



# WPS e-NEWS

August 2016 Issue

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Welcome to the August 2016 edition of WPS e-News, a publication of the Washington Psychiatric Society. Our intent is to provide members with important news and notices in an easy to read format. **We welcome your submissions. Please send all notices to [enews@dcpsych.org](mailto:enews@dcpsych.org).** This publication may also be found online in PDF format for printing at <http://www.dcpsych.org>.

## Get Involved in WPS:

One way to build professional relationships, learn new skills, and make a difference in your profession is to become involved in WPS. Opportunities range from writing articles, to assisting with events, being a mentor, serving on a task force, helping with elections, serving on a committee and more.

Tell us what your interests are: [CLICK HERE](#)

## WPS Events!

### WPS Fall Symposium

SAVE THE DATE!

Washington Psychiatric Society presents:

### DATA SECURITY AND OUTPATIENT PSYCHIATRY

Sunday, September 25, 2016  
George Washington University Hospital Auditorium  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Use Technology to Your Advantage.

Hear from the Experts!

Chanley Howell, JD "Recent Trends and Developments in Cybersecurity"  
Ann McNary, JD "HIPAA Enforcement - Risk Management Lessons Learned"  
Edward Gelber, MD "Telepsychiatry and More"  
Donald Bartnick & Eric Warman  
"The Lifecycle of PHI in Outpatient Health Care Setting"

Register Early!

[www.dcpsych.org](http://www.dcpsych.org)

Or call: 202-595-9498

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## **Washington Psychiatrist**

Washington Psychiatrist is actively seeking contributions. please send your articles to [gpperman@gmail.com](mailto:gpperman@gmail.com)  
Thank you. Dr. Perman, Editor

## **APA NEWS**

### **Psychiatric Collaborative Care to be Reimbursed by CMS**

CMS announced late this week in its proposed Medicare Physician Fee Schedule rule that Medicare plans will **begin coverage and reimbursement for "Psychiatric Collaborative Care Management Services" starting in 2017.**

***This is a HUGE win for APA, psychiatrists, as well as patients with mental health and substance use disorders.***

"Psychiatric Collaborative Care Management Services" are designed to improve care for the majority of patients who receive treatment for mental health and substance use disorders through their primary care provider. These services are based upon the "Collaborative Care Model" (CoCM) developed by the late Wayne Katon, M.D. and Jurgen Unitzer, M.D., at the AIMS Center of the University of Washington. This is the only evidence-based model of its kind and was proven effective in more than 80 randomized control trials.

Under these services (and the CoCM), the primary health care provider employs a behavioral health care manager to provide ongoing care management for a caseload of patients with diagnosed mental health or substance use disorders. A consulting psychiatrist provides the primary care practice with the benefit of his or her specialized expertise in treating such conditions, through regular case review and recommendations for treatment, medication adjustments, the need for specialty care, etc.

As you know, APA received a grant from CMS through its Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative to train psychiatrists and PCPs in the CoCM and to encourage systems to implement this evidence-based model. Having payment for these services will only strengthen this initiative. For more information about the TCPI, visit [www.psych.org/SAN](http://www.psych.org/SAN).

This win was an APA lead effort by our Policy Reimbursement team - Becky Yowell, Eileen Carlson, and Sam Muszynski - Jurgen Unitzer, M.D., and Jeremy Musher, M.D., APA CPT and RUC advisor. This could not have happened without our leaderships' focus on encouraging our members to work in new delivery models through our Board of Trustees Working Groups, the Council on Healthcare Systems and Financing, Committee on RBRVS, Work Group on Integrated Care, and the Council on Psychosomatic Medicine.

The APA administration is in the process of reviewing the rule for more specifics regarding these new codes and other provisions of the proposed rule. A final rule is expected to be issued in November.

Thank you,  
Saul Levin, MD, MPA  
CEO and Medical Director  
American Psychiatric Association (APA)

##

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## News and Notes for APA District Branches/State Associations

August 2016

*This monthly newsletter is prepared by APA's Communications Team as a benefit for our District Branches and State Associations. Feel free to share the articles below in your own newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact James Carty at [jcarty@psych.org](mailto:jcarty@psych.org) or 703-907-8693.*

*Want to keep up with APA in between newsletters? Connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (@APAPsychiatric) and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest news and updates.*

## What's New at the APA

APA applauded the House of Representatives for passing the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act, aka H.R. 2646. In light of the overwhelming support that H.R. 2646 received in the House vote, APA and 29 allied organizations sent a letter urging Senate leadership to take up the bill and pass it before the end of the year. You can read about the specific provisions of H.R. 2646 and the full text of the letter sent to Sens. Mitch McConnell and Harry Reid [here](#).

APA applauded the Senate's overwhelming vote in favor of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery act. The bill, which includes a range of measures to address the growing addiction problem, received broad bipartisan support in the Senate and is expected to be signed into law by President Obama. You can read about the specific provisions of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act [here](#).

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced plans to begin coverage and reimbursement for "Psychiatric Collaborative Care Management Services" as part of its proposed Medicare Physician Fee Schedule rule starting in 2017. APA President Maria A. Oquendo, M.D. wrote a blog applauding this news as a "huge win for psychiatry and collaborative care." APA plans to continue to offer comments to CMS until the new rule comes into effect in 2017. You can read Dr. Oquendo's blog about the CMS announcement [here](#).

In light of the wave of gun violence that has recently taken place across the nation, APA President Maria A. Oquendo, M.D. released a statement expressing sympathy and support for the victims of such events, while also highlighting resources for coping with such tragedies that are available for psychiatrists, patients and their families. Those resources can be accessed [here](#).

## Mark Your Calendar

\* National Health Center Week (August 7-13)

## Briefs For Your Newsletter

### MD, FAPA - Take the Next Step, Earn your FAPA Designation

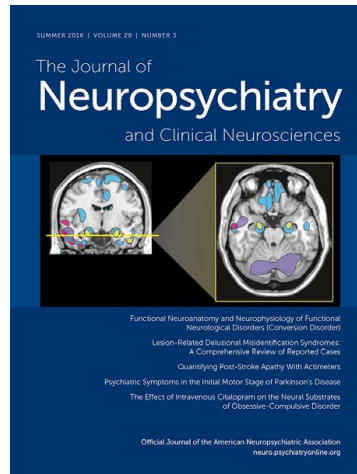
The Fellow of the APA (FAPA) designation is a way for you to signify your dedication to the profession and be recognized by your colleagues. APA General Members who are in good standing and board certified are invited to apply by September 1, 2016. [Apply Today](#)

### Applying the Integrated Care Approach

Collaborative care has emerged as the strongest evidence-based approach to providing effective mental health care in primary care settings. Take the [online trainings](#) to learn how you can incorporate this model into your practice, free through September 2019, or see if a [live training](#) is coming to a site near you. [Learn More](#)

### Help with Student Loan Refinancing

Credible's multi-lender marketplace allows borrowers to receive competitive loan offers from multiple vetted lenders. As an APA member, receive a \$150 Visa Gift Card when you refinance with Credible. [Learn More](#)



[Update on Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Implications for Neuropsychiatry](#)  
[Delusional Misidentification Syndromes: Progress and New Challenges](#)  
[Quantifying Poststroke Apathy With Actimeters](#)

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### APA Official Actions

Position Statement on Integrated Care:  
Approved by the Board of Trustees, July 2016  
Approved by the Assembly, May 2016

Issue: The American Psychiatric Association (APA) recognizes the well documented impact of untreated behavioral health conditions on outcomes, total healthcare...

[CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE READING](#)

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### SSPC's call for Abstract Submissions and Fellowship Award applications

The Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture (SSPC) is an energetic interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, clinical care, and education on cultural aspects of mental health and illness. The upcoming SSPC annual meeting at Villanova University in Philadelphia will focus on the role of families and family-centered care, addressing such questions as:

How is culture reconstructed and transmitted in the medium of the family?

How does focusing on the family as a "meso"-level structure between the "macro" level of society and the "micro" level of the individual help clarify help-seeking choices and treatment expectations?

How does societal change such as mass migration, war, and poverty affect family and individual health?

Do a cultural/community framework and effective family inclusion in care enhance clinical outcomes and reduce health care disparities?

The SSPC is now soliciting abstract submissions for paper, workshops, and symposia presentations (see [www.psychiatryandculture.org](http://www.psychiatryandculture.org) for details). We hope you can join us in Philadelphia April 27-29, 2017 at Villanova Conference Center.

Evan Workman, M.S.

[SSPC Call For Abstracts 2017](#)

[SSPC Call for Fellowships 2017](#)

