

From: [APA Communications](#)
To: lpmastaff@apma.net
Subject: APA Headlines: Amyloid Brain Scans Can Change Diagnosis, Treatment Choice In Patients With Cognitive Impairment, Study Suggests
Date: Monday, November 7, 2016 7:47:17 AM

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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

November 7, 2016

Leading The News

Amyloid Brain Scans Can Change Diagnosis, Treatment Choice In Patients With Cognitive Impairment, Study Suggests.

[MedPage Today](#) (11/4, Kneisel) reported that research suggests “amyloid brain scans can change diagnosis and treatment choice in patients with cognitive impairment.” However, “the researchers cautioned that the effect of amyloid PET scanning on morbidity and mortality, as well as its cost-effectiveness, remains to be assessed.” The [findings](#) of the 228-patient study were published online in JAMA Neurology.

Psychiatric News Alert



[Neurocognitive Tests May Enhance Ability to Predict Those Most Likely to Convert to Psychosis](#)

[Medicare Final Rule Increases Payment for Psychiatric Consultation in Collaborative Care](#)

Free Webinars: Opioid Therapies and Medication Assisted Treatment

APA will present these free webinars on behalf of the Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment and the Providers' Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies.

Tuesday, Nov. 8, noon-1 p.m. Eastern

Understanding the New Federal Regulation to Increase Buprenorphine Patient Limits - [Register](#)

Wednesday, Nov. 9, noon-1 p.m. Eastern

Well Being Coaching for Chronic Pain: The Empower Veterans Program - [Register](#)

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Eastern

National Institutes of Health Pain Consortium Efforts to Enhance Pain Treatment - [Register](#)

[More on medication assisted treatment.](#)



Psychiatric Treatment/Disorders

Autumn Shift From Daylight Savings To Standard Time May Be Closely Linked To A Jump In Depression Diagnoses, Researchers Say.

In the [Washington Post](#) (11/5) “Wonkblog,” Christopher Ingraham wrote, “The autumn shift” from daylight savings “to standard time appears to be closely linked to a jump in depression diagnoses,” researchers found after examining “a database of 185,419 depression diagnoses in Denmark from



1995 to 2012.” After “comparing the rates of depression diagnoses before and after time changes in the spring and fall,” investigators “found that ‘the transition from summer time to standard time were associated with an 11 percent increase...in the incidence rate of unipolar depressive episodes.” The [study](#) was published online Oct. 20 in *Epidemiology*. [HealthDay](#) (11/6, Preidt) and [Healio](#) (11/4, Oldt) also covered the study.

Government and Psychiatry

Some With ACA Plans Finding Healthcare Coverage Is Unaffordable.

[Bloomberg Politics](#) (11/4, Doherty) profiled “some” of the Americans covered by Affordable Care Act who “are finding that the medical care they need” remains “too expensive to actually use,” in particular the “many people with Obamacare plans that feature high out-of-pocket costs.” The piece explained that because ACA coverage is becoming unaffordable, more Americans are turning to high-deductible plans, which means they must spend thousands of dollars before coverage takes effect. Indeed, a recent analysis conducted by the Commonwealth Fund revealed that “about four in 10 adults in ACA plans aren’t confident they could afford care if they got sick.”



Many Americans Still Depend On Charity Care, Especially In States That Haven’t Expanded Medicaid.

[Kaiser Health News](#) (11/7, Varney) reports that despite the passage of the Affordable Care Act, “considerable gaps in health care remain,” leading many Americans to continue to depend on volunteer clinics. According to Kaiser Health News, in states that haven’t expanded Medicaid, “many low income adults are still left to rely on charity care.”

CMS Approves \$52.4 Billion Overhaul Of MassHealth.

The [AP](#) (11/4, LeBlanc) reported the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has approved a \$52.4 billion overhaul of MassHealth, Massachusetts’ Medicaid program. Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker (R) has said the overhaul will make MassHealth more sustainable.

The [Boston Globe](#) (11/4, McCluskey) reported the goals of the overhaul “are to improve the health and quality of care for a population of patients that tends to have complex medical needs, while also attempting to control spending in the \$15 billion-plus Medicaid program.” The overhaul will shift MassHealth from a fee-for-service model to an accountable care model, “which aims to prevent serious medical problems and costly hospital visits by providing more coordinated care that helps members stay healthy.”

Psychiatry and Public Health



EDs Now Developing Programs To Help People Who Overdose On Opioid Pain Medications And Those Who Want Addiction Treatment.

[HealthLeaders Media](#) (11/6) reported that emergency departments are now “developing programs to get patients help not only if they’ve overdosed” on opioid pain medications, “but also if they want addiction treatment.” For example, “Boston Medical Center (BMC) last month announced the launch of its Faster Paths to Treatment Opioid Urgent Care Center.” The undertaking, “supported by a \$2.9 million grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, ‘rapidly links patients to an enhanced and integrated system of addiction healthcare delivery through inpatient and outpatient treatment services, detoxification, and follow-up care,’ according to an announcement from BMC.”

Psychiatric Medication Update

Study Examines Incidence Of Antipsychotic Polypharmacy Among Patients With Schizophrenia, Other Serious Mental Illnesses.

[HCP Live](#) (11/4) reports that the practice of “antipsychotic polypharmacy among patients with schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses...continues with enough frequency that nearly 10,000 patients with schizophrenia are affected annually in state psychiatric inpatient hospitals,” researchers found after analyzing “all discharges for 86,034 patients aged 18 to 64 years from state psychiatric inpatient hospitals during the 2011 calendar year.” The study revealed “an antipsychotic polypharmacy prevalence of 12% in this patient population.” The [findings](#) were published in the July issue of the Journal of Psychiatric Practice.

Friday's Lead Stories

- [Teens Who Stay Up Late May Be Worse At Self-Regulation, Study Suggests.](#)
- [Substance Abuse, Particularly Cannabis And Alcohol, May Be Associated With Increased Risk For Schizophrenia, Study Suggests.](#)
- [Public Option Gaining Attention As Debate Over Future Of ACA Continues.](#)
- [Middle School Students As Likely To Die From Suicide As From Traffic Accidents, CDC Study Finds.](#)
- [Health Anxiety May Increase Risk Of Heart Disease By 73%, Study Finds.](#)

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