

From: [APA Communications](#)
To: lpmastaff@lpma.net
Subject: APA Headlines: Hospitalization For Serious Infections May Be Associated With Increased Risk For Suicide
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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

August 11, 2016

Leading The News

Hospitalization For Serious Infections May Be Associated With Increased Risk For Suicide.

[HealthDay](#) (8/10, Norton) reports, "In a study of over seven million people," investigators "found that those who'd been hospitalized for infections were 42 percent more likely to die of suicide compared to people with no history of serious infection." Notably, individuals "hospitalized for HIV/AIDS or the liver infection hepatitis showed the highest risk – more than twice that of people without those diseases, the study found."

[Medscape](#) (8/10, Melville) points out the [findings](#) were published online Aug. 10 in JAMA Psychiatry. An accompanying [editorial](#) observed that "the study should pave the way for novel treatment studies that probe the effects of the treatment of infection in depressed or suicidal patients."

Psychiatric News Alert



[Everett Appointed Chief Medical Officer of SAMHSA](#)

[Meta-Analysis Suggests SSRI Treatment Gains Happen Early in Pediatric OCD Patients](#)

Nominations Sought for APA's 2017 Election – M/UR Trustee Nominations due Aug. 15

APA is accepting nominations for the minority/underrepresented (M/UR) trustee. Nominees must be a member of one of the seven Assembly M/UR caucuses as of June 15 (American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian; Asian American; Black; Hispanic; Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual; International Medical Graduate; and Women). Nominations for M/UR trustee should be submitted by Aug. 15 to election@psych.org.

Nominations for the offices of president-elect and secretary, for trustees in Areas 2 and 5 and for resident-fellow member trustee-elect are due Oct. 1. Send nominations to election@psych.org by Oct. 1.

[More information.](#)



Psychiatric Treatment/Disorders

People Whose Parents, Grandparents Suffered From Depression May Be At Increased Risk Of Developing The Illness.

[HealthDay](#) (8/10) reports, "People whose parents and grandparents suffered from depression are at much higher risk of developing the illness," researchers found. Included in the study were "251 young people averaging 18 years of age, plus their parents and grandparents." The [findings](#) were published online Aug. 10 in JAMA Psychiatry.

Regular Moderate Coffee Consumption May Be Associated With Decreased Likelihood Of Suicide Attempts.

[Medical Daily](#) (8/10, Olson) reports that “a [study](#) published in the World Journal of Biological Psychiatry reveals consuming a moderate amount of coffee on a regular basis may also serve as an antidepressant strong enough to relieve symptoms of suicide.” The four-year, 200,000-participant study revealed that “regular coffee drinkers, who consumed between two to four cups a day, were 50 percent less likely to attempt suicide.”

Tissue Study Reveals Specific Signature Of Genes In Parts Of The Brain Most Vulnerable To Alzheimer’s.

[Medical Daily](#) (8/10, Chabba) reports UK investigators “have discovered a gene signature that can help understand the progression pattern of Alzheimer’s disease, making it possible for at-risk individuals to take preventive treatments that are under development well in time before the appearance of symptoms.” After analyzing some “5000 samples of healthy brain tissues from the Allen Brain Atlas,” then comparing those samples “with tissue from Alzheimer’s patients,” researchers identified “a specific signature of genes in parts of the brain that are most vulnerable to the disease.” The [findings](#) were published online Aug. 10 in Science Advances.

Female Service Members Who Experience Combat May Have Much Higher Risk Of PTSD, Other Mental Health Issues Than Those Who Do Not.

[Reuters](#) (8/10, Rapaport) reports, “Women in the military who experience combat have a much greater risk than those who don’t of developing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health issues,” researchers found after examining “data from post-deployment mental health screenings for more than 42,000 women enlisted in the US Army and deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2008 to 2011.” The [findings](#) were published online Aug. 1 in the Journal of Traumatic Stress.

Government and Psychiatry

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Administration To Remove Roadblock To Marijuana Research.

In a front-page story, the [New York Times](#) (8/10, A1, Louis, Apuzzo, Subscription Publication) reports that officials said Wednesday that the Administration “is planning to remove a major roadblock to marijuana research,” a move that could prompt “broad scientific study of a drug that is being used to treat dozens of diseases in states across the nation despite little rigorous evidence of its effectiveness,” and “sharply increase the supply of marijuana available to researchers.” While the University of Mississippi has for years “been the only institution authorized to grow the drug for use in medical studies,” the DEA will soon “allow other universities to apply to grow marijuana, three government officials said.” The Times casts the move as a further relaxation of “the nation’s stance on marijuana” by the Administration.

However, the [Washington Post](#) (8/10, Bernstein) says the Drug Enforcement Administration “will refuse again to allow the use of marijuana

for medical purposes, reaffirming its conclusion that the drug’s therapeutic value has not been proved scientifically, according to government officials.”

Psychiatry and Public Health

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Nearly One In Five Stabilized Psychiatric Patients In Minnesota Remain Stuck In Hospital Beds Due To Bureaucratic Delays, Lack Of Other Treatment Options, Study Finds.

The [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (8/10) reports, “Hundreds of Minnesotans with mental health problems are languishing in hospital psychiatric units for weeks, even months, because they have nowhere to go for less intensive care,” research suggests. The study, which was conducted by the Wilder Foundation of St. Paul, MN, and commissioned by the Minnesota Hospital Association, reveals that “nearly one in five psychiatric patients in Minnesota are stuck in hospital beds even after they are stabilized and ready for discharge, because of bureaucratic delays and a severe lack of other treatment options.” In other words, “that amounts to nearly 50,000 potentially avoidable hospital days a year, according to the study of 20 hospitals.”

Syrian, Iraqi Refugees Arriving In US Have Special Mental Health Needs.

[Kaiser Health News](#) (8/10, Varney) reports recently arrived refugees in Buffalo, New York from Syria and Iraq have “decidedly different medical and mental health needs than the previous waves of refugees from Myanmar, Bhutan, Sudan and Somalia,” according to local resettlement agencies and primary care physicians. Unlike refugees from third world countries who never enjoyed the benefits of modern

healthcare, “many Syrians and Iraqis grew up in what were once middle-income countries with modern, if fragmented and imperfect, health care systems in their larger urban centers.”

Wednesday's Lead Stories

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- **Studies Reach Conflicting Conclusions About Impact Of High School Athletics On Addiction.**
- **States Moving Beyond ACA Debate To Focus On Prescription Medication Prices, Single-Payer Model.**
- **Minority Patients Are Less Likely To Be Prescribed Opioids For Pain.**

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