniversary>

HEALTHY TRANSITIONS: A PATHWAY TO EMPLOYMENT FOR YOUTH WITH CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS AND OTHER DISABILITIES

The U.S. Department of Labor's policy brief shares what health care providers can do to support adolescents with special health care needs transition from child-centered to adult-centered medical care.

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pdf/2013ODEPHealthyReport.pdf>

NEW FROM ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (ACF)

SUPPORTING YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE IN MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES: A GUIDE FOR CAREGIVERS AND CASEWORKERS ON TRAUMA, TREATMENT, AND PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS

This guide is intended to help caseworkers, foster parents, or other caring adults learn about trauma experienced by youth in foster care and treatment options, including approaches other than psychotropic medication. The guide presents strategies for seeking help for youth, identifying appropriate treatment, and supporting youth in making decisions about their mental health. <http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/mhc-caregivers>

CHILD WELFARE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

This new issue brief provides a broad overview of the crossover between the child welfare field and the work currently being done to prevent and respond to the trafficking of children and youth in the U.S. There is a particular focus on the sex trafficking of children and youth. This brief provides basic background information, including highlights of Federal legislation, and discusses the needs of victims and ways that child welfare agencies can address the problem of child trafficking.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/subscribe/subscribeadmin/webtrends/elertAug15/trafficking/>

OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT: BHUTANESE STORIES OF HOPE

This video features stories of hope from Nepali-speaking Bhutanese refugees who resettled in the U.S. after living in refugee camps in Nepal for nearly two decades. The main video includes a general message of hope and encouragement for Bhutanese refugees who may be experiencing emotional distress. Accompanying the main video are profiles of eight Bhutanese refugees who briefly share ways that they were able to overcome emotional distress, and find a new sense of hope and meaning in life. The ACF Office of Refugee Resettlement, together with Bhutanese community leaders and mental health professionals, created this video to promote emotional wellness and suicide prevention.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYrXYYnUCJI&list=PLypjJrod4DegRLwSFFwAF6EpGNXUKJa5p>

Video User Guide:

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/stories_of_hope_from_bhutanese_refugees_video_user_27s_guide.pdf

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: GO4LIFE MONTHSEPTEMBER 2015

September 2015 has been designated *Go4Life Month*, in collaboration with the White House Conference on Aging. *Go4Life*, the national exercise and physical activity campaign for people 50 years and older from the National Institute on Aging (NIA), is bringing together more than a hundred federal, state, and local partners to encourage older adults to move more and stay active for better health with advancing age. In September, the campaign will celebrate *Go4Life Month* with the theme, *Be Active Every Day!* Campaign partners nationwide plan to mark the occasion by increasing awareness and sponsoring an array of activities to engage community members, young and old, in exercise and physical activities they enjoy.

<https://go4life.nia.nih.gov/month>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTHSEPTEMBER 2015

Every September, SAMHSA sponsors Recovery Month to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use issues, and celebrate the people who recover. The Recovery Month website provides tips and resources for planning Recovery Month events, and distributing information in communities across the nation. <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/>

WEBINAR: A CASE STUDY OF POST-HURRICANE KATRINA RECONSTRUCTION: PROJECT FLEUR-DE-LIS: A DECADE OF TRAUMA-INFORMED PROGRAMMING IN NEW ORLEANS AREA SCHOOLSSEPTEMBER 3, 2015, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

Project Fleur-de-lisTM (PFDL), an intermediate and long-term school-based mental health response to Hurricane Katrina, was designed to conduct school-based trauma informed treatment. This NCTSN webinar examines the rationale, design, implementation, evaluation, and impact of PFDL as a grassroots program that evolved into a model for school-based trauma-informed systems of care for nearly 100 schools in the Greater New Orleans area. Lessons learned from PFDL can assist other cities and their schools that experience disasters by informing school policy in disaster preparedness, and in the immediate and long-term school-based mental health responses for students.

<http://learn.nctsn.org/course/index.php?categoryid=68>

WEBINAR: BUILDING A COMPETITIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM: WHAT EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NIMH AND THE NIH GRANTS PROCESS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015, 8:00-10:30 AM ET

The NIMH supports biomedical researchers from high school through college, early career investigator, and senior investigator levels. Increasing knowledge and capacity to apply for research funding will result in increased ability of investigators to successfully lead research projects resulting in improved capacity for mental health research. This webinar will introduce investigators to the NIMH; highlight current research areas and areas of special interest to the Institute; and demystify the NIH application and review process. Topics will include the NIMH Strategic Plan, the Research Domain Categorization Project (RDoC), finding funding opportunities, the art of the concept paper, submitting your research grant application, what happens to your application once submitted to the NIH, what you can do to enhance the quality of your application, resources for early career investigators, and how to find NIMH staff that can help you navigate the process. This webinar is appropriate for new and early stage investigators, researchers, graduate students, grant administrators, and anyone interested in learning more about mental health research funding opportunities, the NIMH, NIH, and the grants process.

<http://apps1.seiservices.com/nimh/prospectiveinvestigatorswebinar/>

WEBINAR: REMEMBERING KATRINA PART TWO: THE GREAT DIASPORA OF NEW ORLEANS

SEPTEMBER 9, 2015, 9:00-10:30 AM ET

The evacuation of 1.1 million residents from an area approximately equal in land mass to Great Britain resulted in 19 states participating in federally-funded crisis counseling programs organized to address the evacuation, sheltering, and recovery needs of Americans displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The panel of presenters in this NCTSN webinar all played key roles in the Hurricane Katrina response. The speakers will address the unique set of challenges faced from the perspective of the directly damaged resident state of Louisiana, a “host” state (Colorado), a “host” city (Houston), and the Federal response plan (SAMHSA). The content presented will provide essential information regarding early stage sheltering and stabilization, intermediate and longer-term assimilation into temporary communities, and repatriation to the survivor’s home state. The information presented will benefit policy makers, emergency response planners, treatment providers, and public health and local emergency response personnel.

<http://learn.nctsn.org/course/index.php?categoryid=68>

DCOE SUMMIT: CONTINUUM OF CARE AND CARE TRANSITIONS IN THE MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2015, FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) virtual and in-person training event is geared toward professionals involved in all aspects of psychological health and traumatic brain injury (TBI) care, education, and research for the military population. The summit's psychological health and TBI tracks will address factors that challenge and facilitate the provision of quality, sustained health services across care transitions, and the continuum of care.

<http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Events/2015-Psychological-Health-and-Resilience-Summit.aspx>

WEBINAR SERIES: PEER SUPPORT AND INNOVATIVE PRISON REENTRY PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation and the Association of State Correctional Administrators are hosting a two-part webinar series focusing on the successful and innovative use of peers and peer support in state correctional facilities. Attendees will learn about the innovative use of peers, and successful collaborations between correctional facilities and peer operated programs in providing a wide array of reentry services. This second webinar in the series will focus on how to develop, implement, fund, sustain, and expand these programs in state correctional facilities.

http://apps1.seiservices.com/SAMHSA/CMHS_webinars2015/

CDC PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS: PREVENTING SUICIDE IN THE US: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

This session of Grand Rounds discusses the strategies needed to promote broader awareness of suicide and the role that public health can play in identifying factors that reduce the risk of suicide, and in promoting actions and programs that protect people from engaging in suicidal behavior. For non-CDC staff interested in viewing the session, a live external webcast will be available. For individuals who are unable to view the session during the scheduled time, the archived presentation will be posted 48 hours after the session.

<http://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/>

WEBINAR: BEST PRACTICES IN AFFORDABLE CARE ACT OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Learn from faith leaders who have conducted successful outreach and enrollment campaigns before and during open enrollment. In this HHS webinar, participants will hear from Reverend Jeanette Salguero who has conducted successful outreach using a one-stop-shop model, integrating health and human service enrollment opportunities. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1246879539121527298>

WEBINAR: FINANCING CARE TRANSITIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AT RISK FOR SUICIDE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015, 12:30-2:00 PM ET

During this SAMHSA webcast, the audience will learn about potential financing mechanisms for post-discharge care services aimed at individuals who are at risk of suicide. The speakers will discuss current financing models as well as expected changes that will alter the national health services payment landscape. The discussion will focus on three case studies - a accountable care organization, a behavioral health plan, and a county-led crisis program - as examples of innovative financial models that support services for individuals in crisis.

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=1035239&sessionid=1&key=9E82A2B2665F03E451C9211870CF3471&sourcepage=register>

WEBINAR: IT'S TIME TO UNITE TO FACE ADDICTION!

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015 12:30-2:00 PM ET

SAMHSA's ATTC Network is an organizing partner for UNITE to Face Addiction: an opportunity for thousands to gather on the National Mall on October 4 and end the silence about addiction. Join this webinar to learn more about this event. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5398339678008903425>

WEBINAR: MILITARY CULTURE TRAINING FOR STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This SAMHSA webinar will include information about the VA's newly released *Understanding Military Culture* Community Provider Toolkit, the impact of the VA's Choice Program on community providers, and other military culture training resources. State examples from SAMHSA's Policy Academy teams will also be featured to highlight successful implementation of military culture training and collaboration with the VA to increase access to services. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1073887>

WEBINAR: GOT COVERAGE? NEXT STEPS IN USING YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This HHS webinar will discuss how to read an insurance card, how to find a doctor, what one needs to know in making an appointment, and what to do in case of a health emergency. Key terms will be discussed as well as recommended health screenings. <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/2123431098731395586>

WEBINAR: EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING POLICY CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING INTEGRATED CARE FOR CHILD TRAUMA

SEPTEMBER 29, 2015, 2:30 PM ET

As the landscape continues to shift increasingly towards integrated care as a mechanism for focusing on whole health, many child-serving organizations must grapple with complex issues that arise in implementing integrated care and addressing child trauma in non-traditional settings. This NCTSN webinar will feature leading child and adolescent experts who will speak about their recommendations for effectively addressing policy challenges in implementing integrated care. <http://learn.nctsn.org/enrol/index.php?id=192>

WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED

SEPTEMBER 29, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

The health care law has created special enrollment periods for those who experience special circumstances such as graduating from college and losing health insurance, getting married and needing coverage for a spouse, losing employer insurance, or turning 26 and losing coverage on a parent's health plan. Join this HHS webinar to learn more about special enrollment periods and how to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. For those who are uninsured and don't qualify for the special enrollment period, learn what resources are available and when to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace.

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4639254440571358978>

WEBINAR: OPENING CONGREGATIONAL DOORS TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

OCTOBER 7, 2015, 12:30-1:30 PM ET

As faith and community organizations place a greater emphasis on the health and wellness of their communities and neighborhoods, they are making their playgrounds, meeting rooms, parish halls, and classrooms available for the health needs of their neighbors. In this HHS webinar, learn about a network of congregations who have partnered with Bon Secours Health System to regularly host a primary care clinic for the uninsured in their neighborhoods in Richmond, Virginia. Participants will also hear about resources created by ChangeLab Solutions that highlight faith-based organizations that are embracing “shared use” of their facilities and programs to help create and sustain healthy congregations and communities.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1675475765862269698>

NIH DIGITAL SUMMIT: OPTIMIZING DIGITAL TO REACH PATIENTS, SCIENTISTS, CLINICIANS, AND THE PUBLIC

OCTOBER 19, 2015, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM ET, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

NIH is presenting its first digital summit, developed to explore how patients, health professionals, and researchers are getting and sharing health and science information in today’s technology-driven world. The summit is designed to encourage discussion, so come prepared to ask questions in person or virtually. The organizers welcome participants to use the hashtag #NIHDigital to join the conversation online. Researchers, health professionals, and communications professionals interested in digital health are all encouraged to attend. This summit is open to the public and registration is required for in-person attendance. A live webcast will be available at videocast.nih.gov. <http://www.nih.gov/news/events/digital-summit.htm>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

NIH SEEKS FEEDBACK: ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON CHILD HEALTH OUTCOMES (ECHO) PROGRAM PLAN

NIH is committed to understanding the range of environmental influences on child health and development. A new program under development for fiscal year 2016, Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO), aims to investigate prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal environmental exposures on pediatric development and health outcomes with a particular focus on exposures that will have a significant impact on public health. To accomplish this, NIH proposes to support multiple synergistic, longitudinal studies using existing study populations. The studies will look at a range of different environmental exposures among the cohorts using standardized research questions and the effects of these exposures on four key pediatric outcomes. NIH is seeking public feedback on the ECHO plan via the NIH Feedback website through September 8, 2015. Comments received via the Feedback site may be considered by the NIH as it plans the ECHO program, but NIH will not respond to comments. <http://feedback.nih.gov/>

NATIONAL RECRUITMENT: JOIN NIH DEPRESSION RESEARCH STUDIES

Does depression impede your daily life? Are you currently feeling sad and hopeless, experiencing worthlessness and guilt, and have a lack of interest in everyday activities you once enjoyed?

NIH studies are investigating the brain and experimental medications (such as ketamine and diazoxide) to rapidly reduce depressive symptoms. Research includes: depressed adults ages 18 to 70, outpatient visits or inpatient stays of up to 12 weeks at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD. Call 1-877-MIND-NIH, TTY: 1-866-411-1010, **Email: moodresearch@mail.nih.gov**.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/adult-studies/depression-evaluations-for-medication-and-brain-imaging-studies.shtml>

TWITTER MESSAGE:

Join an NIMH Study. Depression research evaluates adults 18-70, the brain and novel medications to rapidly reduce symptoms. **<http://goo.gl/Se1io5>**

NEW SPANISH-LANGUAGE TIP SHEET: CLINICAL TRIALS AND OLDER PEOPLE

This NIA tip sheet describes what is a clinical trial, the need for older and diverse participants, and the benefits and risks of a clinical trial. **<https://www.nia.nih.gov/espanol/publicaciones/estudios-clinicos-personas-mayores>**

FUNDING INFORMATION

IMPROVING HEALTH AND REDUCING CARDIOMETABOLIC RISK IN YOUTH WITH SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS (R01)

This NIMH Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) aims to support research grants focused on rigorous effectiveness testing of innovative services interventions that demonstrably reduce the prevalence and magnitude of common health risk factors related to shortened lifespan in youth with serious emotional disturbance (SED) and young adults with severe mental illness. These risk factors include, but are not limited to, smoking, obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia, low physical activity, substance use, poor fitness, and diet. This FOA aims to generate the service delivery knowledge necessary to achieve 100% screening of this population for common, cardiometabolic risks and 100% referral to appropriate care to manage the identified risks. This FOA aims to support population-based approaches to prevention, identification and intervention, i.e., targeting cardiometabolic risk in entire populations of youth with SED and/or young adults with SMI within a given community or healthcare setting. **<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-16-600.html>**

PILOT SERVICES RESEARCH GRANTS NOT INVOLVING INTERVENTIONS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-323.html>

FY2016 SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE EXPANSION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

<http://bphc.hrsa.gov/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/substanceabuse/index.html>

HRSA Health Center Program Substance Abuse Service Expansion Technical Assistance Webinar:

September 8, 2015, 2:00-3:00 PM ET



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.