

## **UPDATE**

October 15, 2015

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Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison

## NIH INVESTS \$85 MILLION FOR BRAIN INITIATIVE RESEARCH: NEW ROUND OF PROJECTS FOR VISUALIZING THE BRAIN IN ACTION

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced its second wave of grants to support the goals of the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, bringing the NIH investment to \$85 million in fiscal year 2015. Sixty-seven new awards, totaling more than \$38 million, will go to 131 investigators working at 125 institutions in the United States (U.S.) and eight other countries. These awards expand NIH's efforts to develop new tools and technologies to understand neural circuit function and capture a dynamic view of the brain in action. Projects include proposals to develop soft self-driving electrodes, ultrasound methods for measuring brain activity, and the use of deep brain stimulation to treat traumatic brain injury.

Press Release: http://www.nih.gov/news/health/oct2015/nih-01.htm

### FEDERAL AGENCIES JOIN FORCES TO HELP YOUNG CHILDREN THRIVE

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announced that they have joined together to establish a new National Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (Center of Excellence). The Center of Excellence advances infant and early childhood mental health intervention that promotes the social, emotional, and behavioral health and development of young children. It has been shown to improve young children's social skills, reduce challenging behaviors, enrich adult-child relationships, improve classroom quality, and reduce teacher stress and turnover.

Press Release: http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201510070900

### FDA APPROVES NEW INJECTABLE DRUG TO TREAT SCHIZOPHRENIA

On October 5, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Aristada (aripiprazole lauroxil) extended release injection to treat adults with schizophrenia. Aristada is administered by a health care professional every four to six weeks using an injection in the arm or buttocks. The efficacy of Aristada was demonstrated in part by a 12-week clinical trial in 622 participants. In participants with acute schizophrenia who had been stabilized with oral aripiprazole, Aristada was found to maintain the treatment effect compared to a placebo.

Press Release: http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm465801.htm

## JAMA ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS TRENDS OF NONMEDICAL PRESCRIPTION OPIOID USE AND USE DISORDERS

The Journal of the American Medical Association published an article which indicates that while the percentage of nonmedical use of prescription opioids has decreased, the prevalence of prescription opioid use disorders, high-frequency use, and related mortality increased among adults aged 18 to 64 years of age in the U.S. The article is based on an analysis conducted by researchers at SAMHSA, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the FDA.

Press Release: http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201510131100

## SAMHSA PROVIDES UP TO \$154.9 MILLION TO PROMOTE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY FROM MENTAL AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

SAMHSA will provide up to \$154.9 million over several years for programs offering treatment services to people who have mental and/or substance use disorders. SAMHSA funding will support a wide array of programs addressing every part of the treatment and recovery process. These programs address mental/substance use disorder service needs; help individuals receive that treatment; and help them access supports (e.g., housing, employment, etc.) that are sometimes necessary to help people transition into long-term recovery. These SAMHSA grants will reach communities across the country, including underserved populations and those with specialized needs.

Press Release: http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201510051200-0

# SAMHSA PROVIDES UP TO \$649 MILLION FOR PROGRAMS ADDRESSING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE

SAMHSA will be awarding up to \$649 million in funding over several years for programs providing crucial prevention and treatment services addressing the behavioral health needs of children, adolescents, young adults, and their families. These programs address a wide range of behavioral health issues affecting young people and families, including suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, HIV-AIDS prevention, and serious emotional disturbance. The programs address behavioral health needs stemming from a wide variety of circumstances, including trauma and inadequate access to proper health care or other support systems.

Press Release: http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201510020900

#### HHS LAUNCHES RESOURCES SYSTEM TO IMPROVE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Health and emergency preparedness professionals now have access to the nation's first and most comprehensive system of resources designed specifically to help communities better prepare for and manage the health impacts of disasters. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, the Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) features resource materials, a help line, just-in-time suggestions, and tools to share information gleaned from real-life experiences in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters.

Press Release: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/09/20150930a.html

### **RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES**

### **NEW FROM NIMH**

### TWITTER CHAT ON PEDIATRIC BIPOLAR DISORDER: ARCHIVED TRANSCRIPT

A transcript of NIMH's Twitter chat on pediatric bipolar disorder and severe irritability with expert Dr. Ken Towbin is now available. http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/twitter-chat-on-pediatric-bipolar-disorder.shtml

### LATEST OUTREACH CONNECTION: 2015 ANNUAL MEETING ISSUE

This issue of the NIMH Outreach Partnership Program's e-newsletter, *Outreach Connection*, highlights the Program's recent Annual Meeting, which featured a number of presentations on the engagement of consumers and families in research. http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIMH/bulletins/11e8dc6

## **NEW NIH RESOURCES**

## BIOLOGY OF ADDICTION: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL CAN HIJACK YOUR BRAIN

This *NIH News in Health* article explains the biological basis of addiction, which helps to explain why people need much more than good intentions or willpower to break their addictions.

https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/oct2015/Feature1

### NIAAA SPECTRUM IS AN ONLINE WEBZINE

The latest issue of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) webzine looks at how e-health technology is changing alcohol research, and how repeated exposure to alcohol during adolescence can cause structural and functional abnormalities in the brain that last into adulthood.

http://www.spectrum.niaaa.nih.gov/

### NIDA DIRECTOR'S BLOG: GRANT AWARDS MARK THE LAUNCH OF LANDMARK ABCD STUDY

This blog co-written by multiple NIH Institute Directors highlights the launch of the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study with the award 13 five-year grants to U.S. research institutions that will spearhead the landmark project over the first half of its roughly 10-year duration. Researchers at these institutions will follow approximately 10,000 children conducting behavioral interviews and gathering neuroimaging, genetic, and other health data at periodic intervals until they are young adults. The data gathered will enable researchers to assess the effects of different patterns of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use on the developing brain and mental health as well as a wide range of other factors affecting young Americans' life and health. http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2015/09/grant-awards-mark-launch-landmark-adolescent-brain-cognitive-development-abcd-study

### SUPPLEMENT-DRUG INTERACTIONS

The Director of the National Center for Complementary and Integrated Health (NCCIH) discusses what is known and not known about the interactions that may occur between prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and dietary supplements. A new module to help understand these types of interactions is now available on the NCCIH website. https://nccih.nih.gov/about/offices/od/herb-drug

### VIDEO: TRANCEFORMATION: HYPNOSIS IN BRAIN AND BODY

This NCCIH lecture provides an understanding of hypnosis and its use to treat patients with comorbid psychiatric and medical problems.

https://nccih.nih.gov/training/videolectures/tranceformation-hypnosis-brain-body

#### **NEW FROM CDC**

### RACIAL AND GENDER DISPARITIES IN SUICIDE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS AGED 18-24: U.S., 2009-2013

Among teenagers and young adults aged 15 to 24, suicide was the second leading cause of death in 2013. Because patterns of suicide may be different for young adults aged 18 to 24 than for teens aged 15 to 17, this Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics *Health E-Stat* examines suicide rates and methods among young adults aged 18 to 24, by sex and race and Hispanic origin, using recent mortality data from the National Vital Statistics System.

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hestat/suicide/racial\_and\_gender\_2009\_2013.htm

### NEW HEALTHY YOUTH WEBSITE NOW LIVE

The CDC Healthy Youth website has a new look. The site still offers findings from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), but now has a web design that can be easily accessed via multiple devices. In addition, all U.S. and territorial school-based surveillance information from the CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (School Health Profiles, School Health Policies and Practices Study, and YRBSS) are now accessible directly from the site. http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/index.htm

#### **NEW FROM SAMHSA**

### REPORT SHOWS TRENDS IN ATTITUDES TOWARDS SUBSTANCE USE

A new annual report provides trend data on people's perceptions of the risk of illicit substances. The report also examines how those perceptions may affect the likelihood of people using substances.

http://www.sambsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014%20(1)/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/NSDLH-DR-FRR4-2014/

http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014%20(1)/NSDUH-DR-FRR4-2014.htm

### JOURNALISM RESOURCE GUIDE ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Journalists will find this new resource, developed in part with funding and subject matter expertise from SAMHSA, a helpful tool when reporting stories that include individuals with behavioral health concerns. The Carter Center published the guide, which aims to increase accurate reporting of behavioral health issues, decrease stereotypes, and help reporters better understand mental health and substance use issues. http://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2015/09/29/journalism-resource-guide-on-behavioral-health/

#### BRIEF INTERVENTIONS AND BRIEF THERAPIES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE

This resource describes brief intervention and brief therapy techniques for treatment of alcohol abuse and drug abuse. http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA15-4136

SHOULD YOU TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT A DRUG, ALCOHOL, OR MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM? (SPANISH VERSION)

This flyer, now available in Spanish, lists questions consumers can ask themselves to help them decide whether to seek help for a substance abuse problem, a mental health issue, or both. It urges those who answered 'yes' to any of the questions to seek help and lists resources for more information. http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA15-4731

### MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION: FACTS FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

This resource gives families and friends information about medication-assisted treatment for opioid addiction. It describes prescribed opioid medications, their proper use and side effects, withdrawal symptoms, and how medications fit with counseling in the recovery process.

http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA15-4443

### LINKING HISPANICS AND LATINOS TO HEALTH CARE: PROMOTORA PROGRAMS

Promotoras--bilingual, bicultural health care workers--are linking Hispanics and Latinos to much-needed social services and health care. A new National Hispanic and Latino Addiction Technology Transfer Center project is training promotoras to help their neighbors with substance use disorders.

http://attcniatx.blogspot.com/2015/09/linking-hispanics-and-latinos-to-health.html

## CONTINUITY OF OFFENDER TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS FROM INSTITUTION TO COMMUNITY

This resource helps substance abuse treatment clinicians and case workers to assist offenders in the transition from the criminal justice system to life after release. It discusses assessment, transition plans, important services, special populations, and confidentiality. <a href="http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Continuity-of-Offender-Treatment-for-Substance-Use-Disorder-from-Institution-to-Community/All-New-Products/SMA15-3594">http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Continuity-of-Offender-Treatment-for-Substance-Use-Disorder-from-Institution-to-Community/All-New-Products/SMA15-3594</a>

### FACTS FOR POLICYMAKERS: COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH

The policy brief from SAMHSA's National Child Traumatic Stress Network discusses a study comparing the types of trauma exposure, trauma-related symptomatology, functional impairments, and problem behaviors of youth who reported involvement in prostitution with a clinical group of youth who had no reported involvement in prostitution, but had a history of sexual abuse/assault. The brief presents an overview of commercial sexual exploitation of children, the results of the study, and the policy and clinical implications. http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/csec\_policy\_brief\_final.pdf

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR PERSONS WITH CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ISSUES

This resource summarizes guidelines for screening, assessment, and comprehensive treatment of child abuse and child neglect issues among people in substance abuse treatment. It discusses therapeutic issues for counselors and how to help break the intergenerational cycle of child abuse.

http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Substance-Abuse-Treatment-for-Persons-With-Child-Abuse-and-Neglect-Issues/All-New-Products/SMA15-3604

## PARTNERSHIP POST: OCTOBER IS HEALTH LITERACY MONTH

In observance of Health Literacy Month, the HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships enewsletter focuses on the importance of health literacy to support healthy communities and lists tools community leaders can use increase health literacy in their own communities.

http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/resources/newsletter/index.html

## PTSD RESEARCH QUARTERLY: NEW RESEARCH IN TREATING CHILD AND ADOLESCENT TRAUMA

The latest issue of *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Research Quarterly* from the National Center for PTSD provides a review of the literature on the effectiveness of cognitive behavioral therapy treatments for children and adolescents with PTSD. http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/publications/ptsd-rq.asp

### AHRQ AND NIH RELEASE BOOK ON POPULATION HEALTH

A new book, titled *Population Health: Behavioral and Social Science Insights* and produced jointly by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, is a collection of papers that highlight the varied contributions of the behavioral and social sciences to population health. While much health research seeks to improve the health of an individual, there is much to be learned by understanding the context in which individual and community health problems develop. This understanding may lead to interventions developed from collaborations from the behavioral and social sciences that improve health and well-being both to individuals and to populations with common systemic risk factors. Both agencies hope this book stimulates rigorous and relevant research that will improve the health of the nation. http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculumtools/population-health/index.html

## BULLETIN EXPLORES PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS AMONG YOUTH PROCESSED IN JUVENILE AND ADULT COURTS

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released a new bulletin that presents findings on the prevalence of psychiatric disorders among youth transferred to adult criminal court compared with those processed in juvenile court. Among the key findings, youth processed in adult court who were sentenced to prison had significantly greater odds than those who received a less severe sentence of having a disruptive behavior disorder, a substance use disorder, or co-occurring affective and anxiety disorders. http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/15juvjust/151006.html

#### **DCOE BLOG POSTS**

### WHY HELPING CIVILIAN PROVIDERS UNDERSTAND MILITARY CULTURE MATTERS

This blog post summarizes a presentation at the recent 2015 Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) Summit which addressed how civilian providers can improve their understanding of service members, Veterans, and their families by learning more about military culture. Providers can use free workshops and seminars, and information on programs that may assist Veterans. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-10-

13/Why\_Helping\_Civilian\_Providers\_Understand\_Military\_Culture\_Matters.aspx

## POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION CAN AFFECT NEW MOTHERS, FAMILIES

In observance of Women's Health Month and National Depression Screening Day, this DCoE blog post reviews the warning signs and treatment for postpartum depression. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-10-05/Postpartum Depression Can Affect New Mothers Families.aspx

### **HEALTH OBSERVANCE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

#### OCTOBER 2015

As part of the annual observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the ACF Family Violence Prevention and Services Program joins with its grantees and federal partners to offer a wide range of educational events and awareness activities.

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/commemorate-domestic-violence-awareness-month

#### HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

#### OCTOBER 2015

This month thousands of schools, communities, organizations, and individuals will come together to raise awareness for bullying prevention. http://www.stopbullying.gov/blog/2015/10/05/october-national-bullying-prevention-awareness-month

# NIH DIGITAL SUMMIT: OPTIMIZING DIGITAL TO REACH PATIENTS, SCIENTISTS, CLINICIANS, AND THE PUBLIC

### OCTOBER 19, 2015, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM ET, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

NIH is presenting its first digital summit, developed to explore how patients, health professionals, and researchers are getting and sharing health and science information in today's technology-driven world. The summit is designed to encourage discussion, so come prepared to ask questions in person or virtually. The organizers welcome participants to use the hashtag #NIHDigital to join the conversation online. Researchers, health professionals, and communications professionals interested in digital health are all encouraged to attend. A live webcast will be available at videocast.nih.gov. http://www.nih.gov/news/events/digital-summit.htm

### WEBINAR: WHY ALL THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT LOGIC MODELS?

#### OCTOBER 20, 2015, 3:30 PM ET

This HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) Resource Center webinar is being offered for community-based, faith-based, and other organizations that want to learn the basics of creating successful Federal grant applications. This presentation will provide an overview of logic models and when to use them in both applications and evaluations. The webinar will include how to write specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely (SMART) objectives and how to access logic model designs.

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1600463788458064642

## WEBINAR: USING META-ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE THE MOST EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS FOR PTSD

#### OCTOBER 22, 2015, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

This DCoE webinar will review the current guidelines for the treatment of PTSD at all points in the treatment continuum. It will highlight the significant areas where current guidelines are not in agreement, including medications versus therapy, individual medications, and behavioral therapies. The presenter will discuss variances in the evaluation of data that resulted in these differences and will review an evaluation of current studies in the form of four meta-analyses looking at more than 17,000 citations for best evidence-based treatment. http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly\_Webinars.aspx

### WEBINAR: ASSESSMENT OF PTSD

### OCTOBER 21, 2015, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This webinar will be an overview presentation that will include a general approach to PTSD assessment, an explanation of the purpose of PTSD screening and assessment measures, a review of DSM-5 revisions, and the importance of monitoring outcomes. This is an appropriate introduction for providers who are new to treating PTSD and will be a helpful review for those with more experience. The webinar is part of the PTSD Consultation Program Lecture Series, a free, monthly webinar series organized by the National Center for PTSD. Registration for Non-VA Providers:

https://vha.train.org/DesktopModules/eLearning/CourseDetails/CourseDetailsForm.aspx?tabid=62&courseid=1059776

### **Registration for VA Providers:**

https://www.tms.va.gov/learning/user/login.do?fromSF=null&oldSessionInvalidated=Y

### TWITTER CHAT: SPORTS-RELATED HEAD INJURIES AND COGNITIVE DECLINE

OCTOBER 28, 2015, 2:00-3:00PM ET

Save the date for NIMH's next Twitter chat, which will focus on sports-related head injuries and cognitive decline. https://mobile.twitter.com/nimhgov

### WEBINAR: PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN A DISASTER

OCTOBER 29, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

HRSA's Emergency Medical Services for Children Program, in collaboration with the Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center, is presenting this webinar to assist hospitals as they work on pediatric disaster plans. This webinar is appropriate for emergency department directors and staff, community disaster planners, and others interested in improving pediatric emergency care. Attendees will learn about the potential for short- and long-term effects of disaster on the psychological functioning, emotional adjustment, health, and developmental trajectory of children. In addition, key elements in the behavioral health domain essential to the provision of psychosocial support to children and families in the aftermath of disaster will be discussed. https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/npr-project/event/registration.html

## WEBINAR: GETTING TO KNOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015, 3:30 PM ET

In this HHS OMH Resource Center webinar, a Federal funders panel will reveal best practices in responding to Federal funding announcements. Opportunities for Federal funding are identified. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1409324687085554946

## WEBINARS FOR APPLICANTS AND GRANT ADMINISTRATORS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NIH APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS: NOVEMBER 5, 2015, 2:00-4:00 PM ET AND RESEARCH PROJECT GRANTS: NOVEMBER 6, 2015, 2:00-4:00 PM ET

The NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) is hosting two webinars to give participants useful insights into the application submission and peer review processes. CSR is the portal for NIH grant applications and their review for scientific and technical merit. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-154.html

## NIH REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS ON THE NIH STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADVANCE RESEARCH ON THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITIES

NIH is developing a strategic plan to guide the agency's efforts and priorities in sexual and gender minorities (SGM) research over the next five years (2016-2020). NIH is seeking input from researchers in academia and industry, health care professionals, patient advocates and health advocacy organizations, scientific or professional organizations, public agencies, and other interested members of the public about proposed goals and objectives for advancing research and other research-related activities with SGM populations. Comments accepted through November 2, 2015.

https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/10/01/2015-25026/the-national-institutes-of-health-fy-2016-2020-strategic-plan-to-advance-research-on-the-health-and

#### PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 PROCESS

HHS is soliciting written comments regarding current objectives proposed for inclusion in *Healthy People 2020*. During this comment period, the public can comment on proposed new objectives to be added to the following topic areas: Family Planning; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health; Preparedness; and Social Determinants of Health, as well as propose new objectives to be included in the 42 existing *Healthy People 2020* topic areas. Comments will be accepted through 5:00 PM ET on November 13, 2015. https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/history-development/Public-Comment

## NONDISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES: COMMENTS SOUGHT ON PROPOSED RULE

HHS has issued a proposed rule to advance health equity and reduce disparities in health care. The proposed rule, *Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities*, will assist some of the populations that have been most vulnerable to discrimination, and will help provide those populations equal access to health care and health coverage. It harmonizes protections provided by existing, well-established Federal civil rights laws, and clarifies the standards HHS would apply in implementing Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which provides that individuals cannot be subject to discrimination based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Comments accepted through November 9, 2015.

http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/understanding/section1557/nprmsummary.html

## FEDERAL POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS: COMMENTS SOUGHT ON PROPOSED RULE

HHS and other Federal agencies propose revisions to modernize, strengthen, and make more effective the *Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects* that was promulgated as a *Common Rule* in 1991. Comments are sought on proposals to better protect human subjects involved in research, while facilitating valuable research and reducing burden, delay, and ambiguity for investigators. This proposed rule is an effort to modernize, simplify, and enhance the current system of oversight. The participating departments and agencies propose these revisions to the human subjects regulations because they believe these changes would strengthen protections for research subjects while facilitating important research. Comments accepted through 5:00 PM ET on December 7, 2015.

http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/regulations/nprmhome.html

### **FUNDING INFORMATION**

BRAIN INITIATIVE: FOUNDATIONS OF NON-INVASIVE FUNCTIONAL HUMAN BRAIN IMAGING AND RECORDING - BRIDGING SCALES AND MODALITIES (R01) http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-16-750.html





The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to increase the public's access to science-based mental health information through partnerships with national and state organizations. For more information about the program please visit: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml. To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml.

The information provided in the **Update** is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education and partnership programs.