



CDC Releases the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

Health risk behaviors are established during childhood and adolescence and can extend into adulthood. Therefore encouraging the adoption of healthy behaviors during childhood is easier and more effective than trying to change unhealthy behaviors in adulthood. [Read More.](#)

Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (Privacy Rule)

SAMSHA and the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology recently announced the release of the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Applying the Substance Abuse Confidentiality Regulations to the Health Information Exchange (HIE)

The Substance Abuse Confidentiality Regulations, 42 CFR Part 2, govern the use and disclosure of alcohol and drug abuse patient records that are maintained at federally funded substance abuse programs. Both SAMHSA and ONC want to ensure that constituents receive every tool and resource possible to allow a more complete understanding of these Federal regulations, which were enacted in 1972 and 1975. The FAQs outline the general provisions of 42 CFR Part 2, provide guidance on its application to electronic health records, and identify methods for including substance abuse patient record information into health information exchange that is consistent with the Federal statute.

The FAQs will serve as a valuable resource to a variety of individuals, including specialty and medical providers, as well as HIE technical developers and policymakers. The FAQs are not meant to provide legal advice.

Both SAMHSA and ONC are committed to adhering to the Federal protections of 42 CFR Part 2 and recognize the importance of promoting behavioral health in electronic health records. A meeting is being planned for August 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to provide those interested an opportunity to give input on the utility of the FAQs. [Read More About Health Privacy.](#)

Data Update From The CDC

Know the facts. One of the best places to find data is at CDC WISQARS. You can run "Leading Cause of Death" reports for Ohio. Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death overall, but that varies by age group. It's the second leading cause for ages 15 to 34. [Click here for CDC WISQUARS website.](#)

U.S. Men Report: Changes in Self-Reported Health Behaviors and Chronic

U.S. males should look for ways to make healthy choices in their daily lives, including increasing physical activity, practicing healthy eating and reducing alcohol and tobacco use. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, males make up 49.3% of the U.S. population. CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) recently released 2009 data on U.S. adult health risks and behaviors. Self-reported and chronic conditions for U.S. men fluctuated from 1999 to 2009. Among U.S. males, health behaviors for tobacco use and binge drinking decreased and chronic conditions including obesity, diabetes, and hypertension prevalence increased. [Read More](#)



SAMSHA News

Many Americans are talking about health care and health insurance coverage especially these days. According to SAMSHA's 2008 National Survey on Drug use and Health (NSDUH), the most common reason why people with substance use problems do not seek treatment is the financial burden resulting from the lack of health insurance, insurance without behavioral health benefits or insufficient means to pay for treatment

SAMSHA offers information where people can find free treatment by going to SAMSHA's Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator—[click here](#). To locate facilities offering free or reduced cost services, select from the "Payment Assistance" options when designing your search.

AFSP: Bring National Survivors of Suicide Day to Your Community on Saturday, November 20, 2010

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention sponsors this day of support, information and healing by distributing a free 90-minute bilingual educational and healing broadcast to local conference organizers, who have the option to add activities, speakers, or break-out groups. [For more information click here](#).

Data Show Benefits of Treatment Far Outweigh Costs

As the U.S. economy faces unsustainable escalations in health care costs, we need to ensure that needed substance use disorder treatment and recovery programs help reduce both health care expenditures and societal costs. While relieving enormous physical and psychological burdens, treatment can also diminish the huge financial consequences that substance abuse imposes on employers and taxpayers.

[Click here](#) to download the publication *Cost Offset of Treatment Services*. The publication presents facts showing that accessible and effective community-based alcohol and drug treatment is essential to reducing society's financial burden from problems associated with drug use.

CDC Data and Statistics Features Updates

CDC.gov website features new articles on data and statistics. [Visit CDC.gov](#) to learn more.

Rise in Suicides of Middle-Aged Is Continuing

NYTimes.com

The *New York Times* reports: "For the second year in a row, middle aged adults have registered the highest suicide rate in the country, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention." [Click here to read the article](#).



Louisiana Submits Federal Request To Use Medicaid Funds for Primary Care Clinic

Louisiana's state officials have set the example for future possibilities to fund state health care activities. Under a proposed program, the state would require clinics to meet best-practice standards for primary care "medical homes" and continue to use the Louisiana Public Health Initiative as a third-party manager for the network. If approved, the program would provide clinic care for individuals earning below 133 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL) at no cost and individuals earning between 133 percent and 250 percent of the FPL would pay for services on a sliding scale. [Read more.](#)

Caring for Our Military and Their Families

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius affirmed the administration's commitment to supporting the health of our veterans recently during her speech to returning service members, veterans and their families at Bethesda's Police Academy: "These are men and women who have taken great risks and made huge sacrifices to defend our country. They have left their families, traveled to strange lands, and put their lives on the line to protect ours. As President Obama has said many times, taking care of our troops is one of our country's most sacred responsibilities, and I know everyone here agrees." [Read the entire speech.](#)

USA Today, June 8, 2010

A recent *USA Today* article reports that "Marines are trying to kill themselves at a record pace this year, despite a 2009 program aimed at stemming the problem, according to the Marine Corp data." [Read article.](#)

The Latest From Older Ohioans Behavioral Health Network News

Comment Period Open on Ohio's Olmstead Report Update.....The Ohio Executive Medicaid Management Administration (EMMA), in collaboration with several state agencies, has released a second draft of Ohio's Olmstead report entitled, *Balancing and Beyond: A Vision for Community Services and Supports for Individuals with Disabilities*. This report provides an update and a plan for Ohio's activities related to the *Olmstead v. L.C.* Decision made by the Supreme Court over 10 years ago. The final report is scheduled to be released on July 2010.

Volunteer Trainers Needed for Health Self-Management EducationSelf-management programs help Ohioans with chronic diseases learn to manage their conditions and take control of their health. The programs are proven community initiatives that provide health benefits and promote disease prevention. Currently available in 24 Ohio counties, a new \$1 million grant in funding for the Ohio Department of Aging will enable expansion of two evidence-based chronic disease self-management programs statewide through the 12 Agencies on Aging (AAAs). The AAA's are looking for individuals to become trained workshop leaders. For more information about this volunteer opportunity, call your AAA at 1-866-243-5678.

Campaign for Better Care Launched to Help Seniors with Health Care....Older adults with multiple chronic conditions face enormous hurdles in getting the care they need. The Campaign for Better Care is working to ensure that the needs of patients and their family caregivers are the focus of health care, specifically, that vulnerable older adults with multiple health conditions get comprehensive, coordinated, and patient/family-centered health care. For more information, visit the [website](#).



SAMSHA Announces a 6-Month Executive Exchange

Effective July 19, 2010, A. Kathryn Power will be assigned for 6 months as Director, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), and Frances M. Harding will serve concurrently as the Director, Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). These concurrent assignments will provide the executives an opportunity to both gain hands-on understanding of different program and policy aspects of the Agency and to share their knowledge across the Centers. This action will also be an opportunity for CMHS and CSAP staff to experience new leadership styles. The goal is to make the collaboration between the Centers more robust. No Center reorganization will occur because of this Executive Exchange Program. [Read the full announcement.](#)

A Training Package Toolkit for Child Welfare Workers

SAMSHA's NCSACW is proud to announce the launch of the *Helping Child Welfare Workers Support Families With Substance Use, Mental, and Co-Occurring Disorders Training Package* toolkit. Developed for child welfare professionals, it is intended to provide learning opportunities and baseline knowledge on substance abuse and mental health problems and interventions; motivate and facilitate cross-systems work; and incorporate cultural awareness and facilitate cultural competency in child welfare practice. The toolkit covers six modules and provides a range of training materials that were developed to be adapted to meet the needs of child welfare trainers for in-person workshops or training sessions. [Learn more or download the materials.](#)

News From The Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Announces Industry Innovation Competition....Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric K. Shinseki announced earlier this month the opening of the Industry Innovation Competition by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the most recent effort under the VA Innovation Initiative (VAi2). With this competition, VA seeks the best ideas from the private sector to address the department's most important challenges. VAi2 is a department-wide program that brings the most promising innovations to VA's most important challenges by involving employees and the private sector in the creation of visionary solutions in service to Veterans. For more information about VAi2, [click here.](#)

VA Updates Online Applications for Health Benefits....Veterans will find it easier and faster to apply for their health care benefits not what the Department of Veterans Affairs has updated its online Form 10-10EZ. This revised online application provides enhanced navigation features that make it easier and faster for Veterans to apply for their health care benefits. This new version allows Veterans to save a copy of the completed form for their personal records. Veterans may complete or download the 10-10EZ form at [the VA eligibility website](#) or contact the VA at 1-877-222-8387.

QUESTIONS? Contact OSPF at (614) 292-8585 or email at givens.62@osu.edu or holton.32@osu.edu
