
From: Credible Behavioral Health, Inc. <jaclyn.o'donnell@credibleinc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:16 PM
To: Credible Education
Subject: Credible Behavioral Health Industry News & Updates - February 2017

CREDIBLE

Behavioral Health Software



Industry News & Updates - February 2017

DEAR PARTNER,

Based on Partner surveys and user group feedback, Credible is now providing monthly updates on billing/payer, clinical, and industry news to help keep our Partner Community up-to-date. Below please find our monthly update focused on clinical and industry oriented news. You can find all updates for billing/payer, clinical, and industry news in the Help section.

Federal Policy Updates

21st Century Cures Act

The 21st Century Cures Act has been championed to speed up drug development, it also includes provisions aimed at improving mental health care for millions of Americans and fighting the opioid epidemic. Mental health advocates have described it as the most significant piece of mental health legislation since the 2008 law requiring equal insurance coverage for mental and physical health.

[Learn More.](#)



The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health



The US Surgeon General recently released a groundbreaking report on substance abuse in America. This report identifies drug and alcohol addiction as a significant public health concern in the United States. Full [Article: [Psychiatric Times](#) & Full Report: [Surgeon General Report](#)]

Feds Pushing Healthcare Working Protections

The Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is looking to establish new workplace safety standards for healthcare and social assistance employees. Per the Government Accountability Office, healthcare and social assistance employees are five times more likely than those in other industries to be assaulted in the workplace. [Full Article: [The Hill](#) & OSHA: [Request for Information](#)]

Industry News

Affiliations Strengthen Not-for-Profits

To get a feel for the changing landscape in the behavioral health market, consider the fact that there have been at least 100 merger and acquisition deals among providers annually for the past three years in a row. Tieman says for smaller organizations, an affiliate group with a broad base of developed clinical expertise would be more likely to fill a role as partners in their larger healthcare markets. In other words, a \$5 million organization might not have the right competency itself, but an affiliate group of several \$5 million organizations would have much more to offer. [Full Article: [Behavioral Healthcare Executive](#)]

Jail Diversion Programs Prevent Incarceration of Individuals with Mental Health Conditions

Jail diversion programs — a collaborative approach between the criminal justice system, providers, communities, and individuals with mental health conditions and their families — are effective at keeping people out of jail and getting them into services without putting public safety at increased risk. [Full Article: [SAMHSA](#)]



Treatment Interventions

Postpartum Depression Seems Distinct from Other Mood Disorders

Emerging research suggests mental disorders that often occur in association with pregnancy affect a different area of the brain than traditional mood disorders. [Full Article: [PsychCentral](#)]

Bipolar Disorder Linked to Decreased Hippocampal Volume

In a first of its kind study, that links a volume decrease in specific subfields of the hippocampus and bipolar I disorder. The University of Texas research team used a combination of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and a unique segmentation approach to discover differences in the volumes of subfields of the hippocampus. The findings revealed the reduction was more profound in subjects with bipolar I disorder than it was in the other mood disorders investigated. [Full Article: [Psych Central News](#) — Original Study: [Molecular Psychiatry](#)]

Apps for Suicide Prevention: What the Research Says



Researchers reviewed forty-nine apps, all of them contained elements at least in keeping with best practice guidelines. They found that safety planning apps provide an opportunity to deliver exposure to many different suicide prevention strategies. [Full Article: [PsychCentral](#)]

Study reveals for first time that talking therapy changes the brain's wiring

Little is known about the psychobiological mechanisms of cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis (CBTp) and which specific processes are key in predicting favorable long-term outcomes. Following theoretical models of psychosis, this proof-of-concept study investigated whether the long-term recovery path of CBTp completers can be predicted by the neural changes in threat-based social affective processing that occur during CBTp. These findings show that reorganization occurring at the neural level following psychological therapy can predict the subsequent recovery path of people with psychosis across 8 years. [Full Article: [Translational Psychiatry](#)]



Thank you for your continued Partnership,

Jaclyn O'Donnell

Executive Vice President

o. 301-652-9500 | f. 240-744-3086

e. jaclyn.o'donnell@credibleinc.com | w. www.credibleinc.com

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

301.652.9500 | info@credibleinc.com | www.credibleinc.com

This communication is proprietary and confidential to Credible and its Partners. No part of this document may be disclosed to a third party or published externally without prior consent of Credible Behavioral Health, Inc.