



---

# UPDATE

May 15, 2015

- I. [Science and Service News Updates](#)
- II. [Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources](#)
- III. [Calendar of Events](#)
- IV. [Calls for Public Input](#)
- V. [Funding Information](#)

## Subscribe to Receive the Update

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

## Follow NIMH on Social Media

<http://twitter.com/nimhgov>  
<http://www.facebook.com/nimhgov>  
<http://www.youtube.com/nimhgov>

*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*

## THE NIMH RESEARCH DOMAIN CRITERIA: THE ROAD TO PRECISION MEDICINE STARTS HERE

The goal of precision medicine is to find the right treatment, for the right person, at the right time. The National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH) Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) is a groundbreaking initiative designed to help bring precision medicine to mental illnesses. In his latest blog post, NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses the alignment of RDoC with precision medicine as well as the establishment of an RDoC forum—a place where the research community is invited to debate, discuss, and enhance the RDoC concept. Also, a Perspective piece has just been published in the journal *Science* in which Dr. Insel and Dr. Bruce Cuthbert, director of the RDoC unit at NIMH, outline the importance of precision medicine and the role RDoC plays in reaching that goal.

**Science Update:** <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/the-nimh-research-domain-criteria.shtml>

## GTEX FINDINGS REVEAL NEW INSIGHTS INTO HOW DNA DIFFERENCES INFLUENCE GENE ACTIVITY, DISEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY; NIH-FUNDED PILOT STUDY PROVIDES A NEW RESOURCE ABOUT VARIANTS ACROSS THE HUMAN GENOME

Researchers funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) project have created a new and much-anticipated data resource to help establish how differences in an individual's genomic make-up can affect gene activity and contribute to disease. The new resource will enable scientists to examine the underlying genomics of many different human tissues and cells at the same time, and promises to open new avenues to the study and understanding of human biology. GTEx investigators reported initial findings from a two-year pilot study in several papers appearing online May 7, 2015 in *Science* and other journals. These efforts provide new insights into how genomic variants – inherited spelling differences in the DNA code – control how, when, and how much genes are turned on and off in different tissues, and can predispose people to diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/gtex-findings-reveal-new-insights-into-how-dna-differences-influence-gene-activity-disease-susceptibility.shtml>

## **MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH; NEW VA WEBSITE ENCOURAGES VETERANS TO TELL THEIR STORIES OF HOPE**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. To commemorate the month, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is encouraging Veterans, along with their families and friends, to visit and view recovery journey stories on the website, [MakeTheConnection.net](http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2699). *Make the Connection* is a national awareness program operated by VA aimed at reducing the negative perceptions and stigma associated with seeking mental health care. Through the website, Veterans and their loved ones hear from hundreds of other Veterans who may be experiencing similar challenges, learn strategies for support and recovery, along with local resources available through a resource locator.

**Press Release:** <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2699>

## **MEDICATION PLUS ONGOING CARE PROVIDED IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS IS PROMISING APPROACH FOR OPIOID DEPENDENCE**

New research comparing treatment approaches for opioid-dependent patients in emergency departments suggests that combining the medication buprenorphine with ongoing care is more effective than simply providing referrals to addiction treatment, with or without a brief intervention. This study showed that patients who received buprenorphine, along with a brief intervention to discuss opioid use and up to 12 weeks of buprenorphine maintenance, were more likely to get follow-up addiction treatment and had reduced self-reported illicit opioid use. They were also less likely to need inpatient addiction treatment services, saving treatment costs. This adds to the growing body of literature suggesting that opioid-dependent patients may benefit from immediate initiation of medication while awaiting more comprehensive substance use disorder treatment. This research was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

**Press Release:** <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2015/04/medication-plus-ongoing-care-provided-in-emergency-departments-promising-approach-opioid-dependence>

## NEW FROM NIMH

---

### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: CROWDSOURCING RDOC

NIMH's RDoC initiative is in keeping with current interest in precision medicine. In his latest blog post, NIMH Director Thomas Insel invites the research community to engage in discussion at the RDoC online forum. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/crowdsourcing-rdoc.shtml>

---

### NIMH GOOGLE+ HANGOUT ON FIRST-EPISODE PSYCHOSIS

The NIMH Google+ Hangout on first-episode psychosis is archived on the NIMH YouTube Channel. NIMH grantee John Kane, M.D., Vice President for Behavioral Health Services of the North Shore - Long Island Jewish Health System and Chairman of Psychiatry at The Zucker Hillside Hospital, answered questions from participants about early psychosis, including signs and treatment. Dr. Kane leads the RAISE Early Treatment Program – one of the two research teams that make up the NIMH-funded RAISE study. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJuy7E4RC6g>

---

### NIMH PERIMENOPAUSAL DEPRESSION TWITTER CHAT TRANSCRIPT

NIMH hosted a Twitter chat on perimenopausal depression for National Women's Health Week. NIMH expert Dr. Peter Schmidt was on hand answering questions. Thanks to those of you who joined us. If you missed the chat, you can view the transcript! <http://bit.ly/1AYQXj4>

## NEW FROM NIH

---

### PODCAST: ADULTS PHYSICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN NOT MORE LIKELY TO PHYSICALLY ABUSE THEIR CHILDREN

Compared to other adults their age, adults who were abused or neglected in childhood are not at increased risk of abusing their own children, suggests a study funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). The findings contradict the prevailing view that abuse is likely to occur across generations. <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/042115-podcast-child-abuse.aspx>

---

### NIDA DIRECTOR BLOG: TAKING A SCIENCE-INFORMED APPROACH TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA

NIDA Director Nora Volkow discusses the need for policy changes around medical marijuana to be informed as much as possible by science. Advocates need to support and encourage increased research on marijuana's potential benefits and conduct intensified research on the cannabinoid system to inform the development of safe drugs that can be approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Volkow cautions that the existing science on marijuana's adverse effects on youth demands that policymakers also proceed with caution in making policy changes that could result in increased use of or exposure to marijuana by

young people. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2015/04/taking-science-informed-approach-to-medical-marijuana>

## NEW FROM SAMHSA'S NATIONAL CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS NETWORK

---

### RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY DISPARITIES: RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network has a new resource page on community disparities. The page features resources for parents and providers living in areas where there has been community unrest, advice regarding media coverage of these events, guidance on helping children and adolescents who have been exposed to multiple traumas, and materials addressing racism, economic and health disparities, and ways to foster community healing. There are also resources on self-care and tools to assist the first responder community. <http://www.nctsn.org/content/responding-community-disparities>

---

### TWO NEW FACTSHEETS ON TEEN SEXUAL ASSAULT

*Teen Sexual Assault: Information for Teens* explains the difference between consent and coercion, defines and answers common questions about sexual assault and teen dating violence, delineates how drugs and alcohol interfere with safety, details how teens can protect themselves, describes the steps to take if assaulted sexually and where to go for more information, and explores the common misconceptions teens may have about sexual assault. *Teen Sexual Assault: Information for Parents* covers the same information, in addition to ways parents can help to protect their teenager.

#### TEEN SEXUAL ASSAULT: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

[http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/teensexuaassault\\_parents\\_final.pdf](http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/teensexuaassault_parents_final.pdf)

#### TEEN SEXUAL ASSAULT: INFORMATION FOR TEENS

[http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/teensexualassault\\_teens\\_final.pdf](http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/teensexualassault_teens_final.pdf)

## NEW FROM CDC

---

### LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, PREVALENCE OF DISEASES AND RISK FACTORS, AND USE OF HEALTH SERVICES AMONG HISPANICS IN THE UNITED STATES

Four national data sets were analyzed to compare Hispanics overall, non-Hispanic whites, and Hispanic country/region of origin subgroups for leading causes of death, prevalence of diseases and associated risk factors, and use of health services in the United States (U.S). This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report summarizes that analysis. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6417a5.htm>  
**Infographic:** <http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/hispanic-health/infographic.html>

---

## HEALTH, U.S., 2014

This annual report on the health status of the nation is compiled by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics. Each year, the report examines an important health topic and this year's special feature explores the health of the 55 to 64 age group. This group was born during the height of the Baby Boom and will become Medicare eligible over the next 10 years. The feature compares their health to those who were 55 to 64 years old a decade ago. The report also features detailed tables and charts displaying health statistics trends over time on: birth and death rates, infant mortality, life expectancy, morbidity and health status, risk factors, use of ambulatory and inpatient care, health personnel and facilities, financing of health care, health insurance and managed care, and other health topics including mental health.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>

## DCOE BLOG POSTS

---

### SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH: GET YOUR RESOURCES HERE!

In observance of May is Mental health Awareness Month, the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post is highlighting resources which help increase awareness and access to care among service members, Veterans and their families, and assist providers with treatment and diagnosis. [http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-05-](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-05-04/Support_Mental_Health_Awareness_Month_Get_Your_Resources_Here.aspx)

[04/Support\\_Mental\\_Health\\_Awareness\\_Month\\_Get\\_Your\\_Resources\\_Here.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-05-04/Support_Mental_Health_Awareness_Month_Get_Your_Resources_Here.aspx)

---

### Q&A: LEGAL TIPS FOR TELEHEALTH MENTAL COUNSELING [PART ONE]

This post is part one of a two-part series that summarizes tips offered during a recent webinar by Bryan T. Wheeler, deputy general counsel for the Defense Health Agency, on some of the legal and ethical issues involved in counseling service members online or via phone. Part one of the series covers general issues; part two will address questions related specifically to email and mobile apps. The rapid growth of websites, apps and other mobile technology to help mental health providers virtually communicate with patients presents new opportunities to reach service members and Veterans; however, this tech-enabled practice, known as telemedicine or telehealth, raises some legal concerns for providers.

[http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-05-06/Q\\_A\\_Legal\\_Tips\\_for\\_Telehealth\\_Mental\\_Counseling\\_Part\\_One.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-05-06/Q_A_Legal_Tips_for_Telehealth_Mental_Counseling_Part_One.aspx)

---

### HELP KIDS TACKLE STRESS WITH MINDFULNESS

This article is part of a series on the practice of mindfulness, which focuses on programs and therapies proven to help improve psychological health and overall well-being. Stress doesn't discriminate. Children in the military may experience even more stress because of the constant changes of military life, such as relocations, new schools, making new friends, deployments, or injuries of a loved one. This blog post, part of a series on the practice of mindfulness, provides suggestions on how to help children learn relaxation techniques such as mindfulness. [http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-04-](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-04-30/Help_Kids_Tackle_Stress_with_Mindfulness.aspx)

[30/Help\\_Kids\\_Tackle\\_Stress\\_with\\_Mindfulness.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-04-30/Help_Kids_Tackle_Stress_with_Mindfulness.aspx)

---

## REAL WARRIORS: TAKING THE FIRST STEPS TO GET HELP FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH CONCERNS

This article provides the first steps service members can take to seek care for psychological health concerns, lists options for psychological health care or support, and offers tips for preparing for the first appointment. <http://www.realwarriors.net/active/treatment/gettinghelp.php>

### EVENTS

## HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK

MAY 17-23, 2015

---

National Prevention Week is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-supported annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. The National Prevention Week 2015 theme is, “The Voice of One, the Power of All.” This theme highlights the important role that individuals and communities alike have in helping people lead healthy, productive lives. A planning toolkit for participating in the week’s observances is available. <http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>

## WEBINAR: OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO SHARED DECISION-MAKING

MAY 18, 2015, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

---

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) will host this webinar to discuss barriers to implementing shared decision-making and strategies for overcoming these barriers. The webinar will address barriers to shared decision-making from both the patient and provider perspectives, and strategies for overcoming barriers to shared decision-making in clinical practice. Presenters will also discuss insights AHRQ gained during the development of the SHARE Approach, a five-step process for dialogue with patients to facilitate implementation of shared decision-making. <http://www.ahrq.gov/news/share-webinar.html>

## TWITTER CHAT: TEEN BRAIN

MAY 19, 2015, 1:00 PM ET

---

What's so amazing about the teen brain? Explore the teen brain with ABC News Chief Health and Medical Editor, Dr. Richard Bessler. This Twitter chat is hosted by NICHD, NIMH, and TeenHealth.gov. <https://twitter.com/NIMHgov/status/596671114107035648/photo/1>

## **WEBINAR: THE RAISING OF AMERICA: HOW INEQUITIES IN OUR SOCIAL POLICIES AFFECT EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

MAY 19, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

---

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and CDC's Injury Center are hosting a screening of a new documentary from California Newsreel to challenge assumptions about what structures opportunities for healthy child development. Experiences in early childhood lay the foundation for lifelong physical, emotional, and cognitive health and well-being. Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments (SSNRs) mitigate the consequences of children's exposure to violence, poverty, and substance abuse and provide a buffer against the effects of potential stressors such as child maltreatment. In this way, SSNRs are fundamental to healthy brain development. Research also shows that parenting has an important influence on developmental outcomes for children and adolescents, but not all parents have access to the same resources to help their children grow up to be healthy. Parents and caregivers are affected by the social determinants of health, and by the structural and institutional inequalities that persist in communities. During this webinar, participants can learn how to use this series as a tool to foster dialogue and mobilize partnerships to advance health and well-being for families and their young children, as well as understand how an equity framework can be used to communicate about early childhood issues.

<http://www.anymeeting.com/PIID=EB58DB82894B3A>

## **WEBINAR: LEADING HEALTH INDICATORS--TOBACCO**

MAY 21, 2015, 12:00-1:00 PM ET

---

Tobacco use is a major preventable cause of premature death and disease in the U.S. Cigarette smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke are responsible for approximately 480,000 deaths each year in this country. Preventing tobacco use and helping people who use tobacco quit can improve the health and quality of life for many Americans. This webinar will focus on activities and interventions related to tobacco cessation and prevention, with a particular focus on the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender population. Through presentations focusing on data, communication efforts, and effective implementation strategies at the local level, presenters will explore the importance of tobacco cessation efforts and the progress we are making to address this public health issue. <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/webinars-events>

## **WEBINAR: FROM HOMELESS TO HEALTHY: HOW TO EFFECTIVELY REACH PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS (AND KEEP THEM ENGAGED)**

MAY 19, 2015, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

---

What can integrated primary and behavioral health care providers do to connect with individuals who experience homelessness - and keep them engaged in services? Individuals experiencing homelessness face many challenges that can prevent them from engaging in primary and behavioral health care integrated services, such as a trauma history, distrust of the health care system, extended periods of homelessness, or unresolved substance use issues. Join this webinar, a partnership between the SAMSHA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions and the SAMHSA Homeless and Housing Resource Network, to learn considerations for working with the homeless population. Hear how a SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration grantee provides mobile services and medical outreach to engage clients, and how sober housing may be an option for those also seeking substance use treatment.

<https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1063171>

## **WEBINAR: WHAT SUICIDE INTERVENTIONS OUTSIDE OF HEALTH CARE SETTINGS REDUCE RISK?**

MAY 27, 2015, 2:00-4:00 PM ET

---

In addition to effective clinical suicide care, effective suicide prevention strategies include interventions outside of care systems. Evidence supports community prevention approaches, including: making environments safer for those at risk by reducing access to lethal means (e.g., prescription drugs, guns, carbon monoxide), safe and effective suicide media coverage, and prevention programs in school and workplace settings. This webinar, part of a series sponsored by the National Council for Behavioral Health in collaboration with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention and NIMH, will address advances in reducing lethal means access, creating safe suicide media coverage, and implementing early intervention programs throughout the community, and research challenges in testing interventions outside health care settings that remain. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1057183>

## **HEALTH OBSERVANCE: PTSD AWARENESS MONTH**

JUNE 2015

---

The National Center for PTSD (posttraumatic stress disorder) promotes awareness of PTSD and effective treatments throughout the year. The purpose of PTSD Awareness Month is to encourage everyone to raise public awareness of PTSD and its effective treatments. [http://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd\\_awareness\\_month.asp](http://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd_awareness_month.asp)



## WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED

JUNE 17, 2015, 2:00-3:00 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 Department of Health and Human Services Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships 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://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8582454979918666497>

### CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

#### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI): BUILDING AN EVIDENCE BASE FOR EFFECTIVE PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT CARE AND ALTERNATIVE SERVICES FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

NIMH, NIDA, SAMHSA, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention are seeking information on approaches to better understand: 1) what components of inpatient care are safe and effective in reducing suicide risk for various populations; 2) what are effective alternatives to inpatient care (e.g., telephone counseling, home visits, intensive day/residential treatment, types of respite care) and how can they be broadly implemented; and 3) what type of research designs could compare inpatient interventions with alternative approaches in a safe, acceptable, and fair manner. While a number of interventions for suicide attempters have been effective and even replicated, the effectiveness of inpatient care interventions or alternative approaches in reducing later morbidity (e.g., suicide attempts) and mortality (e.g., suicide deaths) remains a question for many U.S. health care systems. Testing the effectiveness of inpatient or alternative approaches is critical for suicidal patients as few empirically-based practices exist for acute care interventions and their follow-up care.

This request for information (RFI) is intended to seek information about current practices and solicit perspectives on the need for empirical research from stakeholders who are associated with relevant systems of care (e.g., state commissioners, health care administrators; insurers; providers; patients; suicide attempt survivors; family members) and who play a role in the provision of interventions for individuals at acute risk for suicide, as well as researchers focused on such interventions and services research. Responses will be accepted through August 1, 2015. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-15-019.html>

## **HELP NIMH LAUNCH THE RESEARCH DOMAIN CRITERIA (RDOC) FORUM**

The RDoC Forum is an interactive discussion platform where researchers can post and exchange ideas about theoretical and practical aspects of RDoC. NIMH envisions the Forum as having a core role in promoting the mission behind RDoC, and providing enhanced communication both between and among individual grantees, RDoC investigators, and the RDoC Unit. NIMH encourages researchers to post comments and interact with other users on RDoC-relevant content over the next couple of weeks to launch the forum. NIMH welcomes comments and critiques at [RDoCAdmin@mail.nih.gov](mailto:RDoCAdmin@mail.nih.gov). NIMH is also open to suggestions about how to improve the general usability of the Forum itself.

<https://rdocforum.nimh.nih.gov/portal/>

## **SHARE YOUR IDEAS FOR UPDATING THE NATIONAL HIV/AIDS STRATEGY**

On behalf of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, SAMHSA invites you to share your ideas, feedback, and recommendations for updating the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. Released in 2010, the Strategy is our nation's first comprehensive plan to reduce new HIV infections, improve health outcomes for people living with HIV, reduce HIV-related health disparities, and achieve a more coordinated national response. You can submit your own ideas, and/or vote or comment on the recommendations of others through Friday, May 22, 2015.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2015/05/12/share-your-ideas-for-updating-the-national-hiv-aids-strategy/>

## **DcoE WELCOMES INPUT FOR “MENTAL HEALTH AND TBI CARE CHALLENGE”**

As Mental Health Awareness Month begins, DCoE opens a crowdsourcing challenge that aims to improve care for service members coping with PTSD or traumatic brain injury (TBI). DCoE is looking for innovative ways to improve the lives of service members, Veterans, and their families by advancing excellence in psychological health and TBI prevention and care. Share your ideas on how to fill gaps in care and improve the well-being of people with PTSD or TBI. Register your entries through June 5, 2015. DCoE will announce the winners in late June. [http://www.dcoe.mil/MediaCenter/News/details/15-05-01/DcoE\\_Uses\\_Crowdsourcing\\_for\\_Mental\\_Health\\_TBI\\_Care\\_Challenge.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/MediaCenter/News/details/15-05-01/DcoE_Uses_Crowdsourcing_for_Mental_Health_TBI_Care_Challenge.aspx)

## COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

The AHRQ Effective Health Care Program encourages the public to participate in the development of its research projects. The Program uses these comments to help focus its research and ensure that the final comparative effectiveness reviews answer the most important questions that clinicians, patients, consumers, and policymakers have about a given treatment, test, or procedure. The Program is currently seeking comments for:

NONPHARMACOLOGIC INTERVENTIONS FOR AGITATION AND AGGRESSION IN DEMENTIA  
(COMMENTS DUE JUNE 8, 2015)

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=2081>

## CMS PROPOSES MENTAL HEALTH PARITY RULE FOR MEDICAID AND CHIP

Comments are being accepted on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed rule to align mental health and substance use disorder benefits for low-income Americans with benefits required of private health plans and insurance. The proposal applies certain provisions of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The Act ensures that mental health and substance use disorder benefits are no more restrictive than medical and surgical services. The deadline to submit comments is June 9, 2015.

<http://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2015-Press-releases-items/2015-04-06.html>

## PROPOSED RULE OFFERS GUIDANCE ON HOW ADA APPLIES TO EMPLOYER WELLNESS PROGRAMS — COMMENTS SOUGHT

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is issuing a proposed rule that would amend the regulations and interpretive guidance implementing Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as they relate to employer wellness programs. The proposed rule amends the ADA regulations to provide guidance on the extent to which employers may use incentives to encourage employees to participate in wellness programs that include disability-related inquiries and/or medical examinations. Comments accepted through June 19, 2015. <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/04/20/2015-08827/amendments-to-regulations-under-the-americans-with-disabilities-act>

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: TRAVEL AWARDS FOR NIMH MD/PHD STUDENT CONFERENCE

NIMH is seeking applications from current MD/PhD students interested in clinical neuroscience for the NIMH MD/PhD Student Conference held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Molecular Psychiatry Meeting in San Francisco, CA, October 30 to November 1, 2015. The award includes:

- An invitation to the MD/PhD student conference where awardees will meet with NIMH leadership, investigators, and clinical fellows to learn about and discuss cutting-edge, NIMH-supported research.
- An opportunity to present a short talk (5-8 minutes) about research.
- Registration paid to attend the following Molecular Psychiatry meeting.
- Travel to San Francisco and hotel accommodations for 1-3 nights, depending on attendance at the Molecular Psychiatry meeting.

Application deadline is June 30, 2015. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/funding/training/call-for-applications-travel-awards.shtml>

### FUNDING INFORMATION

#### ADULT DRUG COURT

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201505041000>

#### MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2015/MentoringOpportunities.pdf>

#### MENTORING FOR YOUTH: UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2015/MentoringUnderserved.pdf>

#### PILOT HEALTH SERVICES AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON THE TREATMENT OF DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO ABUSE (R34)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-250.html>

#### HEALTH SERVICES AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO ABUSE

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-252.html> (R03)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-251.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-253.html> (R21)

#### AIDS RESEARCH CENTER ON MENTAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS (P30)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-197.html>

INNOVATIONS FOR HEALTHY LIVING - IMPROVING POPULATION HEALTH AND ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES (R43)/(R44)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-15-009.html>

TECHNOLOGIES FOR IMPROVING POPULATION HEALTH AND ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES (R41/R42)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-15-008.html>

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT NAVIGATORS IN FEDERALLY-FACILITATED AND STATE PARTNERSHIP MARKETPLACES

<https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=51423>

PARTNERSHIPS TO INCREASE COVERAGE IN COMMUNITIES II INITIATIVE

<http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlid=66#I>



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.