UPDATE

November 1, 2018

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Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health
UNDERSTANDING THE BRAIN MECHANISMS OF IRRITABILITY IN YOUTH; FINDINGS MAY INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TREATMENTS FOR SEVERE IRRITABILITY


CMS MODEL ADDRESSES OPIOID MISUSE AMONG EXPECTANT AND NEW MOTHERS

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) model, an important step in advancing the agency’s multi-pronged strategy to combat the nation’s opioid crisis. The model addresses the need to better align and coordinate care of pregnant and postpartum Medicaid beneficiaries with opioid use disorder (OUD) through state-driven transformation of the delivery system surrounding this vulnerable population. By supporting the coordination of clinical care and the integration of other services critical for health, wellbeing, and recovery, the MOM model has the potential to improve quality of care and reduce expenditures for mothers and infants. [https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-model-addresses-opioid-misuse-among-expectant-and-new-mothers](https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-model-addresses-opioid-misuse-among-expectant-and-new-mothers)

COMMON USE OF ANTIPSYCHOTICS SHOWN INEFFECTIVE FOR DELIRIUM IN INTENSIVE CARE PATIENTS; NIH-FUNDED CLINICAL TRIAL SUGGESTS RECONSIDERING CURRENT STRATEGIES TO TREAT DELIRIUM

Critically ill patients in intensive care units (ICUs) did not benefit from two antipsychotic drugs used to treat delirium, according to a large clinical trial funded by the National Institute on Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The multi-site team that conducted the trial found no evidence that treatment with antipsychotic medicines — haloperidol or ziprasidone — affected delirium, survival, length of ICU or hospital stay, or safety. [https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/common-use-antipsychotics-shown-ineffective-delirium-intensive-care-patients](https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/common-use-antipsychotics-shown-ineffective-delirium-intensive-care-patients)
HHS LAUNCHES PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL OPIOID CRISIS

The Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched a public education campaign on civil rights protections in light of the president’s opioid bill signing and HHS’s ongoing efforts to combat the opioid epidemic. The campaign aims to improve access to evidence-based opioid use disorder treatment and recovery services, such as Medication Assisted Treatment, by ensuring that covered entities are aware of their obligations under federal nondiscrimination laws, including laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability or limited English proficiency. In addition, the campaign seeks to educate the public about disability rights protections that may apply to persons in recovery from opioid addiction. https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/10/25/ocr-launches-public-education-campaign-about-civil-rights-protections-in-response-to-the-national-opioid-crisis.html

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME AWARDS $35 MILLION TO HELP CHILDREN IMPACTED BY OPIOIDS

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced $35 million in funding to support law enforcement agencies in combating the illegal manufacturing and distribution of methamphetamine, heroin, and prescription opioids, and another $35 million to establish new programs to provide services to children victims of the opioid crisis. That additional $35 million – awarded in Fiscal Year 2018 under the Office of Justice Program’s Office for Victims of Crime’s Enhancing Community Responses to the Opioid Crisis: Serving Our Youngest Crime Victims – includes awards to 41 sites and a technical assistance provider totaling $29.8 million to help youth impacted by the opioids crisis. https://ojp.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2018/ojp-news-10252018c.pdf
NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE: CONFRONTING BIAS TO ADVANCE SCIENCE

In his latest Director’s Message, NIMH Director Dr. Joshua Gordon discusses the presence—and negative impact—of bias in science and how we can take positive steps as individuals and organizations to challenge these assumptions and combat their damaging effects.


NEW FROM NIH

NIDA SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT: RESEARCH SUGGESTS BENZODIAZEPINE USE IS HIGH WHILE USE DISORDER RATES ARE LOW

Benzodiazepines, such as sedatives and sleeping aids, are often used for the short-term treatment of anxiety and insomnia. While benzodiazepine use is highly prevalent among U.S. adults, public health experts have not known what proportion of benzodiazepine users misuse them or meet criteria for benzodiazepine use disorders. A recent analysis funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) suggests that benzodiazepine use disorders are relatively rare among adults who use benzodiazepine medications, even if they are misusing them. https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/research-suggests-benzodiazepine-use-high-while-use-disorder-rates-are-low

NIDA NOTES: PRESCRIPTION OPIOID MISUSE TREATMENT LEVERAGES MINDFULNESS TO AMPLIFY NATURAL REWARDS

This research suggests that Mindfulness-Oriented Recovery Enhancement (MORE) treatment reduces opioid misuse among chronic pain patients. In addition, MORE shifts patients' attention away from drug cues and toward cues for natural rewards.


VIDEO BLOG: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING ALL OF US?

Why people participate in health research can vary from person to person. All of Us Research Program director Eric Dishman shares some of the reasons why people have joined the program and the potential benefits of taking part. https://allofus.nih.gov/news-events-and-media/videos/dish-what-are-benefits-joining-all-us
NIMHD RESEARCH HELPS IMPROVE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM

The National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) has helped shape the All of Us Research Program, providing expertise on community engagement and health disparities. Input from NIMHD staff informed the program’s commitment to prioritizing both diversity and inclusivity. Diversity means making sure the study includes groups that have often been left out of research, such as ethnic and racial minorities. Inclusivity means making sure the study also actively involves other groups, such as people with disabilities, who may have substantial and unique barriers to participating. 

NCCIH RESEARCH BLOG: NCCIH RESEARCH INTEREST IN EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

This blog post describes the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health’s (NCCIH) new direction for its prevention research portfolio--advancing the scientific knowledge about emotional well-being. NCCIH along with its NIH partners recently convened a roundtable about emotional well-being to discuss the state of the science, identify research opportunities and gaps for NIH’s consideration, and propose a strategy for moving the field forward. https://nccih.nih.gov/research/blog/New-Report-Reflects-NCCIH-Interest-in-Emotional-Well-Being

NEW FROM SAMHSA

NEW TOOL OFFERS HOPE TO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING EARLY SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND THEIR FAMILIES

This Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) blog post discusses the new tool, the Early Serious Mental Illness Treatment Locator. This online tool allows users to search for specialty programs that treat early serious mental illness, including first episode psychosis. Each program listing includes eligibility criteria, including age range and diagnoses treated, services provided, location, and contact information. https://blog.samhsa.gov/2018/10/11/new-tool-offers-hope-to-people-experiencing-early-serious-mental-illness-and-their-families

SUICIDE PREVENTION SURVEILLANCE SUCCESS STORIES: CENTERSTONE OF TENNESSEE

SAMHSA’s Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) released its latest Surveillance Success Story. This story details how Centerstone Tennessee, through improved data collection efforts, was able to identify patients at high risk, improve treatment protocols, and reduce suicide deaths within its health care system. http://www.sprc.org/resources-programs/surveillance-success-stories-%E2%80%93-centerstone-tennessee
SPRC BLOG POST: ADDRESSING SUICIDE AMONG BLACK AMERICANS

The national conversation about suicide prevention has included a recent focus on the increased risk of suicide among Black children under the age of 12 and the possible factors linked to it. This SPRC blog post highlights that while the need exists to expand research on suicide among Black populations in order to develop more effective prevention strategies, there are important steps that can be taken now to prevent suicide in this population, such as targeting those at highest risk, improving access to mental health services, and reducing access to lethal means among those in suicidal crisis. http://www.sprc.org/news/addressing-suicide-among-black-americans

NEW FROM ACF

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY-BASED PRIMARY PREVENTION

This newsletter highlights the opportunity for the child welfare system and its partners to invest in helping to make families more self-sufficient and increasing protective factors that can prevent entry into the foster care system. The issue also features articles focusing on how community partnerships can help prevent child maltreatment before it starts, provide support and services, and help children and families recover. https://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/index.cfm?event=website.viewHomepage&issueID=200

NEW FROM HRSA

HOME VISITING PROGRAM: SUPPORTING FAMILIES IMPACTED BY OPIOID USE AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME

This resource provides essential information about the opioid epidemic, opioid use disorder, and neonatal abstinence syndrome. It includes relevant research; offers strategies for early childhood, public health, and substance misuse and mental health treatment programs; and highlights promising efforts underway in Maine, Colorado, West Virginia, and Massachusetts. https://mchb.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/mchb/MaternalChildHealthInitiatives/HomeVisiting/MIECHV-Opioid-NAS-Resource.pdf
NEW FROM CDC

ONLINE TRAINING: PREVENTING ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched a new online training to help prevent adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). It includes information about the risk and protective factors and outcomes associated with ACEs and evidence-based prevention strategies.
https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/aces-training/

CHRONIC SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM AMONG CHILDREN WITH SELECTED DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY, 2014–2016

This report describes associations between chronic school absenteeism and selected developmental disabilities, including attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and autism spectrum disorder, among school-aged children. Children with developmental disabilities had higher chronic school absenteeism. Similarly, as the number of developmental disabilities increased, the odds of chronic school absenteeism increased.

NEW FROM DOJ

BLOG POST: CONFRONTING OFFICER SUICIDE

This Department of Justice blog post highlights officer health and wellness programs including the VALOR Initiative. This program has provided no-cost training on safety and officer wellness, including mental health, to tens of thousands of law enforcement officers across the country. This year, the VALOR Initiative solicitation requested grant applications for a training program in preventing law-enforcement suicide.

NEW FROM VA

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHORT TAKES ON SUICIDE PREVENTION: PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS TO REACH VETERANS AT RISK

This podcast discusses the U.S. Department of Veterans Affair’s REACH VET program, which uses predictive analytics to identify Veterans at highest-risk of suicide and intervenes clinically to review and enhance care.
https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/media/podcasts/10_15_2018.asp
NIMH WEBINAR: COPING STRATEGIES FOR ANXIOUS KIDS, WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

NOVEMBER 2, 2018, 12:00-1:00 PM ET

Join NIMH for a webinar on coping strategies for anxious kids. During the webinar, Dr. Erin Berman will discuss: how to identify an anxious child, how to change anxious thinking, the science and biological roots of anxiety in children, how computer technology is transforming the understanding of anxiety, and current treatment options. https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/events/announcements/webinar-coping-strategies-for-anxious-kids-what-parents-need-to-know.shtml

WEBINAR: ASKING THIS CRITICAL QUESTION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NOVEMBER 5, 2018, 1:30 PM ET

This SAMHSA Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) Technical Assistance Center will conduct this webinar to provide guidance on how healthcare systems and community providers can identify SMVF. Presenters will outline concrete strategies that will enable stakeholders to develop a more coordinated system of care by connecting SMVF to available, military culture informed resources. The American Academy of Nursing “Have You Ever Served in the Military” campaign and New Hampshire’s “Ask the Question” campaign and toolkit will be featured. https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1211602

NIMH WEBINAR: ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S IRRITABILITY?

NOVEMBER 7, 2018, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Join NIMH for a webinar on irritability in children. Children pass through many phases of development as they grow up. It can be hard to know if a child is going through normal development or showing signs of something more serious. Occasional outbursts and irritability are a normal outcome of being tired, uncomfortable, or frustrated. In some children, it can be chronic and explosive. The webinar will cover common signs of severe irritability; how parents can help a child with severe irritability; what treatment options exist, such as cognitive behavioral therapy; and ongoing irritability research conducted at NIMH. https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/events/announcements/webinar-are-you-concerned-about-your-childs-irritability.shtml
2019 NATIONAL DRUG & ALCOHOL FACTS WEEK®

JANUARY 22-27, 2018

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week (NDAFW) is a week-long series of events that links teens to science-based facts to shatter the myths about drugs. Healthcare professionals can participate in NDAFW by providing teens with free resources about drugs. For other event ideas, toolkits, and to register your event, go to the National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week webpage. https://teens.drugabuse.gov/national-drug-alcohol-facts-week

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY ON UPCOMING SURGEON GENERAL'S CALL TO ACTION ON COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PROSPERITY

The Office of the Surgeon General, with support from CDC, plans to develop and produce a report by the U.S. Surgeon General on the link between investments in community health and community and other measures of well-being and economic prosperity. The Surgeon General wants to build upon the community health work that has already been done and would like to hear from you about the initiatives you are doing to address community health and prosperity. Interested persons or organizations are invited to submit written views, recommendations, and data about how investing in communities can improve health and prosperity. Comments accepted through November 5, 2018. https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/09/06/2018-19313/surgeon-generals-call-to-action-community-health-and-prosperity

ADDRESSING OPIOID USE DISORDER IN PREGNANT WOMEN AND NEW MOMS CHALLENGE

The Health Resources and Services Administration’s “Addressing Opioid Use Disorder in Pregnant Women and New Moms” Challenge will award $375,000 in prizes to support tech innovations to improve access to quality health care, including substance use disorder treatment, recovery, and support services for pregnant women with opioid use disorders, their infants, and families, especially those in rural and geographically isolated areas. Phase I submissions are due on November 19, 2018, by 5:00 PM ET. https://mchbgrandchallenges.hrsa.gov/challenges/addressing-opioid-use-disorder-pregnant-women-and-new-moms
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: GUIDANCE ON CURRENT CLINICAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE USE OF KETAMINE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

This NIMH Request for Information (RFI) seeks input on current clinical experiences in the use of ketamine to reduce and prevent suicide ideation and behavior. NIMH seeks to identify research gaps in the clinical applications of these treatments. NIMH has declared suicide prevention research as a high priority and through this RFI, NIMH is seeking information on clinical experience in the use of ketamine (and/or related compounds) to reduce suicide events (ideation, attempts, and acute crisis care such as emergency care visits), and prevent relapse, with or without treatment-resistant depression. Experience with treatment modalities (infusion, nasal spray, oral pill form) that utilize ketamine across a number of clinical contexts (emergency departments, outpatient settings, inpatient settings, rehab settings) is of interest. Comments accepted through December 10, 2018.


CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION NEWS

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT

CONCERNED THAT YOUR TEENAGER HAS DEPRESSION? NIH RESEARCH

Join a research study seeking to find causes and treatments of depression in teenagers.

The study is recruiting participants ages 11-17 who are depressed and have a pediatrician or medical provider. The study begins with an outpatient evaluation (clinical assessment, interviews, and questionnaires). Outpatient study visits include a clinical assessment, research tasks, and brain imaging, up to age 25. Eligible participants may receive treatment of evidence-based cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), and if indicated, standard medicines. Enrollment is from across the U.S. Transportation expenses to NIH in Bethesda, MD are reimbursed. There is no cost to participate; compensation is provided.

www.nimh.nih.gov/TeenDepressionStudy

Call 1-301-827-1350 [TTY: 1-866-411-1010] or Email depressedkids@mail.nih.gov

Department of Health & Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, Protocol Number: 18-M-0037

Social Media Messages:

• YouTube Video: https://youtu.be/Ik3qMFWQ9Mg

• Facebook:

Concerned about your teen’s depression?
Symptoms include depressed mood, loss of pleasure, lack of interest, problems with sleeping, eating, and concentration. Study seeks to find causes and treatments. Parental permission required. Contact us at depressedkids@mail.nih.gov or call 301-827-1350. www.nimh.nih.gov/TeenDepressionStudy

- **Twitter:** Concerned about your teens depression? Research study enrolling ages 11-17 for evaluations and treatment. www.nimh.nih.gov/TeenDepressionStudy

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**FUNDING INFORMATION**

AUTISM SECONDARY DATA ANALYSIS RESEARCH PROGRAM

EARLY SCREENING FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/rfa-mh-19-120.html (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

BASIC NEURODEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY OF BRAIN CIRCUITS AND BEHAVIOR
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/par-files/par-19-027.html (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

SAMSHA: PROJECT AWARE (ADVANCING WELLNESS AND RESILIENCY IN EDUCATION) STATE EDUCATION AGENCY GRANTS

SAMHSA: STATEWIDE CONSUMER NETWORK PROGRAM

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

CDC: GRANTS TO SUPPORT NEW INVESTIGATORS IN ADDRESSING CROSS-CUTTING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION (FORECASTED)
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. For more information about the program, please visit: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml. To subscribe to receive the Update, 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.