

**From:** [APA Communications](#)  
**To:** [lpmastaff@apma.net](mailto:lpmastaff@apma.net)  
**Subject:** APA Headlines: Adults With Arthritis May Have Significantly Higher Odds Of Suicide Attempts, Study Suggests  
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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

September 7, 2016

### Leading The News

## Adults With Arthritis May Have Significantly Higher Odds Of Suicide Attempts, Study Suggests.

[MedPage Today](#) (9/6, Swift) reports that research suggests "adults with arthritis" may have "significantly higher odds of suicide attempts." Investigators found, "in an analysis that adjusted for sociodemographics, childhood adversities, lifetime mental health, and chronic pain, the odds ratio for suicide attempts among adults with arthritis was 1.46 (95% CI 1.15-1.85)." The data indicated that, "compared with people without arthritis, the prevalence of ever attempting suicide was higher for both male patients (3.9% versus 2%) and female patients (5.3% versus 3.2%)." The [findings](#) of the large study were published in the September issue of *Rheumatology International*.

### Psychiatric News Alert



#### [CSF Metabolic Abnormalities May Contribute to Treatment-Refractory Depression](#)

#### [Review Finds Measurement-Based Care Improves Patient Outcomes](#)

#### How should practice guidelines influence your telepsychiatry practice?

Dr. Alexander Von Hafften discusses the role practice guidelines play in telepsychiatry practice in a video in APA's Telepsychiatry toolkit. [Watch the video.](#)

APA's [Telepsychiatry Toolkit](#) is an evolving resource for members who want to learn about the various aspects of telepsychiatry, including clinical, training and policy considerations. See more videos on other telepsychiatry specifics from APA experts, as well as other telepsychiatry resources, in the online APA [Telepsychiatry Toolkit](#).



### Psychiatric Treatment/Disorders

## Targeting Specific Brain Cells May Provide A More Effective Treatment For Anxiety, Mouse Study Indicates.

[Medical Daily](#) (9/6, Borrelli) reports that "targeting specific brain cells, rather than the whole brain, could potentially provide a more effective treatment for anxiety," researchers found after working with mice. The [findings](#) were published online Sept. 6 in *Molecular Psychiatry*.

## Government and Psychiatry

### CMS To Institute Screening Process For ACA Special Enrollment Periods.

On its website, [CNBC](#) (9/6, Mangan) reports that it may soon become more difficult to game the Affordable Care Act system, because on Tuesday, CMS officials said they intend “to screen at least some people who apply for” ACA “health insurance coverage on HealthCare.gov during so-called special enrollment periods in 2017 to verify their eligibility first.” Officials also said a new confirmation process which they implemented earlier this year, that “required people to provide documentation to confirm their eligibility for special enrollments – has led to a nearly 15 percent drop in the number of such sign-ups compared to the same period last year.” CMS stated, “We are committed to making sure that special enrollment periods are available to those who are eligible for them, and equally committed to avoiding any misuse or abuse of special enrollment periods.”

[The Hill](#) (9/6, Sullivan) reports insurers have been complaining that “people were gaming the system” by using special enrollment “periods to sign up only after they got sick, driving up costs.” As a result, the Administration has been taking action to address these concerns.

## Practice Management

### EHRs Slow Physicians Down, Distract Them From Meaningful Face Time Caring For Patients, Study Finds.

The [ABC News](#) (9/6, Mehta) website reports, “Interactions with physicians have dramatically changed since the introduction of electronic health records (EHRs), with the switch from paper intended to increase physician interactions with patients.” Now researchers have found that physicians “may spend nearly half their time documenting and performing administrative tasks rather than having face-to-face time with patients.”

[STAT](#) (9/6, Bush) reports, “Electronic health records slow doctors down and distract them from meaningful face time caring for patients,” researchers found in a “time and motion [study](#) published” in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

## Other News

### Uninsured Rate Historically Low, Survey Shows.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (9/7, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication) reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Health Interview Survey found that the number of uninsured people in the US remained historically low in early 2016, with only 8.6% of respondents living without healthcare coverage.

The [AP](#) (9/7, Alonso-Zaldivar) reports the uninsured rate “has been cut by nearly half under Obama’s law.” The survey “estimated that 27.3 million people remained uninsured in the first three months of this year, about 21 million fewer than in 2010, when Obama signed the Affordable Care Act.”

## Tuesday's Lead Stories

- [Relatives Who Care For Patients With Dementia Often Experience Frustration Due To Poor Communication, Study Suggests.](#)
- [Evidence Linking Loneliness To Physical Illness, Functional And Cognitive Decline Increasing.](#)
- [Six “Simple Choice Plans” To Be Available To Consumers When ACA Enrollment Begins In November.](#)
- [Research Examines Difficulty Of Finding Psychiatrists In The US.](#)
- [NYTimes Praises Clinton’s Mental Health Proposal.](#)

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