AAP MENTAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER
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In the News

- General Mental Health
- ADHD
- Autism
- Behavioral Issues
- Bullying
- Depression and Anxiety
- Foster Care and Adoption
- Psychotic Disorders
- Substance Abuse and Addiction

Conferences/Webinars

Resources

Funding Opportunities

Journals

SPOTLIGHT

AAP Resources for Talking With Children and Teens About Tragedy

In the wake of the movie theatre shooting in Colorado, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has made available tips and resources that can help parents and health care professionals talk about this tragedy with children and teens. See the AAP Children & Disasters Web site for more information.

AAP CHAPTER HIGHLIGHT

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

Web site: www.ncpeds.org/

The North Carolina Chapter has a long history of advocacy for children's mental health, working closely with Medicaid to expand access for children and adolescents and to facilitate mental health integration in primary care. The work of the Chapter Mental Health Committee resulted in policy change in 2001, which allowed community mental health providers to directly enroll with Medicaid. This opened up the possibility for a primary
community mental health provider(s) with whom they could develop a referral relationship and with whom they could communicate and collaborate in care. For children, 26 annual unmanaged visits were allowed, and the first 6 visits could have non-specific diagnosis. (For more information, see the Pediatrics article “Working to Improve Mental Health Services: The NC Advocacy Effort”.)

Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC), North Carolina’s physician-driven, primary care case management system for delivery of Medicaid services, has promoted mental health integration in primary care through ongoing initiatives since 2005. The chapter has been a close collaborator in these efforts. In 2005, 5 CCNC networks participated in a pilot that provided funding for telephone consultation between psychiatrists and primary care clinicians (PCC), paying for both the psychiatrist’s and PCC’s time. The networks worked with public mental health agencies (Local Management Entities) on the development of standardized communication between the PCC and mental health provider. Surveys of PCC’s were completed on their comfort with diagnosis, management, and consultation of common mental health problems such as ADHD, depression, and anxiety.

In 2007, 13 CCNC networks of 53 practices took part in the co-location pilot. Practices received seed money to have co-located or integrated mental health providers, and technical assistance was provided from the North Carolina Center of Excellence for Integrated Care. Practices and networks gathered data from routine screening and use of a functional measure in follow-up. The PHQ-9 and PSC were the most common tools used for adults and children/youth, respectively. Medicaid opened the following new procedure codes in 2009: 99420 (risk screening); 99406 and 99407 (smoking and tobacco use); 99408 and 99409 (alcohol/substance abuse); and 95150 and 95151 (health behavior). Integrated mental health professionals were allowed to use brief intervention codes (90804, 90806) on the same day as the PCC visit, which facilitated a “warm handoff” at the time the PCC identified a positive screen or a mental health concern. Pediatric practices had more success in implementing integration because they generally had more Medicaid patients and a revenue stream to support mental health staff. Following are the results of the pilots:

- Provider Survey - From pre-to post-survey, a significant increase of respondents indicated excellent or good comfort level with diagnosis and management.
- Functional Question (for patients with at least 2 follow-ups) - 52% of participants showed improvement between the first and last visit, and only 11% were worse. This was true for both adults and children.
- PHQ9 and PSC - Approximately 60% showed a decrease in score, and 31% showed an increase.
- There was no change in non-urgent emergency department visits or hospitalizations for the evaluation time period.

Mental health integration continues to be a priority for CCNC and the AAP Chapter. As part of the North Carolina Child Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) Quality Demonstration Grant, CCNC has 8 networks of 26 practices involved in a medical home project that focus on development and behavior, social-emotional, and mental health issues for 0-20 year-olds. The chapter is also collaborating with CCNC to roll out a demonstration project for a medical home for children entering foster care, consistent with AAP Healthy Foster Care America standards. Finally, the chapter and CCNC are participants in North Carolina’s well-established Assuring Better Child Health and Development Project that supports developmental and behavioral screening for children 0-5 years of age at well-visits in the primary care medical home (including autism and post-partum depression screening).

**IN THE NEWS**

**GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH**

**Children With Disabilities Are More Likely to Experience Abuse**

HealthDay News – July 11

Approximately 1 in 4 children with disabilities experiences some form of violence during their lifetime, according to a new study (The Lancet). Researchers state that the risk of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect for these children is nearly 4 times greater than for children who are not disabled. In addition, children with disabilities are 3 times more likely to be exposed to physical violence than children without disabilities. Children with disabilities who live in developing nations are at particular risk for exposure to violence.
**Study Links Physical Punishment of Kids to Adult Mental Disorders**

USA Today – July 2

Children who are spanked, hit, or pushed as a means of discipline may be at an increased risk of mental problems in adulthood, new research suggests (Pediatrics). This is one of the first studies to show a link between non-abusive physical punishment and several different types of mental disorders. According to the authors, 2% to 7% of mental disorders in the study were linked to physical punishment. The study's findings add evidence to the argument that “physical punishment should not be used on any child, at any age”.

**Outdoor Activity Boosts General Health, Social Skills in Teens**

US News & World Report – June 22

Teens who engage in more moderate to vigorous outdoor activity report better health and social functioning than peers who spend hours in front of television and computer screens, a new study finds (Pediatrics). Teens who had the highest perceived health in the study spent an average of 2.5 hours more per day playing sports or doing other high-intensity activity than their least-active counterparts. The findings suggest that parents need to limit how much time children spend using electronic media.

**Mental Health Care Disparities Persist for Black and Latino Children**

Health Behavior News Service – June 21

Disparities in the use of mental health services persist for black and Latino children, reports a new study (Health Services Research). Researchers analyzed data for the use of outpatient mental health care, use of psychiatric drugs, and overall mental health care of youth ages 5 to 21 and found a “2-to-1, white-to-minority ratio” of youth who were using mental health care. According to the authors, helping people to get better insurance and providing insurance for the uninsured “would help a lot in reducing disparities.”

**First Nations and Low-Income Children Visit Emergency Departments More Often for Mental Health Care**

EurekAlert – June 11

Children from First Nations and those whose families receive government subsidies had more return visits to emergency departments for mental health crises than other socioeconomic groups, finds a new study (Canadian Medical Association Journal). The findings suggest that “investments in culturally based, community- and school-based resources targeting the high-risk behaviors seen in the emergency department may help to reduce crisis events and foster the use of mental health resources.”

**ADHD**

**Monkey Study Suggests Long-Term ADHD Drug Use Appears Safe**

PsychCentral – July 19

Drugs used to treat ADHD do not appear to have long-term effects on the brain, according to new research on monkeys (Neuropsychopharmacology). The study found no differences between control animals and monkeys treated with Ritalin during adolescence and their vulnerability to later drug use. According to the authors, the drugs were the same doses as those given to children, making the results “directly translatable”.

**Earlier May Be Better for ADHD Meds in Kids**

ABC News – June 25

Children with ADHD who start taking medications as early as fourth grade may be more likely to score better academically than those who start taking medication in middle school, says a new study (Pediatrics). “Performance of kids with ADHD tends to decline over time, especially if medication is delayed,” researchers conclude. “Starting medication earlier may halt this decline.”

**ADHD Drug Prescriptions Have Risen in United States, FDA Reports**

The Washington Post – June 16

A new study (Pediatrics) has revealed that prescription medications for childhood ADHD have spiked, increasing concern that these drugs are being misused and abused. The study by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found that ADHD medications increased by 46% between 2002 and 2010 but did not examine the “whys” behind the medication trends.

http://www.aap.org/commped/docs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
**Memory Training Has Limited Benefits for Children With ADHD**
United Press International – May 31
Children with ADHD or dyslexia are unlikely to be helped by working memory training, says new research (Developmental Psychology). Researchers determined that memory training tasks had limited effect on children’s school performance or cognitive skills, noting that “Simply loading up the brain with training exercises will not lead to better performance outside of the tasks presented within these tests.”

**AUTISM**

**Autism Costs Vary Sharply State to State**
Disability Scoop – July 17
New research (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) suggests that the cost of caring for a child with autism varies widely, depending on where a family lives. Researchers found that state policy—specifically whether insurers were required to cover autism therapy—tremendously altered the financial situation for families. Even when researchers controlled for factors such as severity of the child’s disability and family income, costs continued to be significantly lower when families lived in a state with an insurance requirement.

**Child Prodigies Have Close Links to Autism, Study Finds**
Disability Scoop - July 11
A new study (Intelligence) demonstrates that autism runs in the family for many child prodigies. Study participants shared an unusually high affinity for attention to detail, but did not show higher levels of other characteristics of the disorder. This finding “suggests the presence of a modifier … that prevents the child prodigies from displaying these deficits.” Researchers believe that this modifier could have “significant benefits for the autistic community”.

**Study Links Autism, Bipolar, and Schizophrenia**
MedPage Today - July 2
Autism spectrum disorder appears more likely for children with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder in their immediate family, suggesting common factors among the 3, finds new research (Archives of General Psychiatry). The findings suggest that schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and autism are different manifestations of the same root causes.

**New Gene Mutations That Lead to Enlarged Brain Size, Cancer, Autism, Epilepsy Identified**
Science Daily – June 29
Researchers (Nature Genetics) have discovered new gene mutations associated with markedly enlarged brain size, also known as megalencephaly. Mutations in 3 genes were also associated with disorders including cancer, hydrocephalus, epilepsy, and autism. The discovery provides a first, critical step in solving the mystery behind chronic childhood conditions and diseases.

**EEGs May Someday Be Able to Diagnose Autism**
ABC News – June 26
A readily available brain test could someday be used to diagnose autism in children as young as 2 years old, offering the potential for earlier intervention, says a new study (BMC Medicine). Researchers used electroencephalograms (EEGs) to compare the brains of children with autism and normal children between the ages of 2 and 12. Children with autism showed reduced connectivity among a number of areas of the brain, and these patterns were different than the patterns observed in normal children. Researchers believe it is possible that EEGs could eventually be used to diagnose autism at younger ages.

**Rare Genetic Illness May Shed Light on Role of Hormones in Autism**
PsychCentral.com – June 25
A new study (PLoS One) involving children with Williams syndrome (WS) suggests that improved regulation of oxytocin and vasopressin may someday improve care for autism, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, and WS. Researchers believe the findings hold promise for speeding progress in treating WS and, perhaps, autism and anxiety through the regulation of these hormones.
Focusing Kids With Autism Improves Speech
United Press International – June 22
Having adults engage the attention of preschool children with autism by gesturing and pointing to toys increases children's language skills, new research demonstrates (Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry). The study found that children who started attention-focusing therapy earlier had more advanced linguistic skills at age 8. “Our findings show that therapy focused on such basic skills as pointing, sharing, and engaging in play can have considerable long-term effects as children with autism spectrum disorders grow and learn to express themselves with words,” the authors write.

UCLA Study Uncovers New Tools for Targeting Genes Linked to Autism
EurekAlert – June 21
Researchers (American Journal of Human Genetics) have combined gene expression and the use of peripheral blood to expand scientists' arsenal of methods for pinpointing genes. The findings could help scientists pinpoint genes that offer future therapeutic targets for the disorder.

Autism Health Care Costlier Than Diabetes
United Press International – June 14
Children with autism spectrum disorders have higher costs for parents and insurance providers than children with diabetes, researchers say (Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders). The study found that children with autism spectrum disorders paid more for health care and used more services, yet had less access to specialized care than children with other conditions.

Folic Acid Intake During Early Pregnancy Associated With Reduced Risk of Autism in Offspring
Science Daily – June 13
A new study (American Journal of Clinical Nutrition) suggests that women who consume the recommended daily dosage of folic acid during the first month of pregnancy may have a reduced risk of having a child with autism. This occurred specifically when the mother and/or her child had a specific genetic variant associated with less efficient folate metabolism.

Autism 'Could Be Triggered by Very Low Doses of Anti-Depressants or Other Chemicals Found in Water Supply'
Daily Mail – June 7
Autism in genetically vulnerable people could be triggered by very low levels of chemicals found in the water supply, researchers have discovered (PLoS One). By observing the changes in the genetic pathways of fish swimming in water contaminated with psychoactive drugs, experts determined that traces of common medication such as anti-depressants could bring on the disorder. The findings suggest a potential environmental trigger for autism in genetically vulnerable people.

Supplement May Help Children With Autism
United Press International – May 30
The antioxidant N-Acetylcysteine might be an effective therapy for some symptoms of autism, researchers suggest (Biological Psychiatry). The study found that N-Acetylcysteine lowered irritability in children with autism as well as reduced their repetitive behaviors. Researchers emphasize that the findings must be confirmed in a larger trial before the supplement can be recommended for children with autism.

BEHAVIORAL ISSUES

Child's Behavior Linked to Father-Infant Interactions
Fars News Agency – July 20
New research (Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry) shows that children whose fathers are positively engaged with them at 3 months of age have fewer behavioral problems at 12 months of age. This is the first time this influence has been demonstrated for observed father-infant interaction and early onset behavior problems.

Tooth Fillings Made With BPA Tied to Behavior Issues
Reuters – July 16
Kids with dental fillings made using bisphenol A (BPA) are more likely to have behavior and emotional problems later, according to a new study (Pediatrics). Kids with multiple fillings made using BPA who had those fillings for

http://www.aap.org/commepeds/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
a long time consistently scored worse on behavior measures than those who had no BPA fillings or who only had one for a short period of time. Behavior problems seemed especially common in kids who had these fillings on chewing surfaces. However, the study did not measure BPA levels in particular, so more research is needed.

**One in 12 Teens Have Intermittent Explosive Disorder, Study Finds**
National Post - July 2
Intermittent explosive disorder (IED), a mental illness marked by outbursts of uncontrollable rage, affects 1 in 12 teens, a new study finds (Archives of General Psychiatry). IED's central feature is impulsive aggression grossly out of proportion to the situation, in which people lose control, break or smash things, and attack or threaten to hurt someone. “If we can detect IED early and intervene with effective treatment right away, we can prevent a substantial amount of future violence perpetration and associated psychopathology,” the authors write.

**BULLYING**

**Media Violence a Factor for Bullying**
United Press International – July 17
Knowing students' risks for aggression can help schools determine which students may be more likely to get in fights or bully others, researchers say. The study, to appear in an upcoming issue of Psychology of Popular Media Culture, identifies media violence exposure as 1 of 6 risk factors for predicting later aggression in children ages 7-11. Other risk factors were bias toward hostility, low parental involvement, gender, physical victimization, and prior physical fights.

**Smartphones Drive Latest Wave of Cyber-Bullying**
Sydney Morning Herald – June 30
The rise of smartphones has outpaced traditional wisdom on how parents should monitor teenagers' use of technology and created a powerful venue for cyber-bullying, a new study finds (Journal of Adolescent Health). Researchers speculate that teenagers act impulsively online because they are remote from the distress caused by their behavior. In contrast to traditional bullying, however, cyber-bullying was not linked to disrupted family background or poor school performance.

**Study: Students With Disabilities Often on Both Ends of Bullying**
Disability Scoop – June 28
Kids enrolled in special education are more likely to both perpetrate and be victims of bullying, according to a new study (Journal of School Psychology). Bullying experiences varied dramatically between special education and general education students. Even among students with disabilities, the type of special needs further separated one student's experience from the next. Researchers conclude that schools need to do more to emphasize positive socialization among students, possibly increasing the mainstreaming of students with visible disabilities in general education classrooms.

**DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY**

**Social Deprivation Hurts Child Brain Development, Study Finds**
Los Angeles Times – July 24
A new study (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences) finds that the brains of children who grew up in institutions have less white matter than orphans who were placed in foster care or children living with their own families. These findings underscore the importance of an enriched environment during infancy and childhood and help explain the increased rates of depression and anxiety disorders among institutionalized children.

**Novel Intervention Helps Kids Suffering From Depression and Anxiety**
Medical News Today – July 18
Children suffering from anxiety and depression could significantly benefit from a novel intervention called Emotion Detectives Treatment Protocol (EDTP), say researchers (Cognitive and Behavioral Practice). The EDTP program educates children about emotions and teaches problem solving skills and strategies for assessing situations. It also introduces a behavior activation technique to reduce depression. Children who received treatment with EDTP experienced a significant reduction in severity of anxiety and depression, making it an effective treatment option.
Parents’ Fighting May Have Long-Lasting Effect on Kids
US News & World Report – June 15
Kindergarteners whose parents fought with each other frequently and harshly were more likely to grow into emotionally insecure older children who struggled with depression, anxiety, and behavior issues, according to a new study (Child Development). However, if parents refrain from harshly criticizing one another or being violent, and instead manage to work out their problems in a constructive way, the researchers note that children are not terribly bothered by the conflict.

Treating Teen Depression May Reduce Subsequent Drug Abuse
DoctorsLounge.com – June 7
Treatment of major depressive disorder in adolescents can reduce the likelihood of subsequent substance use disorders, but does not reduce alcohol use disorders, according to a recent study (Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology). Researchers found that a positive response to treatment predicted a lower rate of subsequent substance use disorders but was unrelated to alcohol use disorders.

FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION

Foster Kids Learn Resilience From Compassion
PsychCentral.com – July 23
A new study (Child and Family Studies) shows that cognitively based intervention can improve the mental and physical health of adolescents in foster care. Researchers found that a technique known as Cognitively-Based Compassion Training (CBCT) was associated with a reduction in the inflammatory marker C-reactive protein, reduced anxiety, and increased feelings of hopefulness. “The beneficial effects of CBCT on anxiety and feelings of hopelessness suggest that this intervention may provide immediate benefit to foster children,” the authors state.

Child Welfare Investigation Predicts Mental Health Problems in Young Children
EurekAlert – June 19
A recent study (Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) found that young children who have been investigated for maltreatment by child welfare agencies have a higher prevalence of mental health problems, but very few receive treatment for those problems. “The fact that so many very young children in contact with child welfare are showing signs of social and emotional problems is somewhat surprising, but that so few children and caregivers receive any services is disturbing given that effective interventions are available and could produce positive changes in the lives of these children,” the authors write.

PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS

Childhood Infections Linked to Schizophrenia
The Age, AU – July 16
Gut and chest infections in early childhood appear to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia later in life, scientists have found (Psychiatry Research). Previous research has shown an association between brain infections, such as meningitis, and schizophrenia, but this study is the first to demonstrate a link with illnesses that rarely involve the central nervous system, suggesting that widespread inflammation, and the body’s response to it, may be sufficient to disrupt brain development.

Premature Babies Have Higher Psychiatric Risk
Reuters – June 1
Babies born prematurely have a much higher risk of developing severe mental disorders including psychosis, bipolar disorder, and depression, a new study finds (Archives of General Psychiatry). People born at less than 32 weeks’ gestation were 3 times more likely than those born at term to be hospitalized with a psychiatric illness at age 16 and older. Researchers think the increased risk may be the result of small but important differences in brain development in babies born before the full 40-week gestation period. The study also found smaller but significantly increased psychiatric risks for babies born between 32 and 36 weeks.
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION

Study Shows Long-Term Drug Abuse Starts With Alcohol
Medical Xpress - July 11
Alcohol, not marijuana, is the gateway drug that leads adolescents down the path toward more serious substances, a new study shows (Journal of School Health). “By recognizing the important predictive role of alcohol and delaying initiation of alcohol use, school officials and public health leaders can positively impact the progression of substance use,” the authors state. They also recommend a strict, zero-tolerance policy for alcohol use at home.

Mental Health Disorders up Long-Term Opioid Use in Youth
PhysiciansBriefing.com - June 14
When presenting with a new episode of chronic pain, preexisting mental health disorders are associated with an increased risk of long-term opioid pain use, a new study finds (Journal of Adolescent Health). “Providers should screen for mental health disorders before starting these medications … and should consider referring patients with comorbid depression or anxiety for concurrent mental health treatment,” the authors write.

Teen Drinkers May Feel Like Social Outcasts: Study
HealthDay News - June 19
According to a new study (Journal of Health and Social Behavior), teenagers who drink alcohol are more likely to feel like social outcasts, and the social stress of drinking also takes a toll on their school performance. The social isolation that comes with teenage drinking is most pronounced in schools with tight cliques and fewer students who abuse alcohol. “The results suggest that we need to pay attention to youth in problematic school environments in general, but also to those who may have trouble in seemingly positive school environments,” the researchers write.

CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

What’s Normal? The Value of the Developmental Lens in Working with Transition-Aged Youth with Mental Health Challenges
Date: August 7, 2012 (1-2 pm EDT)
This webinar from Pathways RTC will introduce the developmental perspective as one way of thinking about transition-aged youth with mental health challenges. Participants will be introduced to the latest theory and empirical research on development between ages 18 and 29. The webinar will also explore distinctions between developmental and mental health challenges during emerging adulthood. The value of the developmental lens as a framework for designing and implementing services that best fit the distinct needs of transition-aged youth with mental health challenges will also be discussed. Register online.

The Right Intervention: What Works for Children Exposed to Violence
Date: August 23, 2012 (12-1 pm EDT)
This Webinar series from the AAP is intended to provide a foundation for medical home teams (pediatricians, physicians, nurses, front office staff, etc) to more effectively identify children and adolescents exposed to violence and to get them the appropriate care they need. This third session in a series of 6 webinars will be led by Betsy McAlister Groves, LICSW, founder of the Child Witness to Violence Project, who will provide an overview of the latest evidence-based treatment options to help children who have been exposed to violence.

Why Do People Hurt Themselves?
This archived webinar from TeenScreen focuses on why people intentionally behave in ways that are harmful to themselves. Matthew K Nock, PhD, discussed recent advances in the understanding, assessment, and treatment of self-harm behaviors, as well as promising directions for future research.

Wisconsin AAP Chapter Webinars
Access these archived webinars on ADHD, psychopharmacology, eating disorders, suicide, anxiety, depression, and more. A new webinar series begins in September 2012, so be sure to check the site for more information.

http://www.aap.org/commcpts/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
CDC Releases 2011 Data on Health-Risk Behaviors Among Adolescents and Young Adults
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance —United States, 2011. The report presents findings on 6 categories of priority health-risk behaviors among adolescents and young adults, including behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, and unhealthy dietary behaviors. The report includes a trend analysis of 1991-2011 data and information on how the data are being used to analyze and improve policies and programs to reduce priority health-risk behaviors among adolescents and young adults.

Children's Health Care Spending Report: 2007-2010
This report from the Health Care Cost Institute tracks changes in expenditure and utilization of health care services by children covered by employer-sponsored, private health insurance (ESI). The report notes that the health expenditure for children with ESI grew faster than any other age group and explores why this occurred and whether this growth represents a long-term trend. Mental health services are also addressed, with the report noting a 23.8% increase in the utilization of these services and substance abuse admissions.

CHIPRA Child Quality Measures
The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has released an updated list of child quality measures authorized by CHIPRA. One of the categories is the management of chronic conditions, which includes mental health and ADHD.

Data Maps: Psychotropic Medication Use Among Children in Foster Care
PolicyLab has released 2 interactive maps featuring national and state-level trends in psychotropic medication use and polypharmacy, the use of 3 or more classes of psychotropics at once, among children in foster care. The data in these interactive maps can inform oversight and monitoring efforts as states work to ensure safe use of these medications among children.

Depression Triples Between the Ages of 12 and 15 Among Adolescent Girls
This Data Spotlight from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) addresses the increase in depression among adolescents, particularly adolescent girls, at the onset of puberty. Given the young age at which major depressive episodes begin to increase among girls, prevention and intervention efforts targeting adolescents in middle school may help ameliorate depression onset, as well as reduce depression recurrence through the life course.

Diagnostic History and Treatment of School-Aged Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder and Special Health Care Needs
This data brief describes key findings from the 2011 Survey of Pathways to Diagnosis and Services. The brief notes that 50% of children in this study were age 5 or older before they were diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder and that a variety of primary and specialty providers made the diagnosis. In addition, more than half the children used 3 or more health services, such as social skills training, behavioral interventions, and speech and language therapy, and one or more psychotropic medications.

Improving the Lives of Adolescents and Young Adults: Out-of-School Time Programs That Have Significant Positive Impacts
This fact sheet highlights programs that range from some positive impact to sizeable and statistically significant positive impact on outcomes in behavior problems, substance use, and social-emotional health. All programs included in the fact sheet have materials such as a manual or handbook to guide implementation. Program impacts are summarized in tables at the end of the fact sheet.

Linking Medical Home and Children’s Mental Health: Listening to Massachusetts Families
This report examines the experience of families when accessing and coordinating care for children who have mental health needs. Topics include coordination, communication, and trust; accessing care; finding resources; and schools.

Monthly Variation in Substance Use Initiation Among Adolescents
This SAMHSA report identifies periods of heightened risk for initiation of substance abuse among adolescents. The results, which note that first-time use of most substances peaks during June and July, could help parents, prevention providers, and communities take positive steps to prevent use among children.
**Paying for Primary Care and Behavioral Health Services Provided in Integrated Settings**
The Center for Integrated Health Solutions has developed customized Interim Billing and Financial Worksheets for each state that identify existing billing opportunities for services provided in integrated settings. In states where the identified codes are not currently reimbursable, these worksheets identify areas of potential state policy work.

**Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools**
This new toolkit from SAMHSA aims to reduce the risk of suicide among high school students by providing guidelines for identifying teenagers at risk and resources for taking appropriate action to provide help.

**Promoting Development of Resilience Among Young People in Foster Care**
Developing resilience is essential for young people leaving foster care to grow and succeed as adults. This brief from the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative discusses resilience and its relationship to risk and protective factors for young people in foster care.

**Psychotropic Medication Use by Children in Child Welfare**
This research brief by the Administration for Children and Families Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation uses data from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being to examine the use of psychotropic medications by children involved with the child welfare system. The brief examines psychotropic medication use across in-home and foster care placements for children.

**Social Media, Social Lives: How Teens View Their Digital Lives**
This publication from the Common Sense Media's Program for the Study of Children and Media provides parents, educators, health organizations, and policymakers with reliable, independent data on children's use of media and technology and the impact it has on physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development. Topics include face-to-face communication, social and digital communication, social networking and social-emotional well-being, social media and relationships, addiction, and social networking and depression.

**Tool for Youth to Make Decisions About Medications**
This new tool from SAMHSA helps youth and young adults to have more information about their medications and to participate in decisions about their medications.

**Youths in Therapeutic Foster Care at Elevated Risk for Substance Use**
This data spotlight from SAMHSA addresses the issue of youths in therapeutic foster care being more likely to use substances than those living in traditional foster care. The results suggest that therapeutic foster care parents may benefit from the inclusion of substance abuse prevention and intervention as a component of their training curriculum.

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**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Pediatric Bereavement Lectureship Program**
**Deadline: Rolling**
The AAP is pleased to announce the initiation of a new Pediatric Bereavement Lectureship Program. The program offers training to pediatricians and pediatric health care providers to increase their skills and effectiveness in supporting grieving children and their families through a partnership of the AAP, the National Center for School Crisis & Bereavement, and the New York Life Foundation. Whether a community is interested in enhancing existing bereavement programming or implementing an initiative in the aftermath of a disaster, this new Pediatric Bereavement Lectureship Program provides expert speakers, free training materials, and up to $3,000 to support a 2-day lectureship and educational program and consultation. For more information, including the Call for Proposals and funding application, see the AAP Children & Disasters Web site.

**Research on Children in Military Families: The Impact of Parental Military Deployment and Reintegration on Child and Family Functioning**
**Deadline: Revolving**
The purpose of this funding opportunity from the National Institutes of Health is to encourage interdisciplinary studies on the impact of parental military deployment, combat-related stress, and reintegration with the family on child social and affective development outcomes and family functioning. Longitudinal prospective studies...
with diverse samples and descriptive studies addressing the particular concerns of early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence are encouraged. More information about the opportunity, including eligible applicants and the revolving dates for applications, is available online.

Please note that some journals may require a membership to gain access to the articles.

**AAP Grand Rounds** - Vol 28, Issue 1, Jul 2012
- The Effects of Childhood Neglect on Development and Behavior

**AAP Grand Rounds** - Vol 27, Issue 6, Jun 2012
- What Causes ADHD?

**AAP News** - Vol 33, Issue 7, Jul 2012
- When Diagnosing ADHD, Consider Possibility of Giftedness in Some Children

**Addictive Behaviors** - Vol 37, Issue 9, Sept 2012
- Results of a Transtheoretical Model-Based Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Intervention in Middle Schools
- Protective Factors of Substance Use in Youth Subcultures

**Addictive Behaviors** - Vol 38, Issue 8, Aug 2012
- Longitudinal Investigation of the Impact of Anxiety and Mood Disorders in Adolescence on Subsequent Substance Use Disorder Onset and Vice Versa

**Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research** - Vol 39, No 4, Jul 2012
- Building a Science of Partnership-Focused Research: Forging and Sustaining Partnerships to Support Child Mental Health Prevention and Services Research
- Connecting Science and Practice in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Research

**Aggressive Behavior** - Vol 38, Issue 4, Jul/Aug 2012
- Perpetration of Aggressive Behaviors Against Peers and Teachers as Predicted by Student and Contextual Factors
- Boys’ and Girls’ Relational and Physical Aggression in Nine Countries

- Reduced Amygdala Response in Youths With Disruptive Behavior Disorders and Psychopathic Traits: Decreased Emotional Response Versus Increased Top-Down Attention to Nonemotional Features

**American Journal of Psychiatry** - Vol 169, No 6, Jun 2012
- Promise for Finding Brain Biomarkers Among Infants at High Familial Risk for Developing Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Tracking the Development of Bipolar Disorder in Childhood
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- Psychological Maltreatment in Relation to Substance Use Problem Severity Among Youth
- Links Between Alcohol and Other Drug Problems and Maltreatment Among Adolescent Girls: Perceived Discrimination, Ethnic Identity, and Ethnic Orientation as Moderators

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- Treatment Fidelity in Psychosocial Intervention for Children and Adolescents With Comorbid Problems
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- Enhancing Treatment Participation in CAMHS Among Families of Conduct Problem Children: Effectiveness Study of a Clinician Training Program

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- Psychological Maltreatment in Relation to Substance Use Problem Severity Among Youth
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- Developmental Epidemiology of Anxiety Disorders
- Genetics of Pediatric Anxiety Disorders
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- What Actually Makes Bullying Stop? Reports From Former Victims
- Sexual Minority Status, Peer Harassment, and Adolescent Depression
- The Relation Between Bullying, Victimization, and Adolescents’ Level of Hopelessness
- School Connectedness, Peer Attachment, and Self-Esteem as Predictors of Adolescent Depression
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- Fetal Serotonin Signaling: Setting Pathways for Early Childhood Development and Behavior
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• Adolescent Risk Taking Under Stressed and Nonstressed Conditions: Conservative, Calculating, and Impulsive Types
• Infusing Developmental Neuroscience Into School-based Preventive Interventions: Implications and Future Directions

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• Continued Knowledge Development for Understanding Bullying and School Victimization
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• Remission in Children and Adolescents Diagnosed with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder via an Effective and Tolerable Titration Scheme for Osmotic Release Oral System Methylphenidate
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• Preliminary Examination of the Reliability and Concurrent Validity of the Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Self-Report Scale v1.1 Symptom Checklist to Rate Symptoms of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in Adolescents

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• Gene–Environment Interaction in Teacher-Rated Internalizing and Externalizing Problem Behavior in 7- to 12-Year-Old Twins
• Psychopathic Traits Moderate Peer Influence on Adolescent Delinquency
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