National Institute of Mental Health Outreach Partnership Program

Update

December 1, 2009

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To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to:
Science and Service News Updates

NIMH: Parent Training Complements Medication for Treating Behavioral Problems in Children with Pervasive Developmental Disorders
Treatment that includes medication plus a structured training program for parents reduces serious behavioral problems in children with autism and related conditions, according to a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). The study, which was part of the NIMH Research Units on Pediatric Psychopharmacology (RUPP) Autism Network, was published in the December 2009 issue of the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. 

NIMH: Long-term Depression Treatment Leads to Sustained Recovery for Most Teens
Long-term treatment of adolescents with major depression is associated with continuous and persistent improvement of depression symptoms in most cases, according to the most recent analysis of follow-up data from the NIMH-funded Treatment of Adolescents with Depression Study (TADS). The report, along with a commentary compiling the take-home messages of the study, was published in the October 2009 issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry.

Army Joins With Mental Health Institute to Study Suicides
The Army is collaborating with NIMH to launch the largest study ever undertaken of suicide and mental health among military personnel. The Institute is partnering with an academic team led by the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences that includes researchers from Harvard University, Columbia University and the University of Michigan. The team aims to develop a research agenda and research projects that look at the causes of, and areas for intervention in, a variety of mental disorders.

HHS Announces Senate Confirmation of Pamela Hyde as Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the United States Senate unanimously confirmed Pamela Hyde as Administrator for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within HHS.

NIA: Recovery Funds Advance Alzheimer's Disease Research
American Recovery and Reinvestment Funds are being used to promote the national research efforts to better understand, diagnose and treat Alzheimer's disease. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) has targeted promising areas of research in granting the awards, such as new and ongoing studies to identify additional risk factor genes associated with Alzheimer's, improve diagnostic tools, find biomarkers, develop therapies, conduct clinical trials and explore preventive measures. More than 100 Alzheimer’s or Alzheimer’s-related research grants were awarded under the Recovery Act.
NIDA Stimulus Grant to Assess the Benefits of Counseling with HIV Screening
Public health experts encourage everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 to be HIV tested. Researchers at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and the San Francisco Department of Public Health will determine whether receiving a rapid HIV test and counseling offers healthier outcomes than rapid testing alone, with a $12.3 million grant awarded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The grant is being funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Press Release: [http://www.nih.gov/news/health/nov2009/nida-19.htm](http://www.nih.gov/news/health/nov2009/nida-19.htm)

HHS $1.2 Million in Recovery Funds to Support Health Professions Faculty from Disadvantaged Backgrounds
HHS announced awards totaling nearly $1.2 million to help health professions faculty from disadvantaged backgrounds repay their student loans. The funds are part of $500 million appropriated to HHS’ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to address workforce shortages and encourage greater diversity in the health professions. The awards are made through HRSA’s Faculty Loan Repayment Program, which is a loan repayment program specifically for health professions graduates from disadvantaged backgrounds who agree to serve as faculty at an eligible health professions college or university for a minimum of two years. The program provides up to $40,000 and covers tax liability in return for a two-year service commitment. Press Release: [http://newsroom.hrsa.gov/releases/2009/flrparraawards.htm](http://newsroom.hrsa.gov/releases/2009/flrparraawards.htm)

Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources

Podcast: Army and National Institute of Mental Health Collaborate on Suicide Study
In this “Armed with Science Podcast,” Dr. Robert Heinssen, acting director of NIMH Division of Services and Intervention Research, discusses the largest study of suicide and mental health among military personnel ever undertaken—the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Service members. Suicide rates among Army personnel have risen substantially since the beginning of the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan despite major surveillance and intervention efforts introduced by the Army. With $50 million in Army funding, NIMH investigators aim to identify risk and protective factors for suicide among Soldiers and provide a science base for effective and practical interventions to reduce suicide rates and address associated mental health problems. [http://www.pentagonchannel.mil/armedwithscience/](http://www.pentagonchannel.mil/armedwithscience/)

Diabetes, Depression, and Flu Headline Fall Issue of NIH MedlinePlus Magazine
The fall issue of NIH’s free, consumer-friendly magazine, *NIH MedlinePlus*, shines the spotlight on diabetes, depression, protecting yourself from all forms of the flu, healthy holiday eating, the special health concerns of college students, and other topics. [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/magazine](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/magazine)

Newest NIDA Notes Available
The latest issue of *NIDA Notes* includes a discussion by NIDA Director about substance abuse among troops, veterans, and their families. The issue also includes a summary of a study of computer-based interventions to promote drug abstinence. [http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDA_Notes/NNIndex.html](http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDA_Notes/NNIndex.html)
New SAMHSA Resources

New Web site Provides Tools to Help Address Co-Occurring Disorders and Homelessness

This new Web site is designed to help SAMHSA grantees, health professionals and the public address the problems of homelessness and co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders. The site features an on-line library of tools that are designed to advance the field and improve the effectiveness of prevention, treatment and recovery programs operated by SAMHSA’s Co-Occurring and Homeless Activities Branch and other service providers.

http://chab.samhsa.gov/

Transformation Tracker Explorer: New Online Resource

Transformation Tracker Explorer is a Web site for the public to view, rate, and comment on State activities under SAMHSA's Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant Program.

http://mhtsigdata.samhsa.gov/tte_home.asp

Identifying and Selecting Evidence-Based Interventions

The purpose of this guidance is to assist state and community planners in applying the SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework to identify and select evidence-based interventions that address local needs and reduce substance abuse problems.


SAMHSA: Substance Abuse and Child Welfare Resources

SAMHSA’s National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare Gets Redesigned Web Site

The National Center’s Web site has a new look and feel, improved navigation, and easier access to a wide range of information on improving systems and practice for professionals working in child welfare, substance abuse treatment, or the family courts. The site provides online tutorials on the subjects of substance abuse and child welfare to support and facilitate collaboration between the child welfare system, the substance abuse treatment system, and the courts.

http://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/training.asp

Substance-Exposed Infants: State Responses to the Problem

This study from the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare assessed state policy from the broadest perspective: prevention, intervention, identification, and treatment of prenatal substance exposure, including immediate and ongoing services for the infant, the mother, and the family.


SAMHSA: New Resources to Support Substance Abuse Treatment

Publication on Clinical Supervision

Supervision is necessary in the substance abuse treatment field to improve client care, develop the professionalism of clinical personnel, and impart and maintain ethical standards in the field. Clinical Supervision and Professional Development of the Substance Abuse Counselor, presents basic information about clinical supervision.

Treatment Line Promotion: Latino Communications Wallet Card
This bilingual English/Spanish wallet card provides the phone number for SAMHSA's 24-hour free and confidential treatment referral line for those struggling with drug and/or alcohol addiction.

Treatment Line Promotion: Latino Communications Poster
This Spanish-language poster offers the phone number for SAMHSA's 24-hour free and confidential treatment referral line for those struggling with drug and/or alcohol addiction.

New SAMHSA Reports
Perceptions of Risk from Substance Use among Adolescents
Only 40 percent of adolescents perceive great risk from having five or more drinks of alcohol once or twice a week and just over one-third perceive great risk from smoking marijuana once a month. The percentage of adolescents who perceived great risk from smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day was stable across age groups; however, the perception of the risk associated with having five or more drinks of alcohol once or twice a week and smoking marijuana once a month decreased with age.
http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/158/158RiskPerceptions.cfm

Videos on How to Talk with Your Doctor Now Available on NIHSeniorHealth
As you age, you probably find yourself going to the doctor more frequently. How can you make sure you’re getting the most out of your visit with your doctor or health care provider? Should you make a list beforehand? What should you share? What should you ask? How can you recall the important things you and your doctor discussed? These and other questions are addressed in four new videos added to the Talking with Your Doctor topic on NIHSeniorHealth.gov, NIH’s health and wellness website for older adults.
http://nihseniorhealth.gov/videolist.html#talkingdr

NINR: New Publication Offers Relief to Those Suffering from Pain and Other Distressing Symptoms of Illness
Produced by the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), this brochure explains in easy-to-understand language what palliative care is, who it benefits, and how it works.
http://www.ninr.nih.gov/PalliativeCarebrochure/

HHS Launches New Blog: Health IT Buzz
HHS announced the launch of Health IT Buzz, a new blog that will allow readers to learn more about health information technology (health IT) and provide a space for consumers, providers, policymakers, and technology experts to share their ideas and concerns regarding health IT.
http://healthit.hhs.gov/blog/one
Calendar of Events

December 10, 2009, Bethesda, Maryland
The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, National Institutes of Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, and other Federal Partners present the second annual collaborative scientific conference examining recent research on trauma spectrum disorders (TSD). This year’s conference will focus on the impact of TSD on military and veteran families and caregivers across deployment, homecoming, and reintegration. The conference will examine the needs of families and caregivers in support of military and veterans with TSD, factors related to family functioning and reintegration, and effective approaches that facilitate treatment of trauma disorders and services to families and caregivers, paying particular attention to gender and health disparities. Next steps will be developed for addressing research concerns identified at the conference.

Teleconference: The History of the Mental Health Consumer Movement
December 17, 2009, 2:00 PM – 3:30PM ET
SAMHSA’s ADS Center (Resource Center to Promote Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion Associated with Mental Health) is sponsoring this free teleconference training. This teleconference will provide a context to help consumers and others understand the origins of the movement, the challenges that members of the movement have encountered and overcome, and the societal advances gained through effective advocacy.
http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/registration/default.aspx

Calls for Public Input

NIH Announcement: Consumer Health Information Request for Information (RFI)
The NIH Office of Communication and Public Liaison and the NIH Director’s Council of Public Representatives have partnered to develop a Consumer Health Information RFI in response to a Directive by President Barack Obama to all Federal agencies calling for greater transparency, public participation, and collaboration.

In conjunction with the NIH goals for public input and effective dissemination of science-based health resources and information to the public, the RFI will provide insight and better understanding of the health information needs and information-seeking behaviors of NIH health consumer audiences. Information gathered will assist the agency in developing and disseminating health, medical, and scientific information to a broader array of audiences. The RFI may be completed online in English or downloaded from the Web site in Spanish.
Response deadline: December 30, 2009
http://nihhealthinfoRFI.nih.gov
Input Sought for Healthy People 2020 Objectives
Public participation is shaping Healthy People 2020, its purpose, goals, organization, and action plans. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is seeking input on the proposed objectives for Healthy People 2020 from communities and stakeholders through public meetings across the country and public comment periods. Comments will be accepted through December 31, 2009.  

Clinical Research Participation News

NIMH: Childhood Schizophrenia
If you know a child who has been diagnosed with schizophrenia, please consider having him/her participate in an NIMH research study.

Purpose: To find out how the brain works in children with schizophrenia who are treated with antipsychotic drugs.

Participants must:
- Be 6-18 years old
- Have met criteria for schizophrenia before age 13
- Be free of serious medical conditions

Participation may include:
- Clinical assessments
- Brain imaging
- Neuropsychological tests
- Genetic assessments

Time Required:
- 3 weeks for diagnostic evaluation portion of the study
- Additional 16 weeks for the remainder of study

All children attend the NIH school and receive academic instruction while participating in research studies. In addition, the results of the child’s participation will be summarized and recommendations for future treatment will be given. After the study, staff will be available for future telephone consultation.

Participation includes travel reimbursement and housing for families.

For more information and/or to refer a child, please call: 1-888-254-3823 | 301-496-7962 (TTY: 1-866-411-1010)  
Email: mrachel@mail.nih.gov  
Funding Information

NIMH Simplifies Funding Opportunity Announcements
As the National Institutes of Health is making changes to its Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) for compliance with the Enhancing Peer Review Process, the NIMH has taken this opportunity to streamline its list of FOAs to simplify and standardize the submission process for our applicants. This change will simplify the announcement selection process and conform with the general use of announcements across the NIH Institutes while continuing to focus on the objectives articulated in the NIMH Strategic Plan.
NIMH Director’s Corner: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/index.shtml

SAMHSA: Accepting Applications for more than 48.8 Million Grants for Peer-to-Peer Recovery Support Services
SAMHSA is accepting applications for fiscal year 2010 for Peer-to-Peer Recovery Support Services. The purpose of this grant program is to deliver and evaluate peer-to-peer recovery services that help prevent relapse and promote sustained recovery from alcohol and drug use disorders.
Application Due Date: February 10, 2010

Research Funding Opportunities

Selected NIH Requests for Applications (RFAs)

Paul B. Beeson Clinical Scientist Development Award in Aging (K08)

Paul B. Beeson Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award in Aging (K23)

National Centers for Biomedical Computing (U54)

Seek, Test, and Treat: Addressing HIV in the Criminal Justice System (R01)

Selected NIH Program Announcements (PAs)

Development and Application of PET and SPECT Imaging Ligands as Biomarkers for Drug Discovery and for Pathophysiological Studies of CNS Disorders (R21)

Development and Application of PET and SPECT Imaging Ligands as Biomarkers for Drug Discovery and for Pathophysiological Studies of CNS Disorders (Phased Innovation Award [R21/R33])
Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grants (T32)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health

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.