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# UPDATE

July 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*

## **PREDICTING SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AND SUICIDE DEATHS USING ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS; NEW MODEL SUBSTANTIALLY OUTPERFORMS EXISTING SUICIDE RISK TOOLS**

Suicide accounted for nearly 45,000 deaths in the United States (U.S.) in 2016. Unfortunately, tools currently used to predict an individual's risk of a suicide attempt or dying by suicide, such as brief self-report measures, have only moderate accuracy. Now, researchers have developed a new prediction model that substantially outperforms existing self-report tools. The study, supported by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), was published online on May 24, 2018, in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2018/predicting-suicide-attempts-and-suicide-deaths-using-electronic-health-records.shtml>

## **UNDERSTANDING CRITICAL COMPONENTS OF THE BRAIN'S STRESS CIRCUITRY; STUDY IDENTIFIES HOW THE PVT INTERACTS WITH OTHER BRAIN AREAS DURING STRESS**

Everyone feels stressed from time to time. While people often learn to deal with stress in a healthy, adaptive way, sometimes people respond to stress in a maladaptive way, which can put them at greater risk for developing mental illnesses. Now, a new study conducted by NIMH researchers has revealed more about the organization and function of a brain structure, paraventricular nucleus of the thalamus (PVT), that may serve a key role in linking stress detection to the development of adaptive behaviors. The study, published online June 18, 2018, appears in *Nature Neuroscience*. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2018/understanding-critical-components-of-the-brains-stress-circuitry.shtml>

## **TARGETED E-HEALTH HIV INTERVENTION REDUCES STIS AND SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIORS; NEW STUDY SHOWS PROMISING RESULTS FOR THE KEEP IT UP! INTERVENTION**

The U.S. National HIV/AIDS Strategy calls for reductions in new HIV infections by the year 2020, particularly among young men who have sex with men (YMSM). Although electronically delivered health services have been found to be an effective way to deliver HIV prevention information, very few interventions target YMSM. But findings from a new study funded by NIMH and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) suggest an electronically delivered HIV prevention intervention may be effective in reducing sexually transmitted infections and sexual risk behaviors in this group. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2018/targeted-e-health-hiv-intervention-reduces-stis-and-sexual-risk-behaviors.shtml>

## NEW CLINICIAN SCREENING TOOL AVAILABLE FOR SUBSTANCE USE

The NIDA Clinical Trials Network has unveiled a new scientifically validated, online screening tool designed to assess a patient's risk for substance misuse and substance use disorder and assist the health care provider with prevention and treatment strategies. The *Tobacco, Alcohol, Prescription Medication, and other Substance Use (TAPS) Tool* is available on the NIDAMED Web Portal and consists of a comprehensive screening component followed by a brief assessment for those who screen positive. NIDAMED disseminates science-based resources to health professionals on the causes and consequences of drug use and addiction and advances in pain management. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2018/06/new-clinician-screening-tool-available-substance-use>

## NIH-FUNDED SCIENTISTS PUT SOCIOECONOMIC DATA ON THE MAP

The *Neighborhood Atlas*, a new tool to help researchers visualize socioeconomic data at the community level is now available. This online platform allows for easily ranking and mapping neighborhoods according to socioeconomic disadvantage. Seeing a neighborhood's socioeconomic measures, such as income, education, employment, and housing quality, may provide clues to the effects of those factors on overall health, and could inform health resources policy and social interventions. The *Neighborhood Atlas* is housed at the University of Wisconsin and described in a perspective in the June 28 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The project is funded by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, both part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-scientists-put-socioeconomic-data-map>

## STUDY CASTS DOUBT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF E-CIGS FOR SMOKING CESSATION

A study found no evidence that smokers who used e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) in the U.S. were more likely to quit smoking cigarettes than smokers who do not use these products. The study, looking at 2015-2016 data, found that 90 percent of people who used both ENDS and traditional cigarettes (dual users) were still smoking one year later. The research was conducted by researchers at the School of Public Health at Georgia State University and funded by NIDA and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2018/07/study-casts-doubt-effectiveness-e-cigs-smoking-cessation>

## AIMED AT SUICIDE PREVENTION, VA SHARES WINNERS OF ITS 'GUN SAFETY MATTERS CHALLENGE'

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently selected three winners in its *Gun Safety Matters Challenge*, an open-innovation contest to develop cost-effective solutions for firearm storage, which Veterans and their families or friends could use to prevent suicide, injury, or accidents. With solutions from private industry and academia, as well as talented individuals who care deeply about preventing suicide and enhancing firearm safety, VA is working with winners of the challenge to learn more about their innovations. <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5081>

## NEW FROM NIH

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### NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: TREATMENT FOR DEPRESSION IN YOUNG CHILDREN

Researchers found that a therapy-based approach focused on emotional development may be an effective option for treating early childhood depression. This NIMH-funded study suggests that improving the parent-child relationship along with their emotional coping skills is an effective, low-risk approach to treating depression. <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/treatment-depression-young-children>

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### NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: MEDICATIONS REDUCE RISK OF DEATH AFTER OPIOID OVERDOSE

Methadone and buprenorphine reduced the risk of death by about half for people who'd previously had a non-fatal opioid overdose. However, less than a third of those who'd had a non-fatal opioid overdose received these drugs. The results of this NIH-funded study highlight missed opportunities to help people at high risk of death from opioid use. <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/medications-reduce-risk-death-after-opioid-overdose>

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### NIDA DIRECTOR BLOG: FDA APPROVES FIRST DRUG DERIVED FROM MARIJUANA

NIDA Director Nora Volkow blogs about the recent FDA approval of Epidiolex® (cannabidiol, or CBD), a medication extracted from marijuana, for the treatment of two severe pediatric seizure disorders, Lennox-Gastaut syndrome and Dravet syndrome. CBD is a compound typically found in very small quantities in the marijuana plant, and it has been of interest to scientists and the public for several years due to its anti-seizure properties and other possible therapeutic benefits. The approval comes at the end of a four-year series of trials showing the benefits of CBD in relieving the symptoms of these seizure disorders, which are highly resistant to existing treatments. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2018/07/fda-approves-first-drug-derived-marijuana>

## NEW FROM SAMHSA

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### RAISING AWARENESS OF PTSD ASSOCIATED WITH MASS VIOLENCE OR NATURAL DISASTERS

In observance of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Month, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) blogs about its efforts to raise awareness about PTSD. PTSD refers to a mental health condition that some people develop after witnessing or experiencing a life-threatening or unusually violent event. Although PTSD is often associated with military combat, it can have many causes, including domestic violence, abuse or neglect, sexual assault, accidental injury, or natural disasters.

<https://blog.samhsa.gov/2018/07/03/raising-awareness-of-ptsd-associated-with-mass-violence-or-natural-disasters>

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### NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER

This issue of *The Dialogue* from SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center highlights a sample of National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster members involved in behavioral health disaster response and recovery work. Authors share their experiences working with organizations that support individuals during and after a disaster.

[https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/dtac/dialoguevol14i2\\_final\\_061218.pdf](https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/dtac/dialoguevol14i2_final_061218.pdf)

## NEW FROM CDC

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### FEATURE ARTICLE: DEPRESSION DURING AND AFTER PREGNANCY

Moms and moms-to-be deserve the best— including the very best mental health. Many women experience depression during and after pregnancy, and it's important to learn the symptoms of depression and to seek treatment if needed. This feature article from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides information about maternal depression and treatment. <https://www.cdc.gov/features/maternal-depression/index.html>

## NEW FROM AHRQ

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### CO-OCCURRENCE OF PHYSICAL HEALTH CONDITIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CONDITIONS

This Agency for Research and Healthcare Quality (AHRQ) statistical brief presents data on the co-occurrence of physical health conditions and mental and/or substance use disorders among adult inpatient stays in 2010 and 2014. <https://www.ahrq.gov/news/health-substance-abuse-hcup.html>

## NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

JULY 2018

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July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month and the month offers organizations of all types and sizes an opportunity to create mental health awareness in diverse communities. The U.S. House of Representatives proclaimed July as this special month in 2008, aiming to improve access to mental health treatment and services through increased public awareness. Since then, many organizations have hosted a variety of events and activities in communities across the country each year.

<https://www.integration.samhsa.gov/news/national-minority-mental-health-awareness-month-resources>

## WEBINAR: FROM JAIL TO COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: ENSURING CONTINUITY OF CARE

JULY 16, 2018, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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Join the SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration Center for Integrated Health Solutions for this webinar to hear lessons learned and best practices from innovative programs formed by local jails and behavioral health providers (including those working in integrated primary care settings) partnering to ensure continuity of care and timely access to care.

[https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1198162&tp\\_key=1c53da3616](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1198162&tp_key=1c53da3616)

## PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE TRIBAL HEALTH: A NATIONAL TOWN HALL ON COMBATTING OPIOIDS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

JULY 24, 2018, 8:30 AM-12:00 PM, WASHINGTON, DC AND LIVE STREAM

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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) invites the public to participate in this national forum for tribal and federal officials to engage in joint dialogue to improve the impact of HHS resources in tribal communities. Attendees can participate in-person or via live stream.

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=2521655>

## NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH 2018: #MINORITYMH TWITTER CHAT

JULY 26, 2018, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

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In observance of National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, NIMHD will host a Twitter chat to talk about important topics related to minority mental health care. The Twitter chat centers on the theme “Motivating Action for Improving Minority Mental Health Care: Barriers and Opportunities.” Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (@OfficialOPPF), HHS Office of Minority Health (@MinorityHealth), FDA Office of Minority Health (@FDAOMH) are serving as co-hosts. Join the chat @NIMHD using hashtag #MinorityMH. <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIHNIMHD/bulletins/1fe671b>

## NIMH CONFERENCE TO EXPLORE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

AUGUST 1-2, 2018, ROCKVILLE, MD

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NIMH is hosting the 24th Mental Health Services Research (MHSR) Conference with the theme: “What’s the Next Big Thing?” MHSR is organized every other year by the Services Research and Clinical Epidemiology Branch, part of NIMH’s Division of Services and Intervention Research. The conference aims to promote high-priority areas in mental health services research and identify opportunities with potential for significant impact for people with mental disorders. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2018/nimh-conference-to-explore-mental-health-services-research.shtml>

## 13TH ANNUAL VOICE AWARDS EVENT

AUGUST 8, 2018, 7:30 PM PT, LOS ANGELES, LA

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Join SAMHSA and its partners at the 13th annual Voice Awards event. The Voice Awards program honors people in recovery and their family members who are improving the lives of people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders in communities across the country. The awards program also recognizes television and film productions that educate the public about behavioral health and showcase that recovery is real and possible through treatment and recovery supports. The Voice Awards event brings together government, the entertainment community, and the behavioral health field to advance acceptance, understanding, and treatment of mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders. <https://www.regonline.com/registration/Checkin.aspx?EventID=2269494>

## **WEBINAR: SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE COLLABORATIVE CARE MODEL**

AUGUST 23, 2018, 4:00-5:30 PM ET

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As part of the 2018 NIMH Office for Research on Disparities and Global Mental Health Webinar Series, this presentation will provide an overview of available opportunities to address suicide prevention while delivering mental health services in primary care settings using the psychiatric collaborative care model (CoCM). The speakers will introduce the core features of CoCM, with a focus on data for reductions in suicidal ideation seen with collaborative care. The presentation will conclude with potential opportunities to utilize CoCM to prevent suicide. <http://nimhordgmh2018.thebizzellgroup.com/august-23-webinar>

## **NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH**

SEPTEMBER 2018

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Each September, SAMHSA sponsors National Recovery Month (Recovery Month) to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use disorders, and to celebrate individuals living in recovery. This year's theme is "Join the Voices for Recovery: Invest in Health, Home, Purpose, and Community." The 2018 Recovery Month Toolkit and television and radio public service announcements are now available to view and download. Communities across the country use these materials to organize events, issue proclamations, increase public awareness, and encourage individuals in need of services and their friends and families to seek help. <https://recoverymonth.gov/>

## **WEBINAR: USING SIMULATION TO EVALUATE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH IN PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS: POTENTIAL USE OF FINDINGS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH POLICYMAKERS, COMMUNITY GROUPS, CONSUMERS, AND ADVOCATES**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018, 4:00-5:30 PM ET

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Improving the efficacy of treatment among socioeconomically diverse populations with mental illness requires tackling the myriad of social determinants of health, including education, income, and employment. Modern research techniques, like simulation testing, can lead to efficient and effective intervention design among people with mental illness by giving an indication of what might work. This webinar in the 2018 NIMH Office for Research on Disparities and Global Mental Health Webinar Series will cover evidence for addressing social determinants; the use of simulations to test the potential of improving income, education, and employment to improve mental health outcomes using two data sets; illustrate the reactions from policymakers, community groups, consumers and advocates on the research results; and demonstrate how research results can inform policy. <http://nimhordgmh2018.thebizzellgroup.com/september-11-webinar>

## CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: THE HEALING COMMUNITIES STUDY: DEVELOPING AND TESTING AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS

Despite the availability of multiple effective evidence-based interventions and practices, most Americans at risk for or suffering from an opioid use disorder (OUD) do not receive appropriate prevention and treatment services. Simultaneously, opioid overdose rates continue to increase. NIDA, in partnership with SAMHSA, is exploring options for conducting a multi-site national research effort in up to three communities to develop and test approaches for the systematic implementation and sustainability of an integrated set of evidence-based interventions across healthcare, behavioral health, justice systems, state and local governments, and community organizations to prevent and treat opioid misuse and OUD. This request for information solicits input from the NIH extramural research community and public stakeholders. Responses will be accepted until July 20, 2018, via e-mail to: [OpioidRFI@nida.nih.gov](mailto:OpioidRFI@nida.nih.gov). <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-18-023.html>

### COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

The AHRQ's 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:

KEY QUESTIONS: MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENTS IN PREGNANCY (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH JULY 30, 2018)

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/node/31771>

## FUNDING INFORMATION

PREVENTION RESEARCH IN MID-LIFE ADULTS

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-850.html> (R21 Clinical Trial Optional)

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-849.html> (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

SCREENING AND TREATMENT FOR MATERNAL DEPRESSION AND RELATED BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS PROGRAM

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=305113>

PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS PROGRAM

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=305136>



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. 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.