AAP MENTAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER
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AAP Chapter Highlight

In the News

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SPOTLIGHT

New AAP Resources Focus on Pediatricians’ Role in Preventing Long-Term Consequences of Early Childhood Adversity

The AAP has released 2 resources to help pediatricians and others reduce the precipitants of toxic stress in young children and mitigate their negative effects on health across the life span. The new policy statement, *Early Childhood Adversity, Toxic Stress, and the Role of the Pediatrician: Translating Developmental Science Into Lifelong Health*, explores advances in the biological, behavioral, and social sciences that expand our understanding of how early environmental influences and genetic predispositions affect learning capacities, adaptive behaviors, lifelong physical and mental health, and adult productivity. Recommendations on the role of the pediatric community in catalyzing change in early childhood policy and services are included. The technical report, *The Lifelong Effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress*, presents an integrated ecobiodevelopmental framework to assist in translating these advances in developmental science into improved health across the life span.

http://www.aap.org/commpps/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
MARYLAND CHAPTER AAP
Web site: http://www.mdaap.org/

The Emotional Health Committee of the Maryland Chapter AAP has launched the Brief Interventions in Mental Health for Pediatric Practitioners (BI-PED project) to provide support to pediatric providers. The material on the BI-PED project Web site consists of multiple modules of brief mental health interventions that primary care practitioners can use when dealing with child and mental health issues. Topics include discipline, behavior modification, family communication problems, sleep problems, habit disorders, enuresis, encopresis, and strategies for dealing with ADHD, depression, and anxiety.

A template for conducting a comprehensive behavioral evaluation and a review of the D-TECKT, a mental health tool developed by the Emotional Health Committee to help clinicians organize their thinking after taking a behavioral history, is currently available. In addition, there are materials on motivational interviewing, billing for mental health services, and a module on how to integrate behavioral interventions into practice. Links are provided for practitioners looking for mental health screening tools and also for parents seeking information about mental health issues in children. The materials are being used to teach pediatric residents in several Maryland-based training programs, and additional modules are being developed to include learning disabilities, helping the angry child, and an overview of autism intervention strategies. Audio tapes of the modules linked to PowerPoint presentations will soon be available on YouTube.

The Emotional Health Committee consists of behavioral/developmental pediatricians, general pediatricians, and a psychologist. Members include faculty from University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins Medical Center, and Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital, as well as practitioners in community primary care. The committee has received a grant by Parents’ Place, a local parent nonprofit support group, to provide educational workshops to pediatric and mental health professionals in rural areas of Maryland. The committee provided 2 Saturday behavioral conferences in May and June 2011 in Western Maryland that were well-received. Currently, the Committee is planning a Mental Health Summit in the spring of 2012 that will focus on bringing pediatric practitioners and mental health professionals together from Western Maryland to develop networks and interventions to address mental health problems in their communities. Comments and questions can be forwarded to Ken Tellerman MD, Chairman of the Emotional Health Committee, at ktpedmd@aol.com.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH

Study: Children Respond Better to Parent’s Voice, Not Text
KEZI TV – January 12
As more teenagers get cell phones, parents find themselves communicating through text messages. But a new study (Evolution & Human Behavior) found that children respond better to a parent’s voice than words on a phone. According to researchers, texting can't replace the comfort that comes from a mother’s voice; however, it is unclear if it is the choice of words or the way they are spoken that decreases stress.

Risperidone Best for Initial Treatment of Childhood Mania
Medscape Today – January 5
A new study (Archives of General Psychiatry) shows that the antipsychotic drug risperidone is significantly superior to lithium and divalproex sodium for initial treatment of mania in children. It is better tolerated, although this drug has potentially serious metabolic effects that raise concerns about its long-term use.

http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
Sensitivity in Children Tied to OCD
PsychCentral.com – December 28
Childhood rituals, such as routines for meals, baths, and bedtimes, are a basic part of healthy behavioral development. But when combined with hypersensitivity to touch or taste, it could be an early warning sign of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), a new study suggests (Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry). Researchers devised 2 studies to map the connection between sensory processing, rituals, and OCD, and results from both studies indicate a strong connection between compulsive tendencies and hypersensitivity.

Study: 5-Year-Olds Know Positive Thinking Is Beneficial
United Press International – December 26
Children as young as age 5 know that thinking positively can make them feel better. In a new study (Child Development), children predicted people would feel better after thinking positive thoughts than they would after thinking negative thoughts, but there was significant development in the children's understanding about the emotion-feeling link as they grew older. According to researchers, “The strongest predictor of children's knowledge about the benefits of positive thinking—besides age— was not the child's own level of hope and optimism, but their parents’ (levels).”

School Absenteeism Linked to Mental Health Problems
Physician's Briefing – December 22
School absenteeism may be reciprocally associated with psychopathology during childhood and adolescence, according to a new study (Child Development). Researchers investigated the reciprocal influences between school absenteeism and psychological problems and found that students who had mental health symptoms (such as antisocial behavior or depression) in the first year of the study likewise had increased absenteeism in year 2 and had more absenteeism than students without mental health problems in year 1.

Early Help May Improve Preemies' Behavior Later
Reuters – December 21
Giving parents of newborn preemies some help right from the start may make a difference in their children's behavior by school age, a new study (Pediatrics) suggests. Children born prematurely tend to have higher rates of behavioral problems than peers who were born full-term, but not much has been known about whether intervening early with parents can make a difference in preemies' behavior in the long run. For the new study, researchers tested a program that gave parents of preemies help right away, starting in the hospital and continuing with home visits from a nurse. “The idea of the program was to help parents better understand their preemies—and to give them a chance to ‘vent’ their worries and stresses.”

Money Worries Hurt Parent-Child Connection
United Press International – December 9
According to a new study (Journal of Research on Adolescence), parents who experience financial problems and depression are less likely to feel connected to their children, and their children are less likely to engage in pro-social behaviors, such as volunteering or helping others. “The study serves as a reminder that children's behaviors are affected by issues beyond their immediate surroundings,” researchers state. "Families' economic situations are affected by broader factors in our society, and those financial problems can lead to depression that hurts parent-child relationships.”

Study Ties Child Maltreatment to Reduced Gray Matter Volume
Physician's Briefing – December 7
Exposure to childhood maltreatment (CM) is associated with reduced cerebral gray matter (GM) morphology in adolescents without psychiatric diagnoses, according to a new study (Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine). Researchers found a significant negative correlation between the total scores from a childhood trauma self-report questionnaire and GM volume in the prefrontal cortex, striatum, amygdala, sensory association cortices, and cerebellum. “Exposure to CM was associated with corticostriatal-limbic GM reductions in adolescents,” the authors write.

Study Finds How Child Abuse Changes the Brain
Reuters – December 5
Researchers (Current Biology) used brain scans to explore the impact of physical abuse or domestic violence on children's emotional development and found that exposure to it was linked to increased activity in 2 brain areas
when children were shown pictures of angry faces. This suggests that maltreated children may have adapted to become “hyper-aware” of danger in their environment. According to researchers, the research provides “clues as to how regions in the child’s brain may adapt to early experiences of abuse.”

**Study: MR Shows Child Abuse Linked With Gray Matter Loss**
Health Imaging.com – December 5
Childhood abuse is associated with reductions in cerebral gray matter volume, and adolescents may have gray matter changes that put them at risk for behavioral difficulties even if they do not have symptoms that meet full criteria for psychiatric disorders, states a new report (Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine). The brain areas impacted by maltreatment may differ between boys and girls, and may depend on whether the maltreatment is abuse versus neglect and physical versus emotional. Although adolescents with a history of maltreatment may not meet criteria for psychiatric diagnoses, detection and early intervention could reduce the risk for the development of mood, addictive, and other psychiatric disorders.

**ADHD**

**Most Doctors Forgo Cardiac Screening Before Prescribing ADHD Drugs**
Family Practice News – January 16
Approximately 24% of 525 pediatricians surveyed agreed that children with ADHD should undergo cardiac screening before taking stimulants, states new research (Pediatrics). Although reports during the past decade have shown cases of sudden cardiac death (SCD) in children with ADHD who were taking stimulants, findings from studies specifically addressing the topic have been inconsistent. The findings from this study suggest that balancing the potential benefits of stimulants for ADHD children with the obligation to inform families of a possible SCD risk remains a challenge for pediatricians.

**ADHD: Diet Might Matter, but Less Than Many Parents Think**
USA Today – January 11
A new review (Pediatrics) of links between diet and childhood ADHD endorses the idea that a healthy diet probably helps kids but is not particularly encouraging to parents who go for complex diet schemes or who hope the right foods can eliminate the need for medication and therapy. Oligoantigenic, elimination, and additive-free diets are complicated, disruptive to the household, and often impractical, except for selected patients. Supplemental diet therapy is simple, relatively inexpensive, and more acceptable to patient and parent. The researchers suggest that public education regarding a healthy diet pattern and lifestyle to prevent or control ADHD may have greater long-term success.

**Combination Therapy Shows Positive Response for Children With ADHD**
EurekAlert – January 9
Although pharmacologic agents have a demonstrated efficacy in children with ADHD, some children have suboptimal response to a single pharmacologic agent. A recent study (Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) assessed the efficacy and safety of guanfacine extended release (GXR) as an adjunct to psychostimulants in children and adolescents diagnosed with ADHD who had a suboptimal response to a psychostimulant alone. According to researchers, “the results of this study support the hypothesis that adjunctive administration of … GXR to a psychostimulant in subjects with suboptimal response to psychostimulants reduces ADHD symptoms over placebo with a psychostimulant.”

**Gestational Diabetes Linked to ADHD Risk in Offspring**
Medical News Today – January 4
According to new research (Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine), babies who are born to mothers with diabetes during their pregnancy and/or living in low income households, have a higher risk of subsequently developing ADHD during childhood. Because ADHD is a disorder with high heritability, efforts to prevent exposure to environmental risks through patient education may help to reduce the nongenetic modifiable risk for ADHD and other developmental problems, researchers say.
**Study: More Evidence Links Specific Genes to ADHD**

USA Today – December 5

Variations in genes involved in brain signaling pathways appear to be linked to ADHD. The findings (*Nature Genetics*) suggest that drugs that act on these pathways may offer a new treatment option for ADHD patients with the gene variants. A genomic analysis revealed at least 10% of the children with ADHD had deletions or duplications of DNA sequences in 4 genes that are part of the glutamate receptor gene family. The strongest result was in gene GMRS. According to researchers, “The fact that children with ADHD are more likely to have alterations in these genes reinforces previous evidence that the GMR pathway is important in ADHD.”

**AUTISM**

**Anxiety, Other Disorders More Common in Autism**

Fox News – January 23

Autism tends to go hand in hand with a variety of other mental and behavioral conditions in kids, suggests a new study (*Pediatrics*) that highlights the fuzzy nature of autism diagnoses themselves. According to researchers, other disorders that often go along with autism, such as ADHD or learning disabilities, may complicate the diagnosis or slow down any improvement in kids who do get diagnosed and treated early.

**No Link Between Mom's Smoking and Autism**

PsychCentral.com – January 14

Smoking during pregnancy is not directly linked to autism spectrum disorders in children, according to a recent study (*Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*). Prenatal exposure to tobacco smoke is considered a potential link due to known associations between smoking and behavioral disorders and obstetric complications. However, researchers “found no evidence that maternal smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of autism spectrum disorders.”

**Autism Gastro Problems May Be Linked to Gut Bacteria**

HealthDay – January 10

Children with autism have bacteria in their gut that is different from the bacteria seen in kids who do not have the disorder, according to a new study (mBio). Researchers suggest that this finding could help explain the link between autism and gastrointestinal problems, such as inflammation. However, the authors note that it is still unclear if these differences are a cause of autism or a result of the condition.

**Study Finds Melatonin Eases Sleep Woes in Children With Autism**

Medical Xpress – January 9

A new study (*Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*) shows that the over-the-counter supplement melatonin is promising in helping children with autism spectrum disorders and their families sleep better. The study allowed researchers to identify doses at which children responded to melatonin and how long it took to observe a response. However, researchers note that “it is important that individuals with insomnia seek medical advice before taking melatonin … because other treatable medical and sleep conditions can sometimes cause insomnia. Also, melatonin can interact with other drugs for other medical conditions.”

**Respite Care May Be More Beneficial Than Autism Therapy**

Disability Scoop – January 5

A little money spent on temporary relief for caregivers goes a long way toward keeping kids and young adults with autism out of psychiatric hospitals, a new study suggests (*Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*). For every $1,000 states spent on respite services in a 60-day time period, researchers found an 8% drop in the odds of hospitalization. Meanwhile, the level of therapeutic services provided to an individual with autism, including speech, occupational, behavioral, and other therapies, did not impact the likelihood that they would end up in a psychiatric hospital. “The lack of association between therapeutic services and hospitalization raises concerns regarding the effectiveness of these services,” they state.

**Clinical Trial Proves Vitamin/Mineral Supplements Help Fight Autism**

FoodConsumer.org – December 18

A new clinical trial (*BMC Pediatrics*) suggests that taking vitamins/mineral supplements may help children with autism. The trial found that oral vitamin/mineral supplements improved the nutritional and metabolic status of
children with autism. During the trial, symptoms of autism were assessed pre- and post-trial, and metabolic statuses were found to be significantly improved.

**Imitation May Boost Social Skills of Children With Autism**

United Press International – December 13

According to a new study (Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders), teaching young children with autism to imitate others may improve their social skills. Researchers found that toddlers and preschoolers with autism who were taught imitation skills made more attempts to draw the examiner's attention to an object through gestures and eye contact, a key area of deficit in autism.

**Researchers Find Children With Autism Blink Differently**

WebMD – December 12

When and why children blink may provide important clues about how children with autism process and take in information, says a new study (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences). There are key differences between toddlers with and without autism spectrum disorder and when they blink their eyes. Children without autism seem to be able to anticipate what is coming next based on facial expressions and wordplay. This is not the case for children with autism. “Without understanding the social context in which actions happen, children with autism may often be reacting, after the fact, to physical events that have already happened,” researchers determined. The findings provide “a new tool for trying to understand how children with autism look at, engage with, and learn from what they see. … This might give us more information about cues that are distracting to children with autism, and it might also give us information about cues that are naturally engaging.”

**Autism May Involve Disordered White Matter in the Brain**

PR Newswire – December 5

It is still unclear what is different in the brains of people with autism spectrum disorders, but evidence from genetic and cell studies points to abnormalities in how brain cells (neurons) connect to each other. A new study (Academic Radiology) provides visual evidence associating autism with a disorganized structure of brain connections, as well as defects in myelin, the fatty, insulating coating that helps nerve fibers conduct signals and that makes up the brain's white matter. Researchers report findings in the corpus callosum, the brain's largest white-matter structure that acts as a highway transferring signals between the left and right cerebral hemispheres. "Ultimately, imaging will play a crucial role in identifying who may benefit from treatment, and in seeing the changes in the brain in response to treatment," researchers say.

**Teens With Autism Often Socially Isolated**

Futurity – November 28

Teens with autism face major obstacles to social life outside of school, according to a new study (PLoS ONE) that emphasizes the danger of limited peer relationships and the importance of group activities. The study found conversational impairment and low social communication skills were associated with a lower likelihood of social participation.

**Training Peers Improves Social Outcomes for Some Kids With ASD**

National Institute of Mental Health – November 28

Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) who attend regular education classes may be more likely to improve their social skills if their typically developing peers are taught how to interact with them than if only the children with ASD are taught such skills. According to a new study (Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry), a shift from interventions that focus on directly training children with ASD may provide greater social benefits. The findings suggest that peer-mediated interventions can provide better and more persistent outcomes than child-focused strategies, and that child-focused interventions may only be effective when paired with peer-mediated intervention.

**Two Opposing Brain Malfunctions Cause Two Autism-related Disorders**

Medical News Today – November 28

Although several disorders with autism-like symptoms, such as the rare Fragile X syndrome, can be traced to a single specific mutation, the majority of autism spectrum disorder incidents are caused by several genetic mutations. In a new study (Nature), researchers have discovered that tuberous sclerosis, a rare disorder characterized by autism and mental retardation, is caused by too little synthesis of those synaptic proteins. The findings also indicate that any potential drugs designed to treat the cellular origins of autism would need to be accurately matched to each patient to ensure that they benefit the patient and not harm them.
**Brain Find Sheds Light on Autism**
BBC News – November 27
Cells taken from people with Timothy Syndrome, a rare syndrome linked to autism, could help explain the origins of the condition, scientists suggest (Nature Medicine). Because Timothy Syndrome is caused by a single gene defect rather than a combination of small genetic flaws that make a tiny contribution, it presents a useful target for scientists looking to examine what goes wrong in the developing brain of a child with autism. However, “Timothy syndrome is only one form of autism and so these findings only give a very limited picture of what might cause the condition,” researchers state.

**Study Links Autism to Brain Growth Problems**
Intelihealth – November 10
Abnormal brain growth in children with autism suggests that the disorder begins before birth, a recent study (Journal of the American Medical Association) reveals. Researchers found that children with autism had significantly more neurons in the region of the brain involved in socializing and communication, abilities in which children with autism are lacking. Because these neurons develop during pregnancy, the finding weakens controversial theories that autism is caused by vaccination or other exposures in early childhood. The study does not offer new insight into what causes autism, just how it develops.

**BULLYING**

**Obese Teen Girls More Likely to Be Bullies, Says Canadian Study**
Canada.com – January 21
Obese teen girls are more likely to be bullies, says a new study (Obesity Facts). Obese teens not only make easy targets for bullies, in the case of girls, they are more likely to turn into bullies themselves. Researchers found that overweight and obese boys were twice as likely than their healthy-weight peers to be hit, kicked, pushed, or shoved around. They also were more likely to suffer “relational bullying” —being shunned or excluded from groups and activities. Obese girls were 3 times more likely than healthy-weight girls to become the perpetrators of relational bullying. “The research adds to growing evidence that obesity in childhood comes with profound social consequences”, the authors write.

**Teeth That Stick Out Attract Bullies**
Dentistry.co.uk – December 9
New research (Journal of Orthodontics) shows that being bullied is significantly associated with teeth that stick out (also known as malocclusion). According to researchers, approximately 13% of adolescents 10 to 14 years of age who were examined for orthodontic treatment had been bullied. These adolescents reported a negative impact on both self-esteem and oral health-related quality of life.

**Text-Message Bullying Becoming More Common**
Reuters – November 21
A growing number of US kids say they have been picked on via text messaging, while there has been little change in online harassment, researchers report (Pediatrics). Outright bullying was less common. The findings suggest that attention needs to be paid to kids’ text-messaging world, but parents need not be alarmed. Despite concerns that technology has made teasing and taunting easier, researchers say there is evidence that kids are doing less of it these days. They credit greater awareness of the problem among schools and parents for the decline.

**DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY**

**Girls Report More Mental Distress and Are Prescribed More Psychiatric Drugs Than Boys**
Medicalxpress.com – January 11
More than 15% of Norwegian teenagers ages 15 to 16 reported “mental distress,” or symptoms of depression and anxiety, with significantly more girls reporting distress than boys, states a new study (Journal of Adolescent...
Health. Girls with mental distress were also more likely than their male counterparts to be prescribed psychotropic drugs that alter chemical levels in the brain, affecting behavior and mood.

**Blogging Benefits Socially Awkward Teens**
TIME Heartland - January 6
A new study finds that adolescents with social problems who blog may benefit from the added social connectivity (Psychological Services). Previous research shows that simply writing about personal misfortune can be healing and that breaking down a traumatic experience into a coherent narrative is often a key part of recovering from conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder and other after-effects of trauma, like depression. The new study finds that online writing may be even more helpful for teenagers who feel isolated and have difficulty socializing.

**Missed Naps Affect Toddlers' Moods, Study Shows**
The Telegraph, UK - January 4
Missing one daytime nap increased toddlers' anxiety and made them less interested in their environment. They were also less excited by happy events and the slightest stress made them crankier, says a recent study (Journal of Sleep Research). “This study shows insufficient sleep in the form of missing a nap taxes the way toddlers express different feelings, and, over time, may shape their developing emotional brains and put them at risk for lifelong, mood-related problems,” researchers state.

**Truancy Signals Depression in Kids**
MedPage Today - December 22
Missing school appears to be both a cause and a symptom of depression, according to new research (Child Development). During middle and high school, having depression and conduct problems in one year independently predicted absenteeism in the next year. “Absence could be a useful target for preventive intervention if it indeed plays a contributing role in the development of psychological problems,” researchers write.

**Programs to Prevent Depression in Kids Work**
MedPage Today – December 13
Psychological depression prevention programs offer some benefit in children and young adults, according to a recent review (The Cochrane Library). Based on an analysis of 15 studies, the risk of having a depressive episode after an intervention was reduced immediately when compared with no intervention. These results were sustained at 3 to 9 months in 14 studies, although the effects seem to dwindle over the long term.

**Babies May Benefit From Moms’ Lasting Melancholy**
ScienceNews – November 18
A double dose of mom’s depression may do a baby good, says a new study (Psychological Science). Infants generally thrive physically and mentally if their mothers’ emotional condition, whether healthy or depressed, remains stable before and after birth. In contrast, babies’ first-year physical and mental development lagged if their mothers’ emotional state during pregnancy changed after giving birth. That pattern held whether depression during pregnancy resolved after giving birth or depression first appeared after delivering a child.

**EATING DISORDERS**

**Experts Urge BMI Method for Calculating Weight in Kids With Eating Disorders**
EurekAlert – January 4
An exact determination of expected body weight for adolescents based on age, height, and gender is critical for diagnosis and management of eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia. However, there are no clear guidelines regarding the appropriate method for calculating this weight in children with such disorders. In a new study (Pediatrics), researchers determined that the BMI method was the most useful for children and adolescents. The study also recommends that researchers cite the method used to calculate expected body weight in their research and stresses the importance of using the term “expected” instead of “ideal” to describe body weight to avoid unrealistic body image expectations in patients with eating disorders.

http://www.aap.org/commfps/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
**Study Challenges Thinking on Anorexia**
San Francisco Chronicle – December 18
The standard approach to feeding patients hospitalized with anorexia nervosa—starting with a low number of calories and increasing them very gradually— is being challenged by new research (Journal of Adolescent Health). This approach to bringing malnourished patients back to health is based on the notion that pushing food on them too quickly can result in potentially fatal metabolic imbalance, but researchers now say it fails to produce significant and necessary weight gain in the first week of hospitalization and results in longer hospital stays. The study suggests that most patients can start at higher calorie levels, tolerate more food, and be able to be released from the hospital more quickly.

**Feelings of Depression and Binge Eating Go Hand in Hand in Teen Girls**
Health Behavior News Service – December 13
Teenage girls who feel depressed are twice as likely to start binge eating as other girls, according to a new study (Journal of Adolescent Health). The reverse is also true—girls who engage in regular binge eating have double the normal risk of symptoms of depression. The findings suggest that young women who display signs of either depression or binge eating should undergo screening for both disorders.

**FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION**

**Orphaned Children Experience Biological, Gene Differences**
PsychCentral.com – December 26
Children who are separated at birth from their biological parents and brought up in orphanages experience biological changes, including differences in gene expression, states a recent study (Development and Psychopathology). The research highlights differences in DNA methylation, a key regulatory mechanism of gene expression. In the institutionalized children, there appeared a greater number of differences in the genetic regulation of the systems controlling immune response and intercellular interactions, including a number of significant mechanisms responsible for the development and function of the brain. “Our study shows that the early stress of separation from a biological parent impacts long-term programming of genome function; this might explain why adopted children may be particularly vulnerable to harsh parenting in terms of their physical and mental health,” researchers say. “Parenting adopted children might require much more nurturing care to reverse these changes in genome regulation.”

**PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS**

**Mental Health: Study Links Immigrating at Young Age and Higher Risk of Psychosis**
A new study (The American Journal of Psychiatry) has found that among immigrants, younger age at the time of migration predicts a higher incidence of psychotic disorders. The risk of psychosis was most elevated among people from Suriname, the Netherlands Antilles, Turkey, and Morocco who immigrated before age 4. Researchers do not know the reason, but speculate that “it might be related to early social context, which ... has an important influence on later health and mental health.”

**Schizophrenia Tied to Teen Brain Changes**
PsychCentral.com – January 2
Teenagers who have been diagnosed with schizophrenia or similar psychotic disorders sometimes show a greater decrease in gray matter volume compared to healthy teens, according to new research (Archives of General Psychiatry). The new study also found that adolescents with schizophrenia showed an increase in cerebrospinal fluid in the frontal lobe of their brain. “Some of these pathophysiologic processes seem to be markers of poorer prognosis. To develop therapeutic strategies to counteract these pathologic progressive brain changes, future studies should focus on their neurobiological underpinnings,” the authors state.
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION

Family History of Alcoholism Affects Brain Response in Teens
United Press International – January 16
Adolescents with a family history of alcoholism experience “weaker brain response during risky decision-making”, according to a new study (Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research). Researchers discovered that those with a family history of alcoholism demonstrated atypical brain activity while completing the same task as those without a family history of alcoholism.

Teens’ Assertiveness May Help Them Resist Peer Pressure
HealthDay – December 22
A new study (Child Development) finds that teens who stand up for their views in family discussions are better at standing up to their friends who pressure them to drink or use drugs. The study found the teens that were best able to resist peer pressure were those who openly expressed their views with their mom. These teens also used reasonable arguments instead of whining or using insults to influence their mother’s opinion on common issues, such as grades, household rules, money and chores. “The healthy autonomy they’d established at home seemed to carry over into their relationships with peers,” researchers write.

Analysis: Few Interventions Cut Risky Behavior in Youths
Reuters – December 8
A new study (Addiction) highlights the elements of successful interventions to prevent drug use and risky behavior in youth. These interventions targeted multiple areas of kids' lives, including the classroom, community and home, and taught teaching healthy decision-making skills. These programs often lasted for a few years. According to researchers, starting school and community interventions even earlier, in the preteen years, may be most effective in stopping drug and alcohol use and risky behaviors before they start.

Brain Abnormalities Linked to Teen Cannabis Use, Study Finds
The Herald Sun, AU – December 15
Brain abnormalities that make teenagers more likely to smoke cannabis have been identified in a new study (Biological Psychiatry). According to researchers, students with abnormalities in the orbitofrontal cortex—the brain region involved in memory, reward, and decision making—were more prone to using cannabis. The study also confirmed that cannabis harms the brain.

Program Cuts Substance Abuse, Conduct Problems in Black Teens
Reuters – December 12
Rates of substance abuse and behavior problems dropped among 16-year-old black teens in rural Georgia after participating in a family-centered preventive intervention program, according to a new study (Pediatrics). Teens who joined the program had fewer depressive symptoms than teens in a comparison group who went to sessions only on exercise and nutrition. Parents can learn from the success of the program, including the importance of knowing their teens' friends, setting limits and structure to encourage time-management and instilling in their kids a sense of racial and ethnic pride. According to researchers, the findings “show that staying involved in the lives of our adolescents is very important.”

Abnormal-Weight Teens at Greater Risk for Illicit Drug Use
Medscape Today – November 28
Overweight and underweight adolescents are significantly more likely than their normal-weight peers to report frequent use of illegal substances (with the exception of cannabis), according to new research (PLoS One). Abnormal weight and substance use are not directly related; instead, they are likely both due to common underlying social factors and dissatisfaction. “The frequent association of overweight and substance use and the presence of common underlying social factors highlight the need for an interdisciplinary approach involving individual treatment models, such as prescribing diets and psychological counseling that involve the family,” researchers state.

http://www.aap.org/commhealth/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
Youth Attempt Suicide Sooner Than Thought
United Press International - November 29
About 1 in 9 youth attempt suicide by the time they graduate from high school, according to a new study (Journal of Adolescent Health). Suicide attempt rates show a sharp increase in sixth grade, around age 12, with rates peaking around eighth or ninth grade. Suicide attempts during childhood and adolescence are also linked to higher scores of depression at the time of the attempts.

Study: 8% of Teens Cut or Harm Themselves, but Many Stop Abruptly
LA Times – November 17
Cutting, burning, and other forms of self-harm behaviors occur in 8% of all teenagers, a recent study (The Lancet) demonstrates. Although common, the study suggests that the practice of self-harm typically vanishes in late adolescence, often without any mental health treatment. However, that does not mean that parents should ignore the behavior. Many youths who cut or burn themselves have underlying mental-health problems, such as depression or anxiety, that commonly persist into adulthood. According to researchers, “Our findings suggest that the treatment of such problems might have additional benefits in terms of reducing the suffering and disability associated with self-harm in later years.”

CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

Bipolar Disorder in Adolescents: What Primary Care Providers Need to Know
February 29, 2012 (1-2 pm)
Symptoms of bipolar disorder often mimic those of ADHD, and presentation can overlap with other mental illnesses. Primary care providers have an important collaborative role in referring and partnering in the management of adolescents with bipolar disorder. This webinar will focus on improving the identification of symptoms and determining first-line strategies for collaborating with mental health specialists.

Training Institutes 2012: Improving Children's Mental Health Care in the Era of Change, Challenge, and Innovation - The Role of the System of Care Approach
July 25-29, 2012 (Orlando, FL)
The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health at the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development is offering Training Institutes on improving mental health services for children and adolescents with or at risk for mental health challenges and their families. The system of care approach emphasizes home and community-based care, comprehensive and individualized services and supports, family-driven and youth-guided care, cultural and linguistic competence, services provided within the least restrictive environment, and coordination across child-serving systems. The 2012 Training Institutes will focus on innovative approaches and how lessons learned from systems of care can guide efforts to improve children's mental health service delivery in a dramatically changing environment.

Eating Disorders in Adolescents: Strategies for the Primary Care Provider
Primary care providers are in a unique position to identify eating disorders in their earliest stages, when treatment can be most effective. This archived webinar from January 12, 2012, provides a discussion on the signs and symptoms of eating disorders, the latest treatment strategies, and co-managing these disorders with the clinical team to avoid relapse and achieve a successful outcome.

RESOURCES

AAP: Sound Advice on Mental Health
To help guide parents and caregivers, the AAP offers a collection of interviews with pediatricians about child behavior, emotions, and other mental health topics. A video by Jane M. Foy, MD, FAAP, lists ways parents can foster positive mental health in their children. Interviews include conversations with adolescent medicine

http://www.aap.org/commleds/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html

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specialists Karen Soren, MD, FAAP, and Garry Sigman, MD, FAAP, on adolescent mental health and depression, and with pediatrician/child psychiatrist Mary Margaret Gleason, MD, FAAP, on infant and toddler emotional development. Marian Earls, MD, FAAP, discusses the impact of postpartum depression on children and families, and Michael Reiff, MD, FAAP, explains the new AAP guidelines on diagnosing and managing ADHD in children and adolescents. In a video, developmental-behavioral pediatrician David J. Schonfeld, MD, FAAP, gives advice on helping children cope with traumatic events. Transcripts of the interviews are also available on the site.

**AAP Policy Statement: Scope of Health Care Benefits for Children From Birth Through Age 26**
The optimal health of all children is best achieved with access to appropriate and comprehensive health care benefits. This policy statement sets forth recommendations for the design of a comprehensive benefit package that covers infants, children, adolescents, and young adults through age 26 and is consistent with the Maternal and Child Health Plan Benefit Model: Evidence-Informed Coverage. The services outlined in this statement encompass medical care, preventive care, critical care, pediatric surgical care, behavioral health services, and oral health for all children, including those with special health care needs.

**AAP Policy Statement: The Pediatrician's Role in Family Support and Family Support Programs**
Children's social, emotional, and physical health; their developmental trajectory; and the neurocircuits that are being created and reinforced in their developing brains are all directly influenced by their relationships during early childhood. Pediatricians are positioned to serve as partners with families and other community providers in supporting the well-being of children and their families. However, because the structure and support of families involve forces that are often outside the agenda of the usual pediatric health supervision visits, pediatricians must ensure that their medical home efforts promote a holistically healthy family environment for all children. This statement recommends opportunities for pediatricians to develop their expertise in assessing the strengths and stresses in families, in counseling families about strategies and resources, and in collaborating with others in their communities to support family relationships.

**A Family Guide: Integrating Mental Health and Pediatric Primary Care**
This publication by the National Alliance of Mental Illness supports families in their efforts to integrate their children's physical and mental health care. It includes information about the family's role as the “first line of defense” for concerns about their children's mental health, family/provider communication, and how a medical home can help them work toward making mental health care an integral part of their child's overall health and wellness. The guide concludes with three examples of best practices from North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Cherokee Health Systems that illustrate how to integrate physical and mental health into primary care.

**Facebook Provides Service to Help Prevent Suicides**
In partnership with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, Facebook is harnessing the power of social networking and crisis support to help prevent suicides in the United States and Canada. The new service enables Facebook users to report a suicidal comment they see posted to Facebook using the Report Suicidal Content link or the report links found throughout the site. The person who posted the suicidal comment will immediately receive an e-mail from Facebook encouraging them to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or to click on a link to begin a confidential chat session with a crisis worker.

**HHS Guidance Could Help States Improve Oversight of Psychotropic Prescriptions**
This report from the US Government Accountability Office examines rates of psychotropic prescriptions for children in foster care and children not in foster care in 2008 and state oversight of psychotropic prescriptions for children in foster care through October 2011. According to the report, children in foster care in the states analyzed were prescribed psychotropic drugs in 2008 at higher rates than children in Medicaid but not in foster care. The higher rates do not necessarily indicate inappropriate prescribing practices but could be due in part to children in foster care having greater mental health needs, greater exposure to traumatic experiences, and the challenges of coordinating their medical care. The report recommends that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) endorse guidance to state Medicaid and child welfare agencies on best practices for monitoring psychotropic drug prescriptions for children in foster care, including guidance that addresses, at minimum, informed consent, oversight, consultation, and information sharing.

**Long-Term Foster Care—Different Needs, Different Outcomes**
A new report by the Carsey Institute examines where children are living 4 years after removal from their foster homes and the characteristics of these children and their placements.
**MilitaryKidsConnect.org**
This new Department of Defense-sponsored Web site is for kids whose parents or caregivers have been deployed. The site features psychologist-developed content customized for 3 age groups (children, tweens, and teens) and resources for parents and educators. Military kids can support one another and learn coping and resilience-building skills through interactive features, including moderated message boards, videos about military kids, and games that incorporate cultural information about common military deployment locations.

**Monitoring the Future**
This Web site provides data from an ongoing study of the behaviors, attitudes, and values of American secondary school students, college students, and young adults, with a specific focus on substance use.

**NDAR Federation Creates Largest Source of Autism Research Data to Date**
Through a data partnership between the National Database for Autism Research (NDAR) and the Autism Genetic Resource Exchange (AGRE), a repository of genetic, phenotypic, clinical, and medical imaging data related to research on autism spectrum disorders has been created. AGRE currently houses a clinical dataset with detailed medical, developmental, morphological, demographic, and behavioral information from people with ASD and their families. Approved NDAR users will have access to data from the 25,000 research participants represented in NDAR, as well as 2,500 AGRE families and more than 7,500 participants who reported their own information to the Kennedy Krieger Institute’s Interactive Autism Network.

**New Medicaid Web Site**
Medicaid.gov, the first Federal government Web site devoted to the policies and the people of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), is now available. The new site provides organized and updated information about the Medicaid and CHIP programs along with answers to the most commonly asked questions and requests for information. The site also includes a section for helping consumers get information about the Medicaid or CHIP program in their state and links to http://www.healthcare.gov/ and www.insurekidsnow.gov. The site is a work in progress and feedback is welcomed through the CMS Idea Factory.

**Peer Victimization in Schools: A Set of Quantitative and Qualitative Studies of the Connections Among Peer Victimization, School Engagement, Truancy, School Achievement, and Other Outcomes**
This report examines bullying in schools and makes recommendations for the best ways schools can provide support to bullying victims. The report recommends schools offer mentoring programs, provide students with opportunities for community service, address the difficult transition between elementary and middle school, and start prevention programs early.

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

**AAP News** - Vol 33, Issue 1, Jan 2012
- Mitigate 'Toxic' Stress: A New Science of Early Childhood Reveals Urgency of Protecting Developing Brains
- AAP Helping Physicians Address Mental Health Concerns in Early Childhood

**Academic Pediatrics** - Vol 12, No 1, Jan 2012
- In Their Own Words: Adolescent Views on ADHD and Their Evolving Role Managing Medication

**American Journal of Psychiatry** - Vol 169, No 1, Jan 2012
- Risk Taking and the Adolescent Reward System: A Potential Common Link to Substance Abuse
- Adolescent Irritability: Phenotypic Associations and Genetic Links With Depressed Mood

**American Journal of Psychiatry** - Vol 168, No 12, Dec 2011
- The Columbia–Suicide Severity Rating Scale: Initial Validity and Internal Consistency Findings From Three Multisite Studies With Adolescents and Adults
- Age at Migration and Future Risk of Psychotic Disorders Among Immigrants in the Netherlands: A 7-Year Incidence Study
• Childhood Trauma and Psychosis: A Case-Control and Case-Sibling Comparison Across Different Levels of Genetic Liability, Psychopathology, and Type of Trauma
• Increased Risk of Schizophrenia From Additive Interaction Between Infant Motor Developmental Delay and Obstetric Complications: Evidence From a Population-based Longitudinal Study

Archives of General Psychiatry - Vol 69, No 1, Jan 2012
• Progressive Brain Changes in Children and Adolescents With First-Episode Psychosis
• Autism Spectrum Disorders and Autisticlike Traits: Similar Etiology in the Extreme End and the Normal Variation
• Increased Rate of Amygdala Growth in Children Aged 2 to 4 Years With Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Longitudinal Study
• Interaction Between FKBP5 and Childhood Trauma and Risk of Aggressive Behavior

Archives of General Psychiatry - Vol 68, No 12, Dec 2011
• Early Risk Factors for Hyperactivity-Impulsivity and Inattention Trajectories From Age 17 Months to 8 Years
• Migration From Mexico to the United States and Conduct Disorder in Children: A Cross-national Study

Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine - Vol 166, No 1, Jan 2012
• The Interplay of Outpatient Services and Psychiatric Hospitalization Among Medicaid-Enrolled Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders

Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine - Vol 165, No 12, Dec 2011
• Corticostriatal-Limbic Gray Matter Morphology in Adolescents With Self-reported Exposure to Childhood Maltreatment

British Journal of Psychiatry - Vol 200, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Regional Specificity of Thalamic Volume Deficits in Male Adolescents With Early-Onset Psychosis

Child and Adolescent Mental Health - Vol 17, Issue 1, Feb 2012
• Review: A Systematic Review of the Impact of Physical Activity Programs on Social and Emotional Well-being in At-Risk Youth
• The Impact of Political Violence on Psychosocial Functioning of Individuals and Families: The Case of Palestinian Adolescents
• Adolescents' Experiences of Psychosocial Support After Traumatization in a School Shooting
• Parent Experiences of Attending a Specialist Clinic for Assessment of Their Child's Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
• Implementation Quality of Whole-School Mental Health Promotion and Students' Academic Performance

Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America - Vol 21, No 1, Jan 2012
• Treating Adolescents With Social Anxiety Disorder in Schools
• Responding to Students With Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Schools
• Depression in the Classroom: Considerations and Strategies
• Strategies for Implementing Evidence-Based Psychosocial Interventions for Children With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
• School-Based Interventions for Disruptive Behavior
• Adolescent Substance Use Disorders in the School Setting
• Schooling Students With Psychotic Disorders

Clinical Pediatrics - Vol 51, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Parent Medication Concerns Predict Underutilization of Mental Health Services for Minority Children With ADHD

Eating Disorders - Vol 20, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Social Information-Processing and Coping in Adolescent Females Diagnosed With an Eating Disorder: Toward a Greater Understanding of Control
• Childhood Feeding Problems and Adolescent Eating Disorders
Health Education Research - Vol 27, Issue 1, Feb 2012
- Parent and Child Characteristics Related to Chosen Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program
- Adolescent Risk Behaviors and Mealtime Routines: Does Family Meal Frequency Alter the Association Between Family Structure and Risk Behavior?

International Journal of Eating Disorders - Vol 45, Issue 1, Jan 2012
- The Eating Disorders Examination in Adolescent Males With Anorexia Nervosa: How Does It Compare to Adolescent Females?
- Cultural Variability in Expressed Emotion Among Families of Adolescents With Anorexia Nervosa

Journal of Adolescence - Vol 35, Issue 1, Feb 2012
- Body Image as a Mediator of Non-suicidal Self-Injury in Adolescents
- Selective Neurocognitive Impairments in Adolescents With Major Depressive Disorder
- Gratitude and Suicidal Ideation and Suicide Attempts Among Chinese Adolescents: Direct, Mediated, and Moderated Effects
- The Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire: Russian Validation of the Teacher Version and Comparison of Teacher and Student Reports
- Social Context in School: Its Relation to Adolescents’ Depressive Mood
- Suicidal Ideation in Adolescence: Examining the Role of Recent Adverse Experiences
- Brief Report: Emotional Intelligence, Victimization, and Bullying in Adolescents
- Brief Report: Need for Autonomy and Other Perceived Barriers Relating to Adolescents’ Intentions to Seek Professional Mental Health Care

Journal of Adolescent Health - Vol 50, No 1, Jan 2012
- Longitudinal Trajectories of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms and Binge Drinking Among Adolescent Girls: The Role of Sexual Victimization
- Bullying Perpetration and Subsequent Sexual Violence Perpetration Among Middle School Students
- Positive Youth, Healthy Adults: Does Positive Well-being in Adolescence Predict Better Perceived Health and Fewer Risky Health Behaviors in Young Adulthood?
- Underdetection of Psychiatric Disorders During Prenatal Care: A Survey of Adolescents in Sao Paulo, Brazil

Journal of Adolescent Health - Vol 49, No 6, Dec 2011
- An Eleven Site National Quality Improvement Evaluation of Adolescent Medicine-Based Eating Disorder Programs: Predictors of Weight Outcomes at One Year and Risk Adjustment Analyses
- Victimization Experiences of Adolescents in Malaysia

- Offspring of Parents With Recurrent Depression: Which Features of Parent Depression Index Risk for Offspring Psychopathology?
- Screening for Depression in a Sample of Egyptian Secondary School Female Students

Journal of Attention Disorders - Vol 16, No 2, Feb 2012
- Exploring Language Profiles for Children With ADHD and Children With Asperger Syndrome
- Self-Reported Inattention in Early Adolescence in a Community Sample

Journal of Attention Disorders - Vol 16, No 1, Jan 2012
- Exploring the Gender Gap in Referrals for Children With ADHD and Other Disruptive Behavior Disorders
- Understanding the Effect Size of Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate for Treating ADHD in Children and Adults
- Relationships Between Learning Disability, Executive Function, and Psychopathology in Children With ADHD
- A Clinical Study of ADHD Symptoms With Relation to Symptoms of Learning Disorders in Schoolchildren in Bogota, Colombia

Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders - Vol 42, Number 1, Jan 2012
- Development and Initial Validation of a Parent Report Measure of the Behavioral Development of Infants at Risk for Autism Spectrum Disorders

http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/mentalhealthy/mh5n.html
• Examination of the Properties of the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT) in a Population Sample
• Enhanced Cortisol Response to Stress in Children in Autism
• New Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised Algorithms for Toddlers and Young Preschoolers from 12 to 47 Months of Age
• Proton Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy and MRI Reveal No Evidence for Brain Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology - Vol 21, No 6, Dec 2011
• Experts’ Recommendations for Treating Maladaptive Aggression in Youth
• The Pharmacoepidemiology of Antipsychotic Medications for Canadian Children and Adolescents: 2005–2009
• Co-morbid Disruptive Behavior Disorder and Aggression Predict Functional Outcomes and Differential Response to Risperidone Versus Divalproex in Pharmacotherapy for Pediatric Bipolar Disorder
• Risperidone-Related Improvement of Irritability in Children with Autism Is Not Associated With Changes in Serum of Epidermal Growth Factor and Interleukin-13
• An Open-Label Naturalistic Pilot Study of Acamprosate in Youth With Autistic Disorder
• Prevalence and Correlates of Psychotropic Medication Use in Adolescents With an Autism Spectrum Disorder With and Without Caregiver-Reported Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
• Pharmacotherapy and Academic Achievement Among Children With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
• Two-Year Follow-up of Cognitive Functions in Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders of Adolescent Patients Treated With Electroconvulsive Therapy
• Fragile X Syndrome and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms

• Executive Function Deficits in Preschool Children With ADHD And DBD
• Emotion Regulation Predicts Attention Bias in Maltreated Children at Risk for Depression
• A Comprehensive Investigation of Memory Impairment in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Oppositional Defiant Disorder
• Combining Information From Multiple Sources for the Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders for Toddlers And Young Preschoolers From 12 to 47 Months of Age
• Separation Anxiety Disorder in Children: Disorder-Specific Responses to Experimental Separation From the Mother
• Parenting by Anxious Mothers: Effects of Disorder Subtype, Context, and Child Characteristics
• Emotional Reactivity and Regulation in Anxious and Nonanxious Youth: A Cell-Phone Ecological Momentary Assessment Study
• Electrocortical Reactivity to Emotional Faces in Young Children and Associations With Maternal and Paternal Depression

• Young People’s Risk of Suicide Attempts After Contact With a Psychiatric Department – A Nested Case-Control Design Using Danish Register Data
• Attachment Security As a Mechanism Linking Foster Care Placement to Improved Mental Health Outcomes in Previously Institutionalized Children
• Is Sensory Over-responsivity Distinguishable From Childhood Behavior Problems? A Phenotypic and Genetic Analysis
• Childhood Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder as an Extreme of a Continuous Trait: A Quantitative Genetic Study of 8,500 Twin Pairs
• Influence of Reporting Effects on the Association Between Maternal Depression and Child Autism Spectrum Disorder Behaviors
• A Randomized Controlled Trial of Preschool-based Joint Attention Intervention for Children With Autism

Journal of Clinical Psychology - Vol 68, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Predicting Patient Deterioration in Youth Mental Health Services: Community Mental Health vs Managed Care Settings
- Brief Strategic Family Therapy Versus Treatment as Usual: Results of a Multisite Randomized Trial for Substance Using Adolescents
- Treatment of Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Suicidality Among Adolescents: A Randomized Trial
- Substance Use and Delinquency Among Middle School Girls in Foster Care: A Three-Year Follow-up of a Randomized Controlled Trial
- The Role of Family Experiences and ADHD in the Early Development of Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- Remission After Acute Treatment in Children and Adolescents With Anxiety Disorders: Findings From the CAMS

**Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics** - Vol 33, Issue 1, Jan 2012
- Autism Spectrum Disorders and Health Care Expenditures: The Effects of Co-occurring Conditions
- Changes Over Time in Reducing Developmental and Behavioral Comorbidities of Asthma in Children
- Mental Health Conditions Among School-Aged Children: Geographic and Sociodemographic Patterns in Prevalence and Treatment
- The Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Research Network: Another Step in the Development of the Field

**Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders** - Vol 19, No 4, Dec 2011
- Developmental Trajectories of Behavior Problems Among Children Who Have Experienced Maltreatment: Heterogeneity During Early Childhood and Ecological Predictors
- Onset and Progression of Disruptive Behavior Problems Among Community Boys and Girls: A Prospective Longitudinal Analysis
- A Latent Class Analysis of Depressive and Externalizing Symptoms in Nonreferred Adolescents

- Emotional and Behavioral Adjustment of Children Born Very Preterm at Early School Age
- Stimulant Medication in Preschool Children in New South Wales

**Journal of Psychiatry & Neuroscience** - Vol 37, No 1, Jan 2012
- Effects of Early-Life Adversity on White Matter Diffusivity Changes in Patients at Risk for Major Depression
- Parent-of-Origin Effects of FAS and PDLIM1 in Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

- Eating Disorders Among a Community-based Sample of Chilean Female Adolescents
- Longitudinal Associations Between Other-Sex Friendships and Substance Use in Adolescence
- A Test of the Economic Strain Model on Adolescents' Prosocial Behaviors

**Journal of School Health** - Vol 81, Issue 12, Dec 2011
- The Relationship Between Media Use and Psychological and Physical Assets Among Third- to Fifth-Grade Girls
- Examining How Neighborhood Disadvantage Influences Trajectories of Adolescent Violence: A Look at Social Bonding and Psychological Distress

- Decreased Regional Cortical Thickness and Thinning Rate Are Associated With Inattention Symptoms in Healthy Children
- Validation of Proposed DSM-5 Criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Testing the Construct Validity of Proposed Criteria for DSM-5 Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Maternal Psychopathology and Infant Development at 18 Months: The Impact of Maternal Personality Disorder and Depression
- The Clinical Utility of the Proposed DSM-5 Callous-Unemotional Subtype of Conduct Disorder in Young Girls
- Meta-Analysis of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms, Restriction Diet, and Synthetic Food Color Additives
- Practice Parameter for the Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

- Sensory Over-responsivity, Psychopathology, and Family Impairment in School-Aged Children
- Evidence for a Causal Association of Low Birth Weight and Attention Problems

http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/mentalhealth/mh5n.html
• Temperament and Family Environment in the Development of Anxiety Disorder: Two-Year Follow-up
• Racial/Ethnic Differences in Treatment for Substance Use Disorders Among US Adolescents
• Differential Patterns of Abnormal Activity and Connectivity in the Amygdala–Prefrontal Circuitry in Bipolar-I and Bipolar-NOS Youth

• ADHD Medications and Risk of Serious Cardiovascular Events in Young and Middle-aged Adults

**Journal of Youth and Adolescence** - Vol 41, No 2, Feb 2012
• School Disengagement as a Predictor of Dropout, Delinquency, and Problem Substance Use During Adolescence and Early Adulthood
• Microcontextual Characteristics of Peer Victimization Experiences and Adolescents’ Daily Well-Being

**Journal of Youth and Adolescence** - Vol 41, No 1, Jan 2012
• Youth Substance Use and Body Composition: Does Risk in One Area Predict Risk in the Other?
• Weight-based Victimization Among Adolescents in the School Setting: Emotional Reactions and Coping Behaviors
• Psychosocial Correlates of Shape and Weight Concerns in Overweight Pre-Adolescents

**Pediatric Annals** - Vol 40, Issue 12, Dec 2011
• Behavioral Health Screening and Referral in the Pediatric Office

**Pediatrics** - Vol 129, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Early Intervention Improves Behavioral Outcomes for Preterm Infants: Randomized Controlled Trial
• Family-centered Program Deters Substance Use, Conduct Problems, and Depressive Symptoms in Black Adolescents
• Early Childhood Adversity, Toxic Stress, and the Role of the Pediatrician: Translating Developmental Science Into Lifelong Health
• The Lifelong Effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress

**Pediatrics** - Vol 128, Issue 6, Dec 2011
• Antipsychotic Treatment Among Youth in Foster Care
• Paternal Depressive Symptoms and Child Behavioral or Emotional Problems in the United States
• Antipsychotic Medication Use Among Children and Risk of Diabetes Mellitus

**Psychiatry Research** - Vol 190, Issues 2-3, Dec 2011
• Schizotypy, Emotional–Behavioral Problems, and Personality Disorder Traits in a Non-clinical Adolescent Population
• Impulsivity and Internalizing Disorders in Childhood
• Increase in C-Reactive Protein and Lipids in Adolescents With Psychiatric Disease

**Psychiatric Services** - Vol 62, No 12, Dec 2011
• Best Practices: The Utah Youth Suicide Study: Best Practices for Suicide Prevention Through the Juvenile Court System
• Effects of Routine Feedback to Clinicians on Mental Health Outcomes of Youths: Results of a Randomized Trial
• Childhood Maltreatment and Psychiatric Disorders Among Detained Youths
• Receipt of Guideline-Concordant Pharmacotherapy Among Children With New Diagnoses of Bipolar Disorder

**Psychological Medicine** - Vol 42, Issue 2, Feb 2012
• Self-monitoring as a Familial Vulnerability Marker for Psychosis: An Analysis of Patients, Unaffected Siblings and Healthy Controls

**Psychological Medicine** - Vol 42, Issue 1, Jan 2012
• Movement Abnormalities and Psychotic-like Experiences in Childhood: Markers of Developing Schizophrenia?
• Replication in Two Independent Population-based Samples That Childhood Maltreatment and Cannabis Use Synergistically Impact on Psychosis Risk

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