

**From:** [APA Communications](#)  
**To:** [lpmastaff@lpma.net](mailto:lpmastaff@lpma.net)  
**Subject:** APA Headlines: Schools' Practice Of Screening Students For Mental Health Issues Varies Widely Across The US  
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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

September 14, 2016

### Leading The News

## Schools' Practice Of Screening Students For Mental Health Issues Varies Widely Across The US.

[Kaiser Health News](#) (9/13, Gold) reports, "Schools do not all screen students for mental health issues, and the practice varies widely" depending upon states. But even when children are screened, "many areas lack the community-based mental health treatment options that would be needed to help them." Despite the fact that two years ago, "the federal government announced \$48 million in new grants to support teachers, schools and communities in recognizing and responding to mental health issues," mental health issues "continue to go unidentified and untreated" in many school-age kids.

### Psychiatric News Alert



#### [Researchers Propose Rethinking Fear May Advance Treatment of Anxiety Disorders](#)

#### [Study Reveals PTSD Trajectories for 9/11 Responders Over 12-Year Period](#)

#### New APA Intensive Course: Primary Care Skills for Psychiatrists

Part on demand, part live virtual engagement, APA Learning Center's new Intensive course format debuts this month with the course Primary Care Skills for Psychiatrists. The six-week, highly interactive course provides an in-depth presentation of common primary care issues seen in patients with mental illness.

Register today and join your peers in live discussion boards, virtual office hours with faculty, pre-recorded seminars and much more. **Course begins on Sept. 19.** [Learn more and register.](#)



### Psychiatric Treatment/Disorders

## People With Cocaine Addiction Most Vulnerable To Drug Cues At Months One And Six Of Abstinence, Researchers Say.

[Healio](#) (9/13, Oldt) reports that "individuals with cocaine addiction were most vulnerable to drug cues at one month and six months of abstinence, suggesting the significance of applying interventions at these time points," researchers found. The [findings](#) of the 76-patient study were published online Sept. 7 in JAMA Psychiatry.

### Government and Psychiatry

## Senate Mental Health Legislation Vote Will Likely Have To Wait Until After Election, Cornyn Says.

[The Hill](#) (9/13, Sullivan) reports that yesterday, Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) "said...a Senate vote on mental health legislation will likely have

to wait until after the election, despite progress on a dispute over guns." When "asked if he thought a vote was more likely after the election, Cornyn said, 'I do.'" The Hill adds, "There has long been a hold-up over Cornyn's effort to attach gun-related language...that would require a full judicial hearing to ban someone from buying guns due to mental illness."

## Census Data Show US Uninsured Rate Fell To Lowest Level In Years.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (9/13, story 6, 0:35, Holt) reported that "the number of Americans without health insurance is now under 10 percent."

The [Washington Post](#) (9/13, Goldstein) reports that according to the Census Bureau, some four million more consumers gained access to healthcare coverage in 2015, "decreasing the nation's uninsured rate to 9.1 percent, the lowest level since before the Great Recession." Data show these gains were due mainly to an increase in the number of people who purchased individual policies, for instance, through Affordable Care Act exchanges.

On its website, [CNBC](#) (9/13, Mangan) reports that this means the total number of uninsured Americans decreased from 33 million in 2014 to 29 million last year. Data indicate Massachusetts, Vermont, Hawaii, Minnesota, and Washington, DC had uninsured rates under five percent. States with the highest uninsured rates included Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, Alaska, and Texas, which had a rate of 17.1 percent.

[Bloomberg News](#) (9/13, Doherty) reports data show the uninsured rate declined "in at least 47 states and the District of Columbia, with non-statistically significant changes in three states."

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### Psychiatry and Public Health

## Patients Seeking Help For Mental Health Problems May Wait Hours Longer In The ED Than Other Patients Do, Study Indicates.

[HealthDay](#) (9/13, Preidt) reports, "Patients seeking help for mental health problems wait hours longer in the emergency department than other patients do," researchers found after examining data "from more than 200,000" ED visits in the US that occurred "between 2002 and 2011." The [findings](#) were published in the September issue of Health Affairs.

### APA in the News

## EHR Data May Be Utilized To Help Predict Future Risk For Suicidal Behavior, Research Suggests.

[Healio](#) (9/13, Oldt) reports, "Data from electronic health records may be utilized to predict future risk for suicidal behavior," researchers found after analyzing "EHR data from a large health care database for inpatient and outpatient visits from 1998 to 2012." The [findings](#) were published online Sept. 9 in the American Journal of Psychiatry, a publication of the American Psychiatric Association.

### Other News

## "Collaborative Care" May Reduce Post-Concussion Symptoms For Teenagers, Small Study Suggests.

[Reuters](#) (9/13, Rapaport) reports "collaborative care" may be a better treatment for teenagers who experience concussions while playing sports, according to a small [study](#) published in Pediatrics. Researchers found that only 13% of teenagers who received coordinated care after their concussions had "high levels of post-concussion symptoms," compared to around 42% of teenagers who received traditional treatment.

[HealthDay](#) (9/13, Norton) reports that "collaborative care" entails physical and mental healthcare aimed at addressing post-concussion symptoms, whereas the traditional approach to treating concussions is described as "watchful waiting." In the study, patients assigned to receive collaborative care underwent cognitive behavioral therapy and were also assigned a care manager who coordinated the patient's treatment among their primary care physician, psychiatrist, and school.

[MedPage Today](#) (9/13, Walker) also covers the story.

### Tuesday's Lead Stories

- [Many Seniors Erroneously Denied Medicare Coverage.](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Interventions For Sexual And Gender Minority Youth Appear To Be Lacking, Review Indicates.](#)
- [Advocates Fear Bill Aimed At Training Ordinary People To Recognize, Intercede In Cases Of Mental Illness](#)

## Will Take Away Limited Resources From Mental Health Patients Needing Higher Levels Of Care.

- [FDA Staff Raise Concerns About Methodology Of Varenicline Clinical Trial.](#)

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