



Dear Colleagues,

We hope this latest CMHSR newsletter finds you in good health. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected each of us, and we would like to share resources specific to COVID-19 in this current newsletter. Take care.

Please follow us on social media: [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Leopoldo J. Cabassa and Byron J. Powell  
Co-Directors, Center for Mental Health Services Research  
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

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## Student/Practitioner Resources of the Month:

### **COVID-19 Resources:**

**National Council for Behavioral Health: Resources for COVID-19** [Link](#)

**Washington University: Mental Health Guidance for Managing Anxiety** [Link](#)

**PBS News Hour: Why your mental health may be suffering in the COVID-19 pandemic** [Link](#)

**NIMH: Coping With Coronavirus: Managing Stress, Fear, and Anxiety** [Link](#)

**National Council for Behavioral Health: Mental Health First Aid USA resources e.g. How to Care for Yourself While Practicing Physical Distancing** [Link](#)

**CDC: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update—What Clinicians Need to Know to Prepare for COVID-19 in the United States** [Link](#)

**Suicide Prevention Research Center: Resources to Support Mental Health and Coping with the Coronavirus (COVID-19)** [Link](#)

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## Workshops and Conferences:

### **Webinars**

**Mental Health Disparities Among Racial and Ethnic Minorities and LGBT Veterans and the Impacts of Experiencing Discrimination**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 11:00 am to 12:00 pm CDT

Veterans who are members of minority groups – whether racial or ethnic minorities, or identify as LGBT, experience mental health disparities and discrimination at higher rates than Veterans who aren't members of these groups. The April 2020 Focus on Health Equity and Action Cyberseminar addresses these mental health disparities, the impacts of discrimination on Veterans' mental health, efforts to improve these disparities, and best practices for helping to ensure that these Veterans receive the mental health services they need. [Link](#)

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## Publications and Reports:

Goff, D. C., Li, C., & Thorpe, L. (2020). Does Early Intervention Improve the Long-Term Course of Schizophrenia? *American Journal of Psychiatry*. doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2020.20020111

If a potential long-term benefit of early intervention is to be realized, attention must be focused on preserving the initial benefits of treatment over the lifespan. The current focus of research and allocation of clinical resources to the early stages of illness may have minimal impact on the dispiriting downward trajectory identified by Jonas and colleagues unless late-stage deterioration is also addressed and high-quality treatment is provided beyond the early years of illness. [Link](#)

Jonas, K. G., Fochtmann, L. J., Perlman, G., Tian, Y., Kane, J. M., Bromet, E. J., & Kotov, R. (2020). Lead-Time Bias Confounds Association Between Duration of Untreated Psychosis and Illness Course in Schizophrenia. *American Journal of Psychiatry*. doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2019.19030324

At first hospitalization, a long duration of untreated psychosis (DUP) predicts illness severity and worse treatment outcomes. The mechanism of this association, however, remains unclear. It has been hypothesized that lengthy untreated psychosis is toxic or that it reflects a more severe form of schizophrenia. Alternatively, the association may be an artifact of lead-time bias. These hypotheses are tested in a longitudinal study of schizophrenia with 2,137 observations spanning from childhood to 20 years after first admission. [Link](#)

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## CMHSR News:

### Presentations

Dr. Darrell Hudson, Brown School Associate Professor, will present via Zoom at the next CMHSR Seminar on April 29th at 4 pm. The topic of his presentation is "Black-White Differences in Depression: A Paradoxical Case in Social Epidemiology" [RSVP here](#)

### Publications

**Szlyk, H. S.**(2020). Resilience Among Students at Risk of Dropout: Expanding Perspectives on Youth Suicidality in a Non-clinical Setting. *School Mental Health*. doi: 10.1007/s12310-020-09366-x

While research supports a strong association between risk of school dropout and suicidality, this youth population remains understudied. This qualitative study addresses this gap by examining self-reported risk and protective factors among 44 alternative high school students who endorsed varying levels of suicidal ideation.

Fenwick, K. M., Palinkas, L. A., Hurlburt, M. S., **Lengnick-Hall, R. D.**, Horwitz, S. M., & Hoagwood, K. E. (2020). Acquisition of Information About Innovative Practices in Outpatient Mental Health Clinics. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*. doi: 10.1007/s10488-020-01029-y

This study uses qualitative interviews with leaders of 34 mental health clinics in the context of a statewide rollout of clinical and business innovations to explore how clinics first learn about innovations and which external sources of information they access.

**Baumann, A. A., & Cabassa, L. J.**(2020). Reframing implementation science to address inequities in healthcare delivery. *BMC Health Services Research*, 20(1). doi: 10.1186/s12913-020-4975-3

The goal of this paper is to continue the dialogue on how to critically infuse an equity approach in implementation studies to proactively address healthcare inequities in historically underserved populations. Our examples provide ways to operationalize how we can blend implementation science and healthcare inequities research.

Gertner, A. K., Robertson, A. G., Jones, H., **Powell, B. J.**, Silberman, P., & Domino, M. E. (2020). The effect of Medicaid expansion on use of opioid agonist treatment and the role of provider capacity constraints. *Health Services Research*. doi: 10.1111/1475-6773.13282

The objective of this paper is to determine the effect of Medicaid expansion on the use of opioid agonist treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) and to examine heterogeneous effects by provider supply and Medicaid acceptance rates.

Yakovchenko, V., Miech, E. J., Chinman, M. J., Chartier, M., Gonzalez, R., Kirchner, J. E., Morgan, T. R., Park, A., **Powell, B. J.**, **Proctor, E. K.**, Ross, D., Waltz, T. J. & Rogal, S. S. (2020). Strategy Configurations Directly Linked to Higher Hepatitis C Virus Treatment Starts. *Medical Care*, 1. doi: 10.1097/mlr.0000000000001319

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) cares for more patients with hepatitis C virus (HCV) than any other US health care system. We tracked the implementation strategies that VA sites used to implement highly effective new treatments for HCV with the aim of uncovering how combinations of implementation strategies influenced the uptake of the HCV treatment innovation. We applied Configurational Comparative Methods (CCMs) to uncover causal dependencies and identify difference-making strategy configurations, and to distinguish higher from lower HCV treating sites.

Stoutenberg, M., **Powell, B. J.**, Busignani, P. J., Bowersock, A. H., & Pojednic, R. (2020). Identifying Key Physical Activity Categories and Topics to Include in Health Professional Training Programs. *Teaching and Learning in Medicine*, 1–9. doi: 10.1080/10401334.2020.1730183

Healthcare is an important sector in promoting physical activity (PA). However, few health professional training programs include PA, nor does standardized guidance exist on implementing it in the curriculum. This study aimed to consolidate health professional expert opinion on key PA categories and topics that should be included in the curriculum of health professional training programs.

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