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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

September 27, 2016

Leading The News

Researchers Announce Progress In Diagnosing CTE In The Living.

The [New York Times](#) (9/26, Belson, Subscription Publication) reports two groups of researchers announced on Monday that they have made progress in attempting to diagnose chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) in the living, which could also affect the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease because the two conditions have similar characteristics. At a medical conference, Boston University's Robert Stern announced that technology developed by the company Quanterix has "identified elevated levels of tau proteins in blood samples of 96 former football players between 40 and 69 years old, compared with only 25 people of the same age in a control group." In a separate study published in *Translational Psychiatry*, researchers found that the biomarker AV1451 was bound to parts of a former NFL player's brain "in the same way as in people diagnosed with C.T.E. posthumously."

Psychiatric News Alert



[Experts Offer Several Strategies for Treating Premenstrual Exacerbations of Mood Disorders](#)

[Depression in Early Pregnancy Linked to Gestational Diabetes, Postpartum Depression](#)

Mental Health Works: Supporting New Moms in the Workplace

The latest issue of [Mental Health Works](#), the monthly publication from the APA Foundation's Partnership for Workplace Mental Health, features "Supporting Soon-To-Be and New Moms in Your Workplace." The first year after childbirth can be a particularly vulnerable time when mothers often experience massive biological, emotional, financial and social changes. Employers can use a variety of strategies and resources to support employees and help address postpartum distress. [Read More.](#) [Subscribe to Mental Health Works.](#)



Psychiatry and Public Health

More Than One-Third Of Calls To Suicide Hotline For Veterans Go Unanswered, Former Director Says.

The [AP](#) (9/26, Daly) reports the House is expected to vote on a bill that would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to "ensure that all telephone calls, text messages and other communications received by the crisis line are answered in a timely manner by an appropriately qualified person." The article reports that according to a former director of a suicide hotline for veterans, more than one-third of the calls received "are not being answered by front-line staffers because of poor work habits and other problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs."



APA in the News



Neural Differences May Affect Attention In Major Depressive Disorder, Small Study Indicates.

[Healio](#) (9/26, Oldt) reports researchers found “altered norepinephrine transmission among individuals with major depressive disorder, suggesting the alteration could be associated with attention in this disorder.” Investigators arrived at this conclusion after conducting “a cross-sectional study among 19 individuals with MDD and 19 age- and sex-matched healthy comparison participants,” then using PET scans to assess “norepinephrine transporter availability measured by the radioligand (S, S)-[¹⁸F]FMeNER-D2.” The [findings](#) were published online Sept. 15 in the American Journal of Psychiatry, a publication of the American Psychiatric Association.

Practice Management

Nearly Half Of Physicians Are Enthusiastic About Digital Health Tools, Study Indicates.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (9/26, Livingston, Subscription Publication) reports that a [study](#) (pdf) released yesterday “by the American Medical Association found that nearly half of physicians are enthusiastic about digital health tools, and the majority see the tools as a boon to patient care.” The study indicated that “eighty-five percent of those surveyed said they see potential for digital health tools to improve patient care.” Modern Healthcare pointed out that the “study was conducted by Kantar TNS.”

[Healthcare IT News](#) (9/26, Lagasse) reports that the study found “the broadest appeal of digital tools was in improving efficiency, patient safety and diagnostic ability.”

Other News

Zika-Related Brain Damage Can Make Some Infants Appear Developmentally Accelerated, Experts Say.

[NBC News](#) (9/26, Fox) reports that that certain reflexes in infants with Zika-related microcephaly may make the infants “seem so developmentally accelerated,” yet they actually “are a sign of the profound mess the virus has made in their developing brains.” Experts believe that the infants underdeveloped brains “continue to operate reflexively, in the way that keeps newborns alive and suckling.” The article reports that “these reflexes are good at first, but babies need to outgrow them and behave consciously if they are to grow up normally.”

Opioid Epidemic Affects Millions Of People.

[USA Today](#) (9/26, Nelson) reports on the opioid epidemic citing a report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that found 2.1 million people abused prescription opioids in 2012. Tom Hill, a senior adviser on addiction and recovery at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Substance Abuse Treatment Center, has “said that addiction affects everyone “

Monday's Lead Stories

- [HHS Unveils Initiative To Increase Mental Health Professionals And Substance Abuse Counselors Across US.](#)
- [Acetaminophen Taken During Pregnancy May Increase Risk For Asthma, AD/HD In Children, Studies Indicate.](#)
- [Arkansas Lawmakers Vote To Limit Medicaid Recipients' Mental-Health Benefit.](#)
- [Officials Responding To Calls For Improvements To Minnesota's Mental Healthcare System.](#)
- [Many People Seeking Medication Treatment For Drug Addiction Denied Coverage By Insurers.](#)

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