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To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/outreach/partnership-program/subscribe-to-the-update.shtml
Science and Service News Updates

NIMH: Just Over Half of Americans Diagnosed with Major Depression Receive Care – More Receive Psychotherapy than Medication; Study Provides New Detail on Disparities
Overall, only about half of Americans diagnosed with major depression in a given year receive treatment for it, and even fewer—about one fifth—receive treatment consistent with current practice guidelines, according to data from nationally representative surveys supported by NIMH. Among the ethnic/racial groups surveyed, African Americans and Mexican Americans had the lowest rates of use of depression care; all groups reported higher use of past-year psychotherapy versus medication for depression.

NIMH: Runaway Vigilance Hormone Linked to Panic Attacks – Translational Experiments in Rats, Humans Suggest New Medication Target
A study has linked panic disorder to a wayward hormone in a brain circuit that regulates vigilance. While too little of the hormone, called orexin, is known to underlie narcolepsy, the new study suggests that too much of it may lead to panic attacks that afflict 6 million American adults. NIMH grantees reported on their findings online December 27, 2009 in the journal *Nature Medicine*. They showed that blocking orexin gene expression or its receptor prevented panic attack-like responses in rats. The study also revealed that people with panic disorder have excess levels of the hormone.

NIMH: New Grant Aims to Identify and Reduce Suicide among Emergency Department Patients
A new NIMH-funded grant aims to increase suicide detection and prevention efforts among people who present with suicide risk factors in hospital emergency departments. The Emergency Department Safety Assessment and Follow-up Evaluation trial will be coordinated by the Emergency Medicine Network, which is based at the University of Massachusetts. The study will be conducted at eight sites throughout the nation and is set to begin in June 2010.

NIDA Researchers Discover a New Mechanism Underlying Cocaine Addiction: Study Offers Promise for Medication Development
Researchers have identified a key epigenetic mechanism in the brain that helps explain cocaine's addictiveness, according to research funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The study, published in the January issue of the journal *Science*, shows how cocaine affects an epigenetic process (a process capable of influencing gene expression without changing a gene's sequence) called histone methylation. These epigenetic changes in the brain's pleasure circuits, which are also the first impacted by chronic cocaine exposure, likely contribute to an acquired preference for cocaine.
SAMHSA: Increasing Substance Abuse Levels among Older Adults Likely to Create Sharp Rise in Need for Treatment Services in Next Decade
A new study done by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) indicates that the aging of the baby boom generation is resulting in a dramatic increase in levels of illicit drug use among adults 50 and older. These increases may require the doubling of substance abuse treatment services needed for this population by 2020, according to the report.
The full report: http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/168/168OlderAdults.cfm

NIAAA: Molecule Repairs Alcohol Metabolism Enzyme
An experimental compound repaired a defective alcohol metabolism enzyme that affects an estimated 1 billion people worldwide, according to research supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The findings, published January 10, 2010 in the advance online edition of Nature Structural and Molecular Biology, suggest the possibility of a treatment to reduce the health problems associated with the enzyme defect.

Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources

New on NIMH Website

Director’s Blog Posting: Looking Forward in 2010
Highlights of NIMH initiatives for 2010, including updates on budget activity.

Director’s Blog Posting: 2009, A Remarkable Year for NIMH
From the extraordinary funding opportunities presented by the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to significant new investments in research and resource infrastructure—this has been a remarkable year for NIMH. The NIMH Director reflects on how the work of 2009 has prepared NIMH for the year ahead.

Director’s Blog Posting: Autism Progress
NIMH has made a substantial commitment to research designed to discover autism’s causes and improve diagnosis and treatment. Not only has NIMH become the lead institute for autism research at NIH, it has become the largest single source of funding for autism research in the country.
http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/index-autism.shtml#p1

New Speaking of Science Vodcast: Joseph LeDoux: Replacing Fear Memories
This vodcast is a discussion with researcher Joseph LeDoux about fear and a description of scientific advances in previously unchartered mental health territories. Is a real life “sunshine of the mind” possible and can we replace “fear memories?”
http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/speaking-of-science-nimh-vodcast-series.shtml#ledoux
New on NIDA Website

Webcast Discussion about Scientific Approach to Keep Youth Safe from Drugs
To celebrate recent advances in drug prevention science, NIDA sponsored its first virtual town hall meeting bringing together representatives from key Federal agencies involved in preventing substance abuse. The lively one hour discussion highlighted how new scientific approaches combined with commitment at the community level can reduce the chances of children becoming involved with drugs.

Latest NIDA Notes Available

NIDA Notes covers drug abuse research in the areas of treatment and prevention, epidemiology, neuroscience, behavioral science, health services and AIDS. The latest issue features a research summary about the Recovery Checkup System, a post-treatment intervention to support recovery for substance abusers with co-occurring mental disorders.
http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDA_Notes/NNIndex.html

NIH Research Matters

Vigilance Hormone Linked to Panic Attacks
A new study has linked panic disorder to a wayward hormone in a brain circuit that regulates vigilance. While too little of the hormone, called orexin, is known to underlie narcolepsy, the new finding suggests that too much of it may lead to panic attacks.

Uncovering the Mechanism of Cocaine Addiction
Researchers have identified a key mechanism in the brain that helps explain cocaine's addictiveness. The finding may lead to new therapeutic approaches.

SAMHSA Resources

Archived Webcast: Meet the New SAMHSA Administrator
Pamela Hyde was nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in November 2009 as SAMHSA Administrator. The agency is responsible for improving the accountability, capacity and effectiveness of the Nation's substance abuse prevention, addictions treatment and mental health services delivery system. As Administrator, Hyde leads SAMHSA's staff of approximately 550 public health professionals and manages a budget of approximately $3.5 billion dedicated towards efforts and policies advancing the health and well-being of people in America. The webcast of this December 10, 2009 Constituency Meeting to Welcome the New SAMHSA Administrator is now available.

Latest SAMHSA News available
The latest SAMHSA News focuses on SAMHSA’s Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program.
http://www.samhsa.gov/samhsaNewsletter/default.aspx
National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices Highlights Comparative Effectiveness Research

SAMHSA added a new search feature to its National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) Web site. The feature allows users to identify NREPP interventions that have been evaluated in comparative effectiveness research studies.

http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov

National Outcome Measures Report Available

SAMHSA announces the fifth annual report to the Nation on the partnership among SAMHSA, the States and SAMHSA grantees to implement the National Outcome Measures (NOMs). SAMHSA is continuing the process of enhancing performance measurement by refining and/or adding NOMs, by improving the current measures, and by increasingly reporting data on these performance outcome measures at the State, community and program levels.

http://www.nationaloutcomemeasures.samhsa.gov/accomplishments.aspx?menuID=0

CDC: Preventing Chronic Disease Journal—Focus on Mental Health

The latest issue of Preventing Chronic Disease, a peer-reviewed electronic journal established to provide a forum for public health researchers and practitioners to share study results and practical experience, focuses on the intersection of public health and mental health.

http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/


Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are a group of developmental disabilities characterized by atypical development in socialization, communication and behavior. This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report provides results of a systematic retrospective review of evaluation records from 11 sites participating in the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network in 2006. The 2006 data are compared with data from 10 sites collected in 2002. A total of 2,757 (0.9 percent) of 307,790 children aged eight residing in the 2006 ADDM sites were identified as having an ASD, indicating an overall average prevalence of 9.0 per 1,000 population (approximately one percent, or one child in every 110 in the 11 ADDM sites). The average prevalence of ASDs increased 57 percent from 2002 to 2006. Although improved assessment accounts for some of the prevalence increases, a true increase in the risk for children to develop ASD symptoms cannot be ruled out.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5810a1.htm

DOD: New Video about Understanding TBI

The Department of Defense’s (DOD) Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center has produced a 29-minute video about traumatic brain injury (TBI). With an introduction by General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), the video provides an overview of TBI. It features the recovery journeys of several service members and their families.

http://www.dvbic.org/Colin-Powell.aspx
New from AHRQ
Navigating the Health Care System: Comparing Medical Treatments for Antidepressants
This new edition of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Director’s advice column on navigating the health care system focuses on resources for comparing antidepressant medications.
http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/cc/cc010510.htm

Web Conference on Atypical Antipsychotic Drugs and Risk of Sudden Cardiac Death
Now available online is a free Web conference for clinical pharmacists that describes findings from a recent AHRQ-funded study, Atypical Antipsychotic Drugs and the Risk of Sudden Cardiac Death. The event is presented by AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program and co-sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association. Free CPE credit is available by participating in the home study version of the event.
http://certs.hhs.gov/resources/webconferences/antipsychotics/webconference.htm

DOJ: Guide Offers Communities Ways to Prevent and Respond to School Violence
The Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), in coordination with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, has published a new edition of its Guide for Preventing and Responding to School Violence. Designed to assist local communities, the guide describes the roles of the school, community, families, law enforcement and justice system in working together to take effective action to address school violence.

Calendar of Events
Conference Call: The Status of Children's Mental Health Policy in the United States - Emerging Areas of Focus
January 20, 2010 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET
SAMHSA’s National Technical Assistance Center for Children’s Mental Health is sponsoring this teleconference about children’s mental health policy. The presenters will share what they see as new and emerging trends in the field of children's mental health in 2010.
http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/resources/2010calls.html

Webinar: Shared Decision-Making in Mental Health: Panel Discussion on Consumer Perspectives and Experiences Creating Dialogue, Promoting Choice, Supporting Recovery
January 21, 2010 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET
As part of its ongoing effort to promote recovery and consumer choice, SAMHSA will host this second in a series of three Webinars designed to introduce and explore the principles and practice of shared decision-making from various perspectives. Presenters will focus on four themes related to consumer perspectives and experiences with shared decision-making in mental health service settings.
https://www304.livemeeting.com/lrs/8000963084/Registration.aspx?pageName=qflg9fz17g8h3hbw
DCOE Monthly Webinar: Support for Family Caregivers
January 28, 2010 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET
The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) is offering this Webinar to provide perspective on the needs family caregivers of service members have and discuss the systemic, policy and programmatic responses to help meet those needs.

2010 National GAINS Center Conference
March 17-19, 2010 Orlando, Florida
The SAMHSA Center for Mental Health Services National GAINS Center Conference represents a unique opportunity for practitioners and researchers working at the interfaces of the criminal justice and mental health systems to network, learn and share knowledge on creating effective services for justice-involved individuals with mental illness.

Blending Addiction Science and Practice: Evidence-Based Treatment and Prevention in Diverse Populations and Settings
April 22-23, 2010 Albuquerque, New Mexico
NIDA’s 8th Blending Conference presents innovative, science-based approaches that have been proven to be effective in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse and addiction. The conference objectives are to: 1) discuss and disseminate science-based, drug abuse prevention and treatment practices across diverse populations and settings; 2) provide additional resources to enhance knowledge and skill development of science-based practices; 3) appreciate the value of bi-directional communication to advance the exchange of ideas among drug abuse and addiction researchers and community treatment providers; 4) recognize NIDA’s research and its role in the development of science-based practices; and 5) identify Blending Team products and discuss their utilization in drug abuse and addiction treatment.
http://www.seiservices.com/blendingalbuquerque/

Calls for Public Input

Office of Minority Health’s National Plan for Action Is Open for Public Comments
The National Plan for Action: Changing Outcomes - Achieving Health Equity, which captures the status of health disparities in our country and proposes 20 strategies for their elimination, is a thoughtful and thorough collaborative effort of representatives from community, faith-based and non-profit organizations, academic institutions, foundations, and Federal, State and local agencies. Initiated by the Office of Minority Health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the National Plan for Action inspires us to move forward to implement the strategies and provides a roadmap to make an impact in the elimination of health disparities, a costly and undue burden on our country.

Comment forms are set up so that you may comment on individual chapters of the report, or on the report overall. Deadline for comments: February 12, 2010.
2010 Science and Service Awards Will Honor Implementation of Evidence-Based Mental Health and Substance Abuse Interventions

SAMHSA has issued a call for applications for its 2010 Science and Service Awards, a national program that recognizes community-based organizations and coalitions that have shown exemplary implementation of evidence-based mental health and substance abuse interventions.

Awards will be made in each of the five categories: substance abuse prevention; treatment of substance abuse and recovery support services; mental health promotion; treatment of mental illness and recovery support services; and co-occurring disorders. To be eligible for an award, an organization must have successfully implemented a recognized evidence-based intervention. Examples include those that are published in scientific literature and/or appear on a Federal and/or state registry of evidence-based interventions.

Application deadline: April 9, 2010

Clinical Trial Participation News

NIMH: Clinical Trial of Riluzole in Pediatric Bipolar Disorder

This study is testing the effectiveness of riluzole versus placebo for decreasing anxiety in children with pediatric bipolar disorder (BP). Children and youth with BP display episodic elevated mood and associated symptoms of decreased need for sleep, increased goal-directed behavior and increased self-esteem/grandiosity. Children ages nine to 17 with BP may be eligible to participate in this 12- to 15-week inpatient or outpatient study. This study has four phases. During Phase I, participants are gradually withdrawn from all current psychotropic medications. Phase II is a one-week medication-free period. During Phase III, which lasts two weeks, participants are randomly assigned to receive either riluzole or placebo (a "sugar pill"). Phase IV lasts for six weeks. During this time, participants continue riluzole or placebo. At the end of the study, those who received placebo have the opportunity to receive riluzole. All procedures and medications associated with the research are provided at no cost to participants, and assistance with transportation and lodging expenses is available. Schooling will be provided while on the inpatient unit or in day treatment. To determine eligibility or for more information, please call (301) 496-8381 or email bipolarkids@mail.nih.gov.

For more information on Mental Health Research Studies conducted by NIMH:
http://patientinfo.nimh.nih.gov
Funding Information

Funding Available to Develop Mental Illness Document
The National Institute of Corrections is soliciting proposals for Document Development - Working with Mental Illness in Corrections: A Framework, Strategies and Best Practices. The document produced from this cooperative agreement will provide correctional administrators and practitioners in jails, prisons and community corrections with a framework/model and guide to implement best strategies and practices for working with offenders diagnosed with mental illness, or who demonstrate mental health problems.
Application deadline: February 12, 2010

SAMHSA Accepting Applications to Provide Up to $8.9 Million in Grants That Will Promote Consumer Involvement in Restructuring Mental Health Systems
SAMHSA is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2010 for up to $8.9 million over five years to fund five consumer and consumer-supporter technical assistance centers that will strengthen and enhance consumer- directed approaches for adults with serious mental illness.
Application deadline: February 19, 2010

SAMHSA and the Office of Justice Programs Accepting Applications for $20 Million to Enhance Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination and Treatment
SAMHSA in collaboration with U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), is accepting applications for FY 2010 grants to enhance the court services, coordination and substance abuse treatment capacity of adult drug courts. The purpose of this joint initiative is to invite applicants to submit for consideration one comprehensive strategy for enhancing drug court capacity, allowing applicants to compete for access to both criminal justice and substance abuse treatment funds with one application.
Application deadline: 8:00 p.m. ET February 11, 2010
http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/drugcourts.html

Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems Competition
The U.S. Department of Education’s (ED) Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools announces the release of the FY 2010 Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems Program grant application. The purpose of the Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems program is to increase student access to high-quality mental health care by developing innovative approaches that link school systems with the local mental health system. Projects funded under this program support infrastructure development to develop and/or improve collaborative efforts between schools, mental health service systems and juvenile justice systems to provide, enhance, or improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment services to students; enhance crisis intervention services; provide professional training; provide technical assistance to systems and families; ensure linguistically appropriate and culturally competent services; and evaluate the effectiveness of the program.
Application deadline: February 22, 2010
Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Grant Competition
The ED’s Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools announces the release of the FY 2010 Elementary and Secondary School Counseling program grant application. The purpose of the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling program is to support efforts by LEAs (public school districts) to establish or expand counseling programs.
Application deadline: February 26, 2010

Programmatic Funding

CDC: Public Health Conference Support Program
http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=LF1nLMpG7ZR2C1Rm2KBlkk2yhQf1jdHMJxGr4MNTgJ1Fhd6DBqLL!-1299818899?oppId=50739&mode=VIEW

D.ED: Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools

HRSA: Maternal and Child Health Distance Learning

HRSA: Early and Continuous Screening in Medical Home Program
https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/SFO.asp?ID=A568AE0C-A0EA-4847-9695-F70C0486F600

SAMHSA: Access to Recovery Program

State Mental Health Data Infrastructure Grants for Quality Improvement

SAMHSA Grants to Expand Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity in Adult Drug Courts

Research Funding Opportunities

Selected Request for Applications

Novel Tools for Investigating Brain-derived GPCRs in Mental Health Research (SBIR [R43/R44])

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Behavioral Economics for Nudging the Implementation of Comparative Effectiveness Research: Clinical Trials (RC4)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: NIH Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network (OppNet) Short-term Mentored Career Development Awards in the Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences for Mid-career and Senior Investigators (K18)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: NIH Director’s Opportunity for Research in Five Thematic Areas (RC4)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Comparative Effectiveness Research on Upper Endoscopy in Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, Eradication Methods for Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus and Dementia Detection and Management Strategies (RC4)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Methodology Development in Comparative Effectiveness Research (RC4)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Accelerating Adoption of Comparative Effectiveness Research Results by Providers and Patients (R18)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Expansion of Research Capability to Study Comparative Effectiveness in Complex Patients (R24)

Recovery Act Limited Competition: Comparative Effectiveness Research to Optimize Prevention and Healthcare Management for the Complex Patient (R21)

Selected Program Announcements

NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (Parent R13/U13)

NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03)

NIH Exploratory Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent R21)

Academic Research Enhancement Award (Parent R15) (PA-10-070)
The Outreach Partnership Program is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) with support from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and in cooperation with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to help close the gap between mental health research and clinical practice, inform the public about mental illnesses, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. For more information on the NIMH Outreach Program please visit http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partners.

To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/outreach/partnership-program/subscribe-to-the-update.shtml

The information provided in the NIMH Update is intended for use by the 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.