Registration for IPS 2018 in Chicago Now Open

Innovate." The Scientific Program Committee encourages all submitters to keep this theme in mind while crafting their submissions. The deadline for submissions is August 1, 2018.

APA Annual Meeting Submission Site Now Online

San Francisco is now online.

APA News

This Research Highlight discusses Kononoff and colleagues' recent findings on the use of a novel molecular target associated with alcohol addiction. The study demonstrates the potential of targeting the habenula, a brain region involved in reward and motivated behavior, as a promising therapeutic approach.

PRMS Offers Practical Pointers While on Vacation or Away from Your Office

This guide is the latest telepsychiatry resource to join APA's ever-expanding suite of tools designed to support clinicians in providing care to patients remotely. PRMS offers practical tips and strategies for managing patients while on vacation or away from the office, ensuring that quality care continues even when you're not physically present.

For More Information:

ntatro@psych.org

sarah@shoctorgraphics.com

Other News

APA's new leadership team is committed to advancing the field of psychiatry and supporting members in their professional growth. The team's priorities include addressing the mental health crisis, promoting diversity and inclusion, and enhancing the value of membership. The group is composed of Dr. Saul Levin, Chief Executive Officer and Medical Director, Dr. Jon Fanning, President, and Dr. Martin J. Katz, Chair of the Board of Directors.

WPS Newsletter

The September 1st deadline is approaching to apply to become an Administrators Fellow. This program is designed for early career psychiatrists and offers support, mentorship, and networking opportunities. Application materials are available on the WPS website.

Update: Risk of Illness, Implications for Treatment

On July 12, CMS proposed historic changes that would increase the amount of money hospitals receive for treating patients with common illnesses, in an effort to reduce unnecessary hospital stays and improve patient care. The proposed changes to the Medicare Payment Program would streamline clinician billing and expand access to payment for home health care services.

Hospital and Dr. Maria Aguilo-Seara, child and adolescent psychiatrist at Children's National Medical Center. They will be discussing the importance of early intervention and the role of mental health professionals in addressing the needs of children affected by gun violence in schools.

R.I.P.: Dr. Anne Kononoff

Dr. Anne Kononoff, a leading researcher in the field of alcohol addiction, passed away unexpectedly on July 4th. Her contributions to the understanding of the addiction process have significantly advanced the field. We extend our condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues.

another area of research is to identify effective strategies for treating patients with opioid use disorder. The combination of pharmacotherapy with cognitive-behavioral therapy has shown promise in reducing cravings and improving outcomes. Clinicians are encouraged to consider this approach in their treatment plans.

One of the most significant changes in CMS's proposed reforms is the expansion of the "Promoting Interoperability" performance category within the Medicare Payment System (MIPS). This category rewards clinicians for using their Electronic Health Records (EHRs) to improve patient care by sharing meaningful information, instead of information that is only for billing purposes. The proposed changes would support greater EHR interoperability and patient access to their health information.

The 21st Century Cures Act

On August 2nd, CMS published a proposed rule that would update the Medicare Payment System (MIPS) payment program to include new performance categories. The proposed changes aim to promote meaningful interoperability between EHRs and payment systems, supporting the goals of interoperability efforts initiated by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC).

The proposed changes are expected to advance the adoption and meaningful use of EHRs, making it easier for patients to access their health information and for clinicians to improve the quality and efficiency of care. The new performance categories include measures related to patient engagement, care coordination, and health data exchange.

The ONC Interoperability Standards Final Rule

On June 24th, CMS published the ONC Interoperability Standards Final Rule, which outlines the interoperability standards that EHRs must meet to be considered meaningful. The rule establishes requirements for EHRs to exchange, share, and use health information in standardized formats and secure networks.

The new standards aim to ensure that EHRs can communicate and share information across different systems, facilitating patient care coordination and improving healthcare delivery. The standards also require EHRs to support the exchange of clinical summaries, genomics data, and other important health information.

The proposed changes are expected to promote interoperability, support patient-centered care, and improve the overall efficiency of the healthcare system. The ONC Interoperability Standards Final Rule is a significant step towards achieving the goals outlined in the 21st Century Cures Act.