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**To:** Credible Documentation

**Subject:** Credible Behavioral Health Clinical News and Information - February 2018



**Behavioral Health Software** 



Clinical News & Information - February 2018

## DEAR CREDIBLE,

In our February newsletter, you'll find news and information of interest to behavioral health clinicians. You can find a copy of this newsletter – along with our payer and billing newsletters, health care industry news, and product release notes – in Credible Help under General Information > Release Notes and Communications.

# **Federal Policies Impacting Behavioral Health**

SAMHSA's new approach to implementation of evidence-based practices (EBPs)

SAMHSA has used the National Registry of Evidencebased Programs and Practices (NREPP) since 1997. For



much of its existence, NREPP vetted practices and programs submitted by outside developers – resulting in a skewed presentation of evidence-based interventions, which did not address the spectrum of needs of those living with serious mental illness and substance abuse disorders. As a result, SAMHSA is moving to EBP implementation efforts through targeted technical assistance and training that makes use of local and national experts. The experts will assist

programs with implementing services that will be essential to getting Americans living with these disorders the care and treatment and recovery services that they need.

## **Mental Health Industry News**



Different approaches to understanding and classifying mental disorders

In a new report, authors representing a range of research centers and institutions discuss challenges in the conceptualization and classification of mental disorder and detail how each of three existing approaches--the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)'s Research Domain Criteria (RDoC)--handles these issues.

National Institute of Mental Health & Research Domain Criteria (RDoC)

# Shared molecular neuropathology across major psychiatric disorders

Researchers have found that autism, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder share some physical characteristics at the molecular level — in particular, they share patterns of gene expression in the brain. The study also identified significant differences between the gene expressions of these disorders as well.



Science Journal & Full Article PDF

### **Treatment Interventions**

#### Intramural researchers develop suicide risk screening toolkit for medical settings

The 11th International Classification of Diseases (ICD) will include the condition "gaming disorder." The draft document describes it as a pattern of persistent or recurrent gaming behavior so severe that it takes "precedence over other life interests." Some countries had already identified it as a major public health issue. Many have private addiction clinics to "treat" the condition.

National Institute of Mental Health and Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ) Toolkit

#### Medications for opioid use disorders

SAMHSA *Treatment Improvement Protocol* (TIP) reviews the use of the three Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications used to treat opioid use disorder (OUD) — methadone, naltrexone, and buprenorphine — and the other strategies and services needed to support recovery for people with OUD. SAMHSA has published guidance to help broaden healthcare professionals' understanding of medications that can be used to treat Americans with opioid use disorder.

TIP 63 & Full Document

### New treatment guidance issued for pregnant and parenting mothers with opioid use disorder and their infants

In 2016, over 20,000 pregnant women reported using heroin or misusing pain relievers in the past month. The Clinical Guidance offers standard approaches to a range of real-world scenarios faced by healthcare professionals working with mothers and infants. For



each scenario, the guidance offers clinical action steps and supporting evidence. The action steps reflect the best available treatment, including medication-assisted treatment for the mother and infant, and appropriate types of social supports and follow-up services.

Treatment Guidelines

# Perceptual inference mechanism for hallucinations linked to striatal dopamine

A new study finds that schizophrenia patients with auditory hallucinations often hear what they expect to hear. In fact, the hallucinations may be an extreme version of a perceptual distortion quite common among healthy people. In the new study, researchers



found that elevated dopamine could be causing some patients to rely more on expectations, which could then result in hallucinations.

**Current Biology** 

Thank you for your continued Partnership,

#### Jaclyn O'Donnell

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**Mission:** Improve the quality of care and lives in Behavioral Health for clients, families, providers and management.

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