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| **Focus: Norms of Masculinity** |

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| [**Manhood in the Age of Trump**](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/01/opinion/sunday/manhood-in-the-age-of-trump.html?smid=tw-share)  Frank Bruni, New York Times  A real man lusts. A real man rages. A real man doesn't chip in with domestic duties. That's not just Trump's view - he once boasted that he'd never change a diaper - but also, apparently, the message that many young men in America today still get, according to an intriguing study released a few days ago.  Promundo, a nonprofit organization that promotes gender equity, surveyed roughly 1,300 American men between 18 and 30. Seventy-five percent said that they're supposed to act strong even when scared or nervous; 63 percent said that they're exhorted to seize sex whenever available; 46 percent said that they're waved away from household chores.  Promundo also surveyed British and Mexican men, and neither group described a gender construct as musky, musty and unyielding as the one that Americans detailed. The research suggested that plenty of American men live in what some sociologists call the Man Box, constricted by a concept of manhood that includes aggression, hypersexuality, supreme authority and utter self-sufficiency.  *April 2, 2017* |

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| [**Promundo and Axe Launch First-Ever "Man Box" Report, a Critical Look at Being a Young Man in the US, UK, and Mexico**](http://promundoglobal.org/2017/03/30/promundo-axe-launch-first-ever-man-box-report/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c029126b-2967-49eb-bcf9-f6a876c2d3e5.jpg?a=1127601035640 |   On March 30, Promundo and Axe, Unilever's leading male grooming brand, launched The Man Box report - a new study on young men's attitudes, behaviors, and understandings of manhood - at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) in Washington, DC.  At the report's unveiling, its authors from Promundo, alongside representatives from Axe, USIP experts, advocates, and academics, will discuss this new research on attitudes in the United States (US), United Kingdom (UK), and Mexico and what these findings mean for men, women, and the prospects for peaceful societies. The research, conducted with a representative, random sample of young men aged 18 to 30 in the US, UK, and Mexico, reveals that most men still feel pushed to live in the "Man Box," a rigid construct of cultural ideas about male identity. In fact, at least 57 percent of men report being told that a "real man should behave a certain way" at some point in their lives. This includes being self-sufficient, acting tough, looking physically attractive, sticking to rigid gender roles, being heterosexual, having sexual prowess, and using aggression to resolve conflicts.  *Promundo, March 30, 2017* |

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| [**Study sheds light on why the male suicide rate is so high**](https://www.thecanary.co/2017/03/26/study-sheds-light-male-suicide-rate-high/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/ec579df2-30b4-4e4e-81d6-b780c8a7ff09.jpg?a=1127601035640 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Bottling up emotions. Finding it hard to cry. Feeling ashamed about being depressed. Or embarrassed at the idea of reaching out for help. These are issues for many men. And the mental health effects of these attitudes need addressing. Male suicide is a growing crisis. Every two hours, a man commits suicide in the UK. It's the number one killer of men under the age of 45. Yes, a man under 45 is more likely to die by suicide than from any kind of disease, accident or at the hands of someone else. Some commentators have said that nobody knows why the male suicide rate is so high. But a new study tells us it may have to do with the masculine ideal of self-reliance. This study of 14,000 Australian men found that those who strongly identified with being self-reliant were significantly more likely to report suicidal thoughts.  *The Canary, March 26, 2017* |

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| **Recent Journal Articles** |

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| [**Prescription Opioid Exposures Among Children and Adolescents in the United States: 2000-2015**](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2017/03/16/peds.2016-3382)  *Jakob D. Allen, Marcel J. Casavant, Henry A. Spiller, Thiphalak Chounthirath, Nichole L. Hodges, Gary A. Smith*  CONCLUSIONS:  Prescription opioid-related HCF admissions and serious medical outcomes were higher among teenagers. Contrary to trends for other prescription opioids, exposures to buprenorphine have increased in recent years; children aged 0 to 5 years accounted for almost 90% of buprenorphine exposures. These findings indicate that additional prevention efforts are needed.  *AAP News and Journals, March 2017* |

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| [**Trends in Medical and Nonmedical Use of Prescription Opioids Among US Adolescents: 1976-2015**](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2017/03/16/peds.2016-2387)  *Sean Esteban McCabe, Brady T. West, Phil Veliz, Vita V. McCabe, Sarah A. Stoddard,Carol J. Boyd*  CONCLUSIONS:  Prescription opioid exposure is common among US adolescents. Long-term trends indicate that one-fourth of high school seniors self-reported medical or nonmedical use of prescription opioids. Medical and nonmedical use of prescription opioids has declined recently and remained highly correlated over the past 4 decades. Sociodemographic differences and risky patterns involving medical and nonmedical use of prescription opioids should be taken into consideration in clinical practice to improve opioid analgesic prescribing and reduce adverse consequences associated with prescription opioid use among adolescents.  *AAP News and Journals, March 2017* |

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| [**Tobacco Product Use Among Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Adolescents**](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2017/03/23/peds.2016-3276)  *Hongying Dai*  CONCLUSIONS:  Tobacco use differs among subgroups of sexual minority youth, with lesbians and bisexual girls having a higher prevalence of tobacco use than their straight peers. Heterogeneity of tobacco use across distinct sexual identity groups underscores the need to develop evidence-based tobacco control strategies for sexual minority youth.  *AAP News and Journals, March 2017* |

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| [**The scary reason doctors say kids need HPV vaccinations**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/the-scary-reason-doctors-say-kids-need-hpv-vaccinations/2017/03/31/cd764b10-0e46-11e7-9d5a-a83e627dc120_story.html?utm_term=.c1de9672b5ac)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/a8a2fee1-1351-4948-b175-a121092f7334.jpg?a=1127601035640 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   The number of people diagnosed with HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer, tumors found in the middle of the pharynx or throat including the back of the tongue, soft palate, sides of throat and tonsils - is relatively small - about 12,638 men and 3,100 women in the United States each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But these numbers are expected to continue to rise, overtaking incidence of cervical cancer by 2020.  One study revealed the presence of HPV in 20.9 percent of oropharyngeal tumors before 1990, compared with 65.4 percent in those sampled after 2000.  *Washington Post, April 2, 2017* |

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| [**Pediatric ADHD Accounts for 6 Million Physician Visits Annually**](http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/877849)   Children aged 4 to 17 years who have a primary diagnosis of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) collectively made 6.1 million visits to physicians' offices in 2012-2013, new research shows. "Health care utilization related to ADHD is of interest because the prevalence of parent-reported ADHD diagnosis among US children and adolescents has increased in recent years," Michael Albert, MD, MPH, Hyattsville, Maryland, and colleagues write. More than twice as many boys aged 4 to 17 years made an AHDH-related visit in 2012-2013, at 147 visits per 1000 boys, compared to 62 visits per 1000 girls. This held true for the two age groups assessed, with boys aged 4 to 12 making 156 visits per 1000 boys vs 59 visits per 1000 girls. For children aged 13 to 17, boys made 130 visits per 1000 boys compared with 67 visits per 1000 girls.  *Medscape, March 28, 2017* |

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| [**New study from New Zealand shows HPV vaccine has reduced rates of genital warts**](http://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/well-good/teach-me/90964319/new-study-shows-hpv-vaccine-has-reduced-rates-of-genital-warts)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/71441b48-5776-4b9e-922a-e00666c12705.jpg?a=1127601035640 |   The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine was introduced in New Zealand in 2008 to prevent cervical cancer. It is free to all men and women aged nine to 26 inclusive. This is because 99.7 per cent of cervical cancers are associated with the sexually transmissible infection. There is mounting evidence the HPV vaccination program is preventing cervical disease. This includes both precancerous lesions and cervical cancer. Although it takes 10 to 20 years from HPV infection until cervical cancer develops, the data are already showing a 17 per cent decline in precancerous lesions in women aged 25 to 29. But the human papillomavirus is also responsible for causing genital warts. Despite a range of questions about the vaccine's efficacy in this area, a recent New Zealand study has shown a large reduction in genital warts.  *Stuff.nz, March 29, 2017* |

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| [**Overweight boys much more likely to suffer liver disease when older**](http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/health/overweight-boys-much-more-likely-to-suffer-liver-disease-when-older-35550310.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/d537fcca-65c6-4c7b-b1bb-565911e0595c.jpg?a=1127540955157 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Young men who are overweight or obese run a higher risk of developing severe liver disease or liver cancer in later life, according to new research. A high Body Mass Index (BMI) is associated with an increased risk of severe liver disease and liver cancer in adults, while also increasing the risk for type two diabetes. Researchers led by Dr Hannes Hagström, of the Centre for Digestive Diseases at the Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden, set out to investigate how BMI in early adolescents impacted on liver problems later in life. They used registered data from more than 1.2 million Swedish men enlisted for military conscription between 1969 and 1996. The men were followed up from one year after conscription through until December 31, 2012, for the research published in the journal 'Gut'. Results showed that there were 5,281 cases of severe liver disease, including 251 cases of liver cancer. The researchers discovered that overweight men were almost 50pc more likely, and obese men more than twice as likely, to develop liver disease in later life than men of normal weight.  *Independent.IE, March 27, 2017* |

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| [**New drug breakthrough can cure hep C in kids**](http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/2017/03/25/new-drug-breakthrough-can-cure-hep-c-kids/99485902/)  A new cure for hepatitis C in children and adolescents is on the way, promising to help some of the silent victims of a nationwide heroin epidemic. A Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center doctor who helped lead the research for the drug combination says the new medication regiment brings hope for all children with the disease. "Years ago, I told my patients' parents that, in your child's lifetime, we're going to have a cure for this," said Dr. William Balistreri, lead author of the study and medical director emeritus for Cincinnati Children's Pediatric Liver Care Center. Before this, he said, "there wasn't anything that was really reliable."  *Cincinnati.com, March 25, 2017* |

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| [**COLLEGE MASCULINITY AND MENTAL HEALTH**](https://studybreaks.com/2017/03/22/male-mental-health/)  *The stigma discouraging men from discussing their mental health is especially dangerous in college.*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/80bc0e67-3c34-4762-ad13-4f8f6943deeb.jpg?a=1127540955157 |   It is sadly ironic that it is man's inability to look vulnerable or weak in the eyes of others that inhibits them from admitting to suffering at the hands of mental illness, because it's these same men that are exhibiting incredible strength and perseverance as they battle tirelessly against the illness every day. If only men were able to see obtaining help and defeating mental illness through a competitive lens as they do for so many other aspects in life, then they would realize that it's an accomplishment, not a defeat.  *StudyBreaks.com, March 22, 2017* |

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| [**LESSONS ON MALE INSECURITY (AND INDIGESTION) FROM WALT WHITMAN'S MEN'S-HEALTH COLUMN**](http://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/lessons-on-male-insecurity-and-indigestion-from-walt-whitmans-mens-health-column)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/d932fb9f-f091-448f-bd8d-cd1abc09a3e3.jpg?a=1127540955157 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   In 1858, Walt Whitman, at the age of thirty-nine, was eking out a living as a journalist at the Brooklyn Daily Times, generating thousands of words a week at an unflagging pace. Adrift and demoralized, Whitman cultivated a bohemian image and dreamed of reinventing himself as a travelling orator. Instead, that fall, he attached himself to a more mundane endeavor, as the author of a series of advice columns for the New York Atlas on the topic of men's health. The articles, which are collected in a new book, " Manly Health and Training: To Teach the Science of a Sound and Beautiful Body ," brim with piquant digressions and bumptious, often contradictory advice on diet, exercise, and beauty. Whitman implores men to do things briskly: walking, showering, rubbing themselves down with dry cloths and hair gloves. He likes stale bread and fresh air; he foresees the rise of athletic footwear, noting that "the shoe now specially worn by the base-ball players" should be "introduced for general use." It's easy to roll your eyes at his dictates, especially when they come under such blustering headers as "the great american evil-indigestion" and "could there be an entire nation of vigorous and beautiful men?" (Short answer: I don't see why not!)  *New Yorker, March 21, 2017* |

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| [**Studies Suggest Cautious Optimism About Declines In Teen Opioid Use**](http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/03/20/520536729/studies-suggest-cautious-optimism-about-declines-in-teen-opioid-use)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/6264be6e-caa7-4275-9751-1619e763d458.jpg?a=1127540955157 |   In the midst of an opioid epidemic that continues to devastate families, a sliver of hope has arrived. Two long-term studies published Monday show that opioid use among teens and opioid poisonings among younger children are on the decline. Though it gets less press, the opioid epidemic has been hitting teens and children hard, with hospitalization rates for opioid exposures nearly doubling for teens and more than doubling for kids under 5 between 1997 and 2012. But family members' opioids are a major source for youth who use them, and opioid prescriptions have been decreasing since around 2011, reducing youth access to the drugs, noted both studies' authors. "It is our hope that these declines are due to careful prescribing practices and enhanced monitoring of prescription opioids among adolescents that will eventually translate to a reduction in negative opioid-related consequences, such as overdoses," says Sean Esteban McCabe, the lead author of one of the studies and a research professor at the University of Michigan Substance Abuse Research Center.  *NPR, March 20, ,2017* |

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| [**Most Teens Who Abuse Opioids 1st Got Them from a Doctor**](http://www.livescience.com/58325-teens-who-abuse-opioids-start-with-prescription.html)  *Most American teenagers who abuse opioid drugs first received the drugs from a doctor, a new study finds.*  Researchers looked at trends in the use of prescription opioids among U.S. adolescents from 1976 to 2015. They found a strong correlation between teens' taking the drugs for medical reasons and then later taking them for "nonmedical" reasons, or in other words, abusing them, according to the study published today (March 20) in the journal Pediatrics. "One consistent finding we observed over the past two decades is that the majority of nonmedical users of prescription opioids also have a history of   medical use of prescription opioids ," said study author Sean McCabe, a research professor at the University of Michigan.    [Long-Term Trends in Pediatric Opioid Use and Misuse in the U.S.](http://www.jwatch.org/na43746/2017/03/20/long-term-trends-pediatric-opioid-use-and-misuse-us)  *Christine M. Judge, MS, Louis M. Bell, MD reviewing Allen JD et al. Pediatrics 2017 Mar 20. McCabe SE et al.Pediatrics 2017 Mar 20. Rosen DA and Murray PJ. Pediatrics 2017 Mar 20.*    live science, March 20, 2017 |

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| [**HPV educational session may boost vaccination rates in high school students**](http://www.clinicaladvisor.com/pediatrics-information-center/knowledge-of-hpv-improved-among-students-after-educational-session/article/644846/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/623180eb-d70a-4c00-b4ed-cf40275e9149.jpg?a=1127483435763 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   A majority of high school seniors had a basic knowledge of human papillomavirus (HPV) and understood the benefits of the HPV vaccine after a 30-minute educational session, according to data presented at the 2017 national conference of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP). Before the lecture, only 26% of the students understood what HPV was. Of the 74% of students who did not know what HPV was, 94% understood after the lecture. The researchers found that 91% of students who had received the  HPV vaccine   before the session stated that they were likely to receive further doses of the vaccine. In addition, 67% of students who had never received the vaccine stated that they were likely to receive the vaccine after the session. Among those who were unsure if they received the vaccine, 91% indicated that they would receive the vaccine after the session. Overall, the results showed that after the educational session, 95% of the high school seniors understood what HPV was and understood the benefit of the vaccine, and 86% were likely to receive the vaccine. "In this time of increasing vaccine refusal by parents, educating seniors appears to be a promising way to increase HPV vaccination rates," the authors concluded.  *Clinical Advisor, March 17, 2017* |

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| [**Exploring the Road to HIV-HCV Eradication in the DAA Era**](http://www.contagionlive.com/news/exploring-the-road-to-hiv-hcv-eradication-in-the-daa-era#sthash.cXaRpCLk.dMLdnnhr.dpuf)  Coinfection with HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a common occurrence, with approximately 25% of HIV-infected patients in the United States being HCV-positive as well. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HIV-HCV coinfection significantly increases patient risk for developing liver disease, often leading to liver-related death in coinfected individuals. A group based in France recently presented research they hope can lead to the eradication of HIV-HCV coinfection, potentially paving the way to rid the world of HCV in HIV-positive patients.  *Contagion Live, March 16, 2017* |

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| [**HHS Secretary Signals Opening for Anti-Vax Movement**](https://www.medpagetoday.com/Pediatrics/Vaccines/63871)  *Declines to endorse universal vaccination for measles, mumps*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/1724a7e6-4f1b-436e-8545-04ef33b3cc5e.png?a=1127483435763 |   Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, MD, declined to endorse universal vaccination during a CNN   "Town Hall" on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Wednesday night, instead saying only that vaccine regulations should be left up to states. Price's remarks came during a question from an audience member about what type of insurance she would be allowed to buy if the House Republicans' bill to replace the ACA became law. "Should it be required -- measles, mumps, those kinds of immunizations?" Blitzer said. Price responded "I believe it's a perfectly appropriate role... for government -- this happens by and large at the state government level, because they're the ones that have public health responsibility -- to determine whether or not immunizations are required for a community population, whether it's growing kids or the like, or, if it's an outbreak of a particular infectious disease, whether immunization ought to be required or be able to be utilized," Price said.  *MedPage Today, March 16, 2017* |

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| [**Legislative activity related to the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in the United States (2006-2015): a need for evidence-based policy**](https://www.dovepress.com/legislative-activity-related-to-the-human-papillomavirus-hpv-vaccine-i-peer-reviewed-article-RMHP)  State-based policies to mandate HPV vaccination are politically challenging and have received broad criticisms. There is a critical need to understand the legislative activities that underpin subsequent policy implementation. The objective of this policy analysis was to analyze state legislation that focused on HPV vaccination from 2006-2015. A content analysis was conducted among primary sources of legislative data from HPV vaccine-related bills, including using the National Conference of State Legislatures as a search-source. Findings reveal that much of the legislative activity occurred early after the HPV vaccination was introduced, and focused on increased information for parents, public financing, awareness campaigns, etc. Far fewer states focused on voluntary or mandatory vaccination. Understanding the barriers to achieving mandatory vaccination policy and implementation of such policies for HPV vaccines remains a public health priority.  *Dove Press, March 13, 2017* |

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| [**First Ever App for ADHD Families, iGotThis, Launches Kickstarter Campaign**](http://www.wbiw.com/state/archive/2017/03/first-ever-app-for-adhd-families-igotthis-launches-kickstarter-campaign.php)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c4f0f130-de33-4921-b7d1-cce06afb4ca4.png?a=1127483435763 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   iGotThis, LLC. of Cincinnati, Ohio has launched a Kickstarter Campaign   for the iGotThis solution. "iGotThis is the first task management system designed specifically for ADHD families. It helps ADHD kids get stuff done and stay focused, while building their self-esteem. It has a built-in rewards system and badges to keep them motivated and gives real-time notifications to parents so they stay in the loop without hovering." explains iGotThis founder, Rich Schramm.  *WBIW, March 13, 2017* |

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| [**Few Teens Treated Well for Opioid Addiction**](https://www.medpagetoday.com/psychiatry/addictions/63769)  *Barely one in 50 gets medication-assisted therapy*    Just a small fraction of adolescents with opioid addiction will receive medications that can help them quit, new research shows. These medications, usually methadone or buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone), are prescribed to reduce craving for opiates and ease withdrawal symptoms, and studies show they help opiate users to abstain. In 2016, the American Academy of Pediatrics advised doctors to consider medication-assisted treatment, specifically Suboxone, for adolescents with "severe opioid use disorders." To get a "baseline" sense of medication-assisted treatment in adolescents with opiate or heroin addiction, Kenneth Feder of Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in Baltimore and his colleagues looked at data on 139,092 patients receiving treatment at publicly funded programs in the United States in 2013. While 26% of adult heroin addicts received medication-assisted treatment, that was true for just 2% of adolescents. Among patients addicted to opiates, 12% of adults received medication, compared to less than 1% of adolescents, the researchers reported in the  Journal of Adolescent Health , online March 1.  *MedPage Today, March 12, 2017* |

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| [**UK:"Things Guys Don't Talk About": New social media film for Childline**](http://www.netimperative.com/2017/03/things-guys-dont-talk-new-social-media-film-childline/#.WMsI8vBV3wk.twitter)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/6da71270-1b3c-4338-85b8-af8a3a4e387a.jpg?a=1127483435763 |   Creative agency, Don't Panic, has created a hero film 'Things Guys Don't Talk About' for Childline, as part of its #ToughToTalk campaign, which aims to empower boys to seek support for suicidal feelings. The film was created using case-studies from boys that suffer from suicidal thoughts and feelings which to highlight the signs of suicidal behaviour. Figures reveal that boys are six times less likely than girls to talk to counsellors about suicidal thoughts. Childline is urging boys to speak out about suicidal feelings as figures reveal they are six times less likely than girls to talk to counsellors about thoughts of ending their lives. The film was created using real accounts from boys over suicidal thoughts and feelings which are subtly referenced throughout the film to indicate to the viewer the signs that someone might be experiencing suicidal thoughts.  *NetImperative, March 8, 2017* |

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| [**Past-year prevalence of prescription opioid misuse among those 11 to 30 years of age in the United States: A systematic review and meta-analysis**](http://www.journalofsubstanceabusetreatment.com/article/S0740-5472%2816%2930446-9/fulltext?rss=yes) |

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| Misuse of prescription opioids has played an important role in national increases of fatal and non-fatal drug overdose, heroin use and injection, and HIV and HCV infection among young people. The observed high and increasing prevalence of prescription opioid misuse is an urgent public health issue. |

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| *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, March 7,2017* |

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| [**Few teens receive effective treatment for opioid addiction**](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-addiction-teens-idUSKBN16H2GK)  Just a small fraction of adolescents with opioid addiction will receive medications that can help them quit, new research shows. These medications, usually methadone or suboxone, are prescribed to reduce craving for opiates and ease withdrawal symptoms, and studies show they help opiate users to abstain. In 2016, the American Academy of Pediatrics advised doctors to consider medication-assisted treatment, specifically suboxone, for adolescents with "severe opioid use disorders." To get a "baseline" sense of medication-assisted treatment in adolescents with opiate or heroin addiction, Kenneth Feder of Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in Baltimore and his colleagues looked at data on 139,092 patients receiving treatment at publicly funded programs in the United States in 2013.While 26 percent of adult heroin addicts received medication-assisted treatment, that was true for just 2 percent of adolescents.  *Reuters, March 10, 2017* |

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| [**When Japan Had a Third Gender**](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/10/arts/design/when-japan-had-a-third-gender.html?smid=tw-share&_r=0) |

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| Detail of "Two Couples in a Brothel" (1769-70), by Suzuki Harunobu.   Credit Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times  A figure in a translucent kimono coyly holds a fan. Another arranges an iris in a vase. Are they men or women?  As a mind-bending exhibition that opened Friday at the Japan Society illustrates, they are what scholars call a third gender - adolescent males seen as the height of beauty in early modern Japan who were sexually available to both men and women. Known as wakashu, they are one of several examples in the show that reveal how elastic the ideas of gender were before Japan adopted Western sexual mores in the late 1800s.  The show, "A Third Gender: Beautiful Youths in Japanese Prints,"   arrives at a time of ferment about gender roles in the United States and abroad. Bathroom rights for transgender people have become a cultural flash point. The notion of "gender fluidity" - that it's not necessary to identify as either male or female, that gender can be expressed as a continuum - is roiling traditional definitions.  *New York Times, March 10,2017* |

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| [**Quality improvement project helps pediatricians diagnose, manage ADHD**](http://www.aappublications.org/news/2017/03/09/Chapters030917)  A pilot project to improve the care of children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) led to a reduction in symptoms as well as increased confidence among pediatricians in diagnosing and managing the disorder. At the end of the project, children with ADHD experienced a 12% reduction in symptoms, as measured by parent and teacher assessment. Furthermore, 70% of providers reported increased confidence in diagnosing ADHD and 83% reported increased confidence in managing and treating ADHD.  *AAP Gateway, March 9, 2017* |

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| [**French Study Points to Eradication of HIV-HCV Coinfection**](http://www.infectiousdiseaseadvisor.com/hepatitis/hiv-hcv-coinfection-eradication/article/642433/)  The French are reporting that with optimal use of hepatitis C virus (HCV) direct-acting antiviral based treatments, it may be possible to nearly eradicate HIV-HCV coinfection in France within 10 years in most of risk groups. The researchers presented a mathematical model at CROI 2017 suggesting a new era in terms of these two coinfections. HIV-HCV co-infection is highest among gay males.  *Infectious Disease Advisor, March 8, 2017* |

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| [**UK: Boys urged to 'open up' about suicidal feelings by new campaign**](http://news.sky.com/story/boys-urged-to-open-up-about-suicidal-feelings-by-new-campaign-10793258)  *The number of suicides among boys is much higher than girls, yet ChildLine says young men are six times less likely to seek help.*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/1a8b5c33-8403-49a6-8c63-6b70c1b88bd3.jpg?a=1127423918073 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   ChildLine says it delivered 1,934 counselling sessions for boys, compared with 11,463 for girls - however, national figures show the number of suicides among young men is considerably higher. Official figures from across the UK in 2015 show there were 168 deaths attributable to suicide among boys aged 10 to 19, and 63 deaths among girls in the same age range. It is hoped the Tough to Talk campaign will help boys struggling with suicidal feelings to realise they can seek support from ChildLine if they are unable to talk to friends or family.  *Sky News, March 7, 2017* |

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| [**Self-persuasion iPad app spurs low-income parents to protect teens against cancer-causing hpv**](https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-03-self-persuasion-ipad-app-spurs-low-income.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/1098c832-8b5c-4868-93a4-d177030e34db.jpg?a=1127423918073 |   As health officials struggle to boost the number of teens vaccinated against the deadly human papillomavirus, a new study from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, found that self-persuasion works to bring parents on board. The new study follows an earlier SMU study that found guilt, social pressure or acting solely upon a doctor's recommendation was not related to parents' motivation to vaccinate their kids. For the SMU study, the researchers educated parents in a waiting room by providing a custom-designed software application running on an iPad tablet. The program guided the parents in English or Spanish to scroll through audio prompts that help them think through why HPV vaccination is important. The parents verbalized in their own words why it would be important to them to get their child vaccinated. Inability to read or write wasn't a barrier.  *Medical Xpress, March 7, 2017* |

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| [**J&J's Janssen taps Japanese digital health company Welby for ADHD app**](http://www.mobihealthnews.com/categories/pharma)  Japanese digital health company Welby has collaborated with Janssen, a pharmaceutical division of Johnson & Johnson, to develop a mobile app for people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD. The app will be available on iOS and Android throughout Japan. The app is part of Janssen's Healthy Mind program, an initiative to reduce stigma around mental health in the Asia Pacific region. The app is part of Janssen's Healthy Mind program, an initiative to reduce stigma around mental health in the Asia Pacific region. The pharmaceutical company previously developed apps with Welby for use by patients with prostate cancer and chronic pain, and is looking to expand into more therapeutic areas. The app features medication reminders, goal-setting and schedule management tools. Medication adherence is a big goal of the app.  *Mobile Health News, March 6, 2017* |

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| [**Why Didn't Gay Rights Cure Gay Loneliness?**](http://highline.huffingtonpost.com/articles/en/gay-loneliness/)  ***Together Alone - The Epidemic of Gay Loneliness***   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/3d370a95-f507-433d-a2e7-020286c7828a.jpg?a=1127423918073 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   For years I've noticed the divergence between my straight friends and my gay friends. While one half of my social circle has disappeared into relationships, kids and suburbs, the other has struggled through isolation and anxiety, hard drugs and risky sex. Even as we celebrate the scale and speed of societal acceptance, the rates of depression, loneliness and substance abuse in the gay community remain stuck in the same place they've been for decades. Gay people are now, depending on the study, between   2 and 10 times more likely than straight people to take their own lives. We're twice as likely to have a major depressive episode. And just like the last epidemic we lived through, the trauma appears to be concentrated among men. In a survey of gay men who recently arrived in New York City, three-quarters suffered from anxiety or depression, abused drugs or alcohol or were having risky sex-or some combination of the three. Despite all the talk of our "chosen families," gay men have fewer close friends than straight people or gay women. In a survey of care-providers at HIV clinics, one respondent told researchers: "It's not a question of them not knowing how to save their lives. It's a question of them knowing if their lives are worth saving."  *Huffington Post, March 2, 2017* |

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| [**HIV Vaccine Shows 'Positive Signal' in Small Study**](http://www.medpagetoday.com/MeetingCoverage/CROI/63230)  Several HIV patients treated with a therapeutic vaccine strategy appear now to be able to control the virus without drugs, a researcher said here.  Five patients in a small trial have been off antiretroviral therapy for between 5 and 27 months without the usual skyrocketing HIV viral load that follows an interruption of treatment, according Beatriz Mothe, MD, PhD, of the Spanish AIDS research institute IrsiCaixa in Barcelona. "They go up, they go down" but their HIV viral load remains relatively low, Mothe told  MedPage Today   during a media briefing at the annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.  *Medpage Today, February 17, 2017* |

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| [**Practical Approaches to Optimize Adolescent Immunization**](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2017/02/08/peds.2016-4187)  Health care providers must continuously strive to educate their patients and develop skills that can help parents and adolescents overcome vaccine hesitancy. Research on strategies to achieve higher vaccination rates is ongoing, and it is important to increase the knowledge and implementation of these strategies. This clinical report focuses on increasing adherence to the universally recommended vaccines in the annual adolescent immunization schedule of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.  *AAP Gateway, February 2017* |

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| [**Menstruation 101 For Boys: A Comic Book Is Their Guide**](http://health.wusf.usf.edu/post/menstruation-101-boys-comic-book-their-guide#stream/0)   |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/886c9eea-1731-434a-9552-dea3639ee090.jpg?a=1127362980669 |   A comic book about menstruation ... aimed at boys? That's what Indonesia has created. It started when a UNICEF team there looked at what happens when a girl gets her period. In a survey of over 1,100 girls, the team found lots of concerns about the cruel remarks boys would make. They'd point at a girl's stained skirt and say, "Hey, it's leaking." Or when a girl put her book bag behind her back to hide any stains, they'd say things like, "Why are you acting weird?" Why is staining a problem? There are not enough toilets in schools - only 1 per 100 students in Indonesia - so girls may not be able to change their pads as needed. Or there may not be a place to dispose of soiled pads in schools. The comic book tells boys that menstruation is perfectly normal. It's experienced every month by millions of girls and women, including their moms. And it's important to be courteous and supportive to friends.  *wusf, March 4, 2017* |

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| [**Indian young people offered progressive advice on sexuality**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-39062993)  *An Indian government resource kit on adolescent health has received acclaim because of its progressive stance on sexuality.*  The resource kit by the National Health Mission, written in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, is aimed at "peer educators" - young girls and boys who will be responsible for reaching out to adolescents and discussing issues relating to their physical and mental health and development. The concept of masculinity is another issue dealt with in the resource kit. In a society dominated by patriarchy, boys are forbidden from showing their softer side and are told at a very young age that they are not meant to cry or show feelings. Gender stereotypes box men into roles that are meant to be strong and macho and tell girls to be soft-spoken and feminine. The resource book says that it's OK for a boy or a man to cry to vent his feelings, be soft-spoken or shy, just as it's OK for a girl to be outspoken or dress like boys or play sports generally identified as male sports. It cautions people against labelling boys who don't fit the gender stereotypes as "sissy" or describing outspoken girls as "tomboyish". "Men and boys are as weighed down by gender stereotypes and social conditioning as women are. Talking about gender equality therefore also inspires males to challenge the cultural messages about masculinity," said Rebecca Tavares, representative of the UN Women Office for India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka.  *BBC, March 4, 2017* |

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| [**ADHD, asthma rates significantly higher among impoverished children**](http://www.healio.com/pediatrics/add-adhd/news/online/%7B93a75671-e939-4c74-8c9e-5375e8b9e0dd%7D/adhd-asthma-rates-significantly-higher-among-impoverished-children)  Parent-reported lifetime prevalence and comorbidity of asthma, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and autism spectrum disorder in children were differentially influenced by poverty status, according to recent study findings. "The well-established relationship between childhood poverty and greater risk for chronic conditions may place children living in low-income families in double jeopardy for greater need of care and poorer access to care,"   Christian D. Pulcini, MD, Med, MPH, and colleagues   wrote. "This rise in disease risk is coupled with an overall increase in childhood poverty within this time period."  *Helio.com, March 3, 2017* |

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| [**Transgender children are at greater risk of mental health problems**](https://www.sciencenews.org/blog/science-public/transgender-children-are-greater-risk-mental-health-problems)  *Federal government won't pursue protections for transgender kids in public schools*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/b46f87b7-9b52-4057-be0a-9e2fcf38ecea.jpg?a=1127362980669 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Amid a flurry of cabinet appointments and immigration policies, the Trump administration has announced one thing it will   not   do: pursue policies that protect transgender children in public schools. This move could be quite dangerous, even deadly, science suggests. Transgender children, who are born one biological sex but identify as the other, already face enormous challenges as they move through a society that often doesn't understand or accept them. Consider this: Nearly half (46.5 percent) of young transgender adults   have attempted suicide   at some point in their lives, a recent survey of over 2,000 people found. Nearly half. For comparison, the attempted suicide rate among the general U.S. population is estimated to be about 4.6 percent. What's more, a 2015 study in the   Journal of Adolescent Health   found that transgender youth are two to three times as likely as their peers to suffer from depression and anxiety disorders, or to attempt suicide or harm themselves.  *Science News, March 3, 2017* |

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| [**High-Tech Condom Ring Coming Out To Measure Boink Performance**](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/icon-condom-app_us_58b911e0e4b0b99894167584?) *It's kind of a Fitbit for your junk.*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/4cabba0b-db7a-4f75-b034-109a05768c3b.jpg?a=1127362980669 |   *"Users will have the option to share their recent data with friends, or, indeed the world," the manufacturer promises.*  For the full "Terminator" bionic man effect comes a brave-new-world condom ring to measure almost everything guys have wanted to know about their sexual performance. The i.Con bills itself as the "World's First Smart Condom." ("Welcome to the future of wearable technology in the bedroom," notes manufacturer British Condoms.) In fact, the device is a ring that men can wear with a condom during sex to track a number of pertinent facts. It's not actually available yet, but the company is taking "early bird" registrations around the world for the product, which will sell for about $75 once it's released sometime in 2017.  *Huffington Post, March 3, 2017* |

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| [**Study explores HPV vaccine acceptability in sexual minorities**](https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-02-explores-hpv-vaccine-sexual-minorities.html)  Although an HPV vaccine has been available for boys and girls in the United States since 2006, HPV prevalence in heterosexual men is estimated to be about 50 percent. For men who have sex with men (MSM), the estimate is 61 percent for those who are HIV-negative and 93 percent for those who are HIV-positive. Only limited data exist for transgender women (TW) globally. Focusing on Peruvian MSM and TW, a team of researchers has found that a preventive HPV vaccine is widely, though not universally, accepted among those populations.  *Medical Express, February 28, 2017* |

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| [**10 Tips On Helping Teen Boys Express Their Feelings**](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2017/02/28/teen-boys-express-feelings_n_15065192.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/f7d494e6-6f97-456a-8c97-0153e9ee805b.jpg?a=1127362980669 |   Football player Jameis Winston's recent comments to elementary students that   boys should be "strong" and girls should be "silent, polite, gentle,"   were met with a lot of criticism. But they also highlighted that plenty of people still hold the same gendered ideas about expressing feelings, even for young children. Plenty of parents nowadays work to emphasize that boys and girls should be able to express their feelings in healthy ways whether those feelings are happy, sad, proud or angry. But it's also important to make it clear that older boys can express those same feelings - even in ways like crying, despite the fact that a boy who cries is still often called weak or overly emotional.  ***Story contains numerous videos relating to boys' physical and mental health***  *Huffington Post, February 28, 2017* |

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| [**Report on caring for teens after sexual assault calls for screening, anticipatory guidance**](http://www.aappublications.org/news/2017/02/27/assault022717)  An updated AAP clinical report on how to assess and care for adolescents who have been sexually assaulted includes guidance on the importance of offering routine screening and prevention messages. Teens and young adults ages 12-34 years have the highest rates of sexual assault, according to  Care of the Adolescent After an Acute Sexual Assault   from the AAP Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect and Committee on Adolescence. The clinical report is available [here](http://bit.ly/2kCPg9T) and will be published in the March issue of Pediatrics . "As pediatricians, we are poised to provide anticipatory guidance not only around sexual assault itself but the fact that being cognitively impaired with alcohol and drugs puts someone at risk for being assaulted," she said. "And no one is really immune - it happens to boys, too.  *AAP News, February 27, 2017* |

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| [**Get your boys to check their balls**](http://lifestyle.iafrica.com/parenting/1045506.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/4919fbab-4962-4a4d-88bd-4ad38b56fdbd.jpg?a=1127362980669 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Speaking candidly about our genitals' state of health is something not many of us would readily do, so it's understandable that mums would shy away from addressing the topic with their teenage sons. However, taking the time to talk testicles with your boys could end up saving their lives in the long run. Testicular cancer is one of the most commonly diagnosed types of cancer in men between the ages of 15 and 39 and claims the lives of many young men who are often too scared or embarrassed to speak up when it comes to finding lumps or irregularities in their testicles. Here are some helpful tips to turn 'the talk' into a healthy dialogue between mother and son, and useful facts about testicular cancer to bear in mind.  *Iafrica.com, February 27, 2017* |

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| [**AUSTRALIA: Soft drinks a health risk for teen boys**](https://thewest.com.au/news/wa/soft-drinks-a-health-risk-for-teen-boys-ng-b88398795z)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/de50c995-9694-4a27-acf4-66281bf78807.jpg?a=1127362980669 |   One in six Australian teenage boys is drinking more than 50 litres of soft drink a year, research reveals. One in six Australian teenage boys is drinking more than 50 litres of soft drink a year, research reveals. A Cancer Council study found that 17 per cent of male teens had at least one litre of soft drink a week, compared with less than 10 per cent of girls drinking the same amount. It also showed that adolescents who drank a lot of soft drink were about twice as likely to not be eating enough fruit and to be consuming more junk food and energy drinks. Kathy Chapman, chairwoman of the council's nutrition and physical activity committee, said teenage boys were putting themselves at higher risk of adult obesity, a known cancer risk, as well as other chronic diseases. "A litre of soft drink a week may not sound like much, but over a year it equates to at least 5.2kg of extra sugar," she said.  *Yahoo News, February 27, 2017* |

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| [**HPV vaccination in older individuals: A mess, perhaps mitigated by herd protection**](http://www.healio.com/hematology-oncology/cancer-prevention/news/print/hemonc-today/%7B8389a724-6539-44b3-b2b4-3b7b3553e577%7D/hpv-vaccination-in-older-individuals-a-mess-perhaps-mitigated-by-herd-protection)  We know that vaccination with quadrivalent HPV vaccine is apparently most effective the younger the patient. The FDA approval is specifically for patients aged younger than 26 years, and various recommendations focus on vaccination of females - and now males - in younger teenage years. Part of the argument is that exposure is likely to be less at that age, thus allowing the vaccine to exert its fully protective effect. However, the studies cited above suggest that some measure of antibody induction is possible in much older age groups, and that these antibodies actually have a biological impact on viral expression and sometimes early cervix lesions. Skinner and colleagues reported 2 years ago, in the ongoing VIVIANE trial, that there is significant antiviral activity and activity against cervical abnormalities in women aged older than 25 years.  *Helio, February 25, 2017* |

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| [**Will Betsy DeVos Kill Sex Ed in Public Schools?**](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2017/02/25/will-betsy-devos-kill-sex-ed-in-public-schools.html)  *Doctors recommend that all teens get vaccinated against the cancer-causing HPV before they are sexually active. But that sort of frank sex-ed talk could be at risk under our new education czar.*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/894912ef-b1c3-4af2-b77e-eeb01ea0a43f.jpg?a=1127302933839 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Representatives from Focus on the Family who testified at the ACIP HPV vaccine hearings feared that if the HPV vaccine were universally recommended, adolescents would be encouraged to be sexually promiscuous.  Despite the concern raised by Focus on the Family, a subsequent study found that the HPV vaccine hadn't freed teenagers to engage in promiscuous sex. I hadn't heard about Focus on the Family again until recently. It was during the confirmation hearings for   Betsy DeVos , Donald Trump's pick to head the Department of Education.  According to watchdog groups, the Edgar and Elsa Prince Foundation gave at least $5 million to Focus on the Family. Edgar and Elsa Prince are Betsy DeVos's parents. For 17 years, DeVos has been listed as a vice president of her parents' foundation. One can only hope that DeVos's personal beliefs will not affect how the Department of Education approaches sex education in public schools, especially regarding a common cancer-causing disease and a vaccine that could prevent it.  *The Daily Beast, February 25, 2017* |

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| [**The Mental Health Effects of Child Sexual Abuse on Males**](http://www.groundreport.com/mental-health-effects-child-sexual-abuse-males/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c540bb52-4e8e-45e8-8ea3-d81bf75f3ab0.jpg?a=1127302933839 |   While females will typically internalize their trauma, males are more likely to externalise their experience through some high-risk behaviours. Females may contemplate suicidal thoughts and develop misconceptions about body image affecting diet. For males who were the victims of childhood sexual abuse are more likely to suffer in educational performance, risky sexual behaviour, social rebellion and criminal activity. Young men and adolescents are also more likely to engage in binge drinking and experimental drug use. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) has also been more prevalent in males than females following the incidence of sexual abuse. Males also dominate the number of those who are hospitalised for psychiatric assessment. Perhaps as a consequence of the subsequent educational difficulties that boys face, there is also the suggestion that such men experience significantly more problems developing stable relationships. These include career and employment relationships.  *Ground Report, February 25, 2017* |

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| [**Zika Infection Shrinks Testicles in Mice**](https://medlineplus.gov/news/fullstory_163733.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=share&utm_campaign=mplus_share)  *Study authors unsure if virus can harm human fertility*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/f244aecb-0c1a-40a0-80ec-8e044f6c76b3.jpg?a=1127302933839 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Zika virus can be sexually transmitted through semen, and a new mouse study could help explain why that occurs -- and how the virus might damage male fertility. In lab research, Zika attacked the testicles of mice, targeting cells that produce the male hormone testosterone and ultimately causing testes to shrink, the researchers said. These findings "explain the persistence of the virus in semen," said Dr. Amesh Adalja.  *HealthDay, February 22, 2017* |

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| [**Sex education for teen boys linked to higher dual contraceptive use**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/after-sex-ed-young-men-are-more-likely-to-use-additional-contraception/2017/02/13/f8ceba42-ee3c-11e6-9973-c5efb7ccfb0d_story.html?postshare=7901487880649086&tid=ss_tw&utm_term=.64815f2b6995)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/b9ec5162-3610-4d97-a667-d59a4a1bf3a8.jpg?a=1127302933839 |   Young men and boys who receive sex education before age 18 are more likely than others to use more than one type of contraception, such as a condom in addition to their female partner's hormonal birth control, according to a small study. "The dual method significantly decreases the chances of contracting a sexually transmitted infection (STI) or having an unplanned pregnancy," said lead author Nicole Jaramillo, a public health researcher at San Diego State University.  *Washington Post, February 11, 2017* |

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| **Recent Book Release**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/ac93e104-14b0-4923-b947-abde0449731f.jpg?a=1127302933839 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Boys and their communities are challenged today in ways they have not been before. Dr. Michael Gurian has studied and served children and their families for thirty years.  In his newest book, Saving Our Sons, he features the latest research in key areas of boys' lives including developing male emotional intelligence, empathy, and motivation, neuro-toxicity and the male brain, and electronics and video game use.  The book is a comprehensive approach to raising sons in the new millennium that links practical strategies for parents and teachers with community intervention ideas based on twenty years of field work through the Gurian Institute,  SAVING OUR SONS  can be found  www.michaelgurian.com  and  www.amazon.com . |

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| [**Adolescent suicide attempts decrease after passage of same-sex marriage laws**](http://www.healio.com/psychiatry/suicide/news/online/%7Bcc53fb58-503e-43f6-a495-b5dc5fd13cc7%7D/adolescent-suicide-attempts-decrease-after-passage-of-same-sex-marriage-laws)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/216c9a7a-6ffd-4583-b4a1-13ce4f1de04b.jpg?a=1127255269825 |   Recent findings suggest that implementation of same-sex marriage policies reduced suicide attempts among adolescent sexual minorities.  "Prior research suggests an association between same-sex marriage policies and mental health. Use of and expenditures on mental health care significantly decreased among men who have sex with men in the year following legalization of same-sex marriage relative to the year prior in Massachusetts. The effect was not dependent on partnership status, suggesting that same-sex marriage policies may have broad effects on the mental health of sexual minorities beyond the direct benefits of partnership or marriage,"   Julia   Raifman, ScD,   postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and colleagues wrote. "Hatzenbuehler and colleagues also found that psychiatric disorders increased among adults who were sexual minorities after same-sex marriage was banned in 16 states."  *Helio, February 20, 2017* |

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| [**Offering HPV Vaccinations in Pharmacies Improves the Numbers, Reduces Future Cancers**](http://www.pharmacytimes.com/resource-centers/immunization/offering-hpv-vaccinations-in-pharmacies-improves-the-numbers-reduces-future-cancers)  Pharmacists' accessibility and interactions with the public may help increase HPV vaccine coverage. Pharmacies are open longer hours than most primary care provider offices and patients may receive a vaccination without an appointment. The journal Preventive Medicine  features data in its February 2017 issue that suggest that a pharmacist-led HPV vaccine provision could increase vaccine coverage. The study authors surveyed 1255 parents of American adolescents on their willingness to have a pharmacist vaccinate their children for HPV. Twenty-nine percent of respondents reported interest in vaccinating their children at a pharmacy. Parents who were willing to have their children vaccinated at pharmacies were more likely to believe that (1) pharmacists are skilled at vaccine administration, (2) the HPV vaccine is as important as other adolescent vaccinations, and (3) pharmacies can improve vaccine access.  *Pharmacy Times, February 20, 2017* |

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| [**Imaging Study Confirms Brain Differences in People With ADHD**](https://medlineplus.gov/news/fullstory_163599.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=share&utm_campaign=mplus_share)  *Attention-deficit/hyperactivity should be considered a brain disorder, researchers say*  Researchers who pinpointed brain differences in people with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), which is far more prevalent in young males than young females. say their findings show the condition should be considered a brain disorder. The international study -- the largest of its kind -- included more than 1,700 people with ADHD and more than 1,500 without the disorder. Participants were between the ages of 4 and 63. "We hope that this will help to reduce stigma that ADHD is 'just a label' for difficult children or caused by poor parenting. This is definitely not the case, and we hope that this work will contribute to a better understanding of the disorder," said study author Martine Hoogman.  *HealthDay, February 16, 2017* |

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| [**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Penn GSE Launch Forward Promise**](https://www.benzinga.com/pressreleases/17/02/p9051562/robert-wood-johnson-foundation-and-penn-gse-launch-forward-promise)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/7c0a48bd-62de-46e9-a862-e45d6b8fdd02.png?a=1127255269825 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   The Forward Promise National Program Office, supported by a $12 million investment from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, officially launches today at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education (Penn GSE). The office, which will promote a culture of health for middle- and high school-aged boys and young men of color, will focus on efforts to limit the effects of trauma and foster healing.  *Benzinga, February 15, 2017* |

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| [**Teens May Go Hungry as Poorest Families Struggle to Feed Kids**](http://health.usnews.com/health-care/articles/2017-02-15/teens-may-go-hungry-as-poorest-families-struggle-to-feed-kids)  In extremely poor American families, teens go hungry more often than younger children, a new study finds. Parents will first forgo food themselves to feed their kids. But if there still isn't enough food for everyone, younger children take priority over teens, the research showed. "If you're really poor, you try to sacrifice yourself first, but when you're forced to make some choices, these parents are deciding to let the teens not have enough," said lead author Robert Moffitt. The Johns Hopkins researchers analyzed data from about 1,500 families in Boston, Chicago and San Antonio, who were surveyed several times between 1999 and 2005. The researchers said about 6 percent of kids who were 11 years old or younger weren't getting enough to eat, and 12 percent of those aged 12 to 18 regularly went hungry. Of those older children, 14 percent of boys didn't get enough food, compared to 10 percent of girls.  *HealthDay, February 15, 2017* |

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| [**ART, male circumcision drives down HIV incidence in Uganda**](http://www.healio.com/infectious-disease/hiv-aids/news/online/%7B246433cc-687b-4022-9b55-004e23371a3c%7D/art-male-circumcision-drives-down-hiv-incidence-in-uganda?nc=1)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/3a51d3ba-99d9-485a-a03e-a80cc4c49223.jpg?a=1127255269825 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   A Ugandan community with an historically significant place in the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa experienced a substantial long-term decline in HIV incidence following the scale-up of ART and male circumcision last decade, researchers reported here. The 42% decline in HIV incidence in Rakai district, Uganda, over a 17-year period also coincided with a decrease in sexual activity among adolescents, according to a prospective study by   Mary K. Grabowski, PhD,   assistant scientist in the department of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and colleagues.  *Helio, February 15, 2017* |

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| [**Low-Income Kids More Likely to Have ADHD, Asthma**](https://medlineplus.gov/news/fullstory_163582.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=share&utm_campaign=mplus_share)  *Autism more often diagnosed among children in higher-income families, study finds*  Children in families struggling to make ends meet are developing asthma and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) at faster rates than kids from families with greater means, a new study finds. ADHD is far more prevalent among young males than it is among young females. On the other hand, kids from wealthier families are being diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder more often than children in poorer homes. But that likely indicates that those parents have better access to the health care services that can uncover an autism diagnosis, the study authors said. The findings suggest that family income and access to health insurance play a large role in a child's physical and mental health, said lead researcher Dr. Christian Pulcini. He's a pediatrics resident with the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.  HealthDay, February 14, 2017 |

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| [**Gay Men Less Likely to Have Safe Sex Now: Survey**](https://medlineplus.gov/news/fullstory_163561.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=share&utm_campaign=mplus_share)  *Better treatments may translate into complacency, HIV experts say*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c4433465-fe72-4f97-86ce-d50aad1b6a3c.jpg?a=1127255269825 |   In a sign that powerful new ways to treat and prevent HIV are relaxing attitudes about safer sex, a new survey finds that gay and bisexual men are much less likely to use condoms than they were two decades ago. Men questioned at a Atlanta gay pride event in 2015 -- including HIV-positive men -- were more likely to say they'd recently had anal sex without a condom compared to men who were questioned at the same event in 2006 and 1997. Although there are signs that the rates of other sexually transmitted infections have increased and the possibility of a drug-resistant strain of the once-deadly virus looms, HIV experts said the condom-less trend may not be as troubling as it appears. "There has been an increase in the understanding that condom-less anal sex is not risky" if men take a drug to prevent HIV infection or take medication if they are already infected, explained Jeffrey Parsons, who was not involved with the study. He's a professor of psychology at Hunter College in New York City who studies HIV and health behaviors. "Eventually, this is likely to result in decreased rates of HIV but also potentially higher rates of other sexually transmitted infections, which are much more easily treated than HIV," he said.  *Medline Plus, February 13, 2017* |

February 14, 2017

2017 national summit

2017 summit On behalf of the board of directors of The Partnership for Male Youth, we're pleased to announce the 2017 National Summit on Adolescent and Young Adult Male (AYA) Health, to be held November 10-12 in Washington DC.

As you know as a supporter of our work, the health conditions that affect AYA males cut across a range of diseases, disabilities and conditions, and hence, specialty areas of clinical practice, public health, the social sciences and education. The purpose of the National Summit is to identify and begin exploring the nexus of health care and other disciplines that can play a role in advancing the health and wellbeing of AYA males, and to identify individuals, organizations and companies that can take the lead and partner with each other in a national, collaborative effort to address this important issue.

The summit will be designed to facilitate interaction and collaboration among these disciplines as well as other public and private stakeholders. The outcomes of the summit will be a scientific report on the state of current knowledge in the area of AYA male health and a multi-year action agenda for advancing AYA male health in areas from research to public policy.

We're very excited about this initiative. As a reflection of the Partnership's collaborative approach to addressing AYA male health, we are eager to have broad participation in the summit. To that end, if you would like to receive regular email updates about our progress, please register [here](https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=5e8xhmdab&p=oi&m=1103143627934&sit=y7fxny7eb&f=236cbd6f-c771-423a-be5a-e341f4a0b9da). The summit website will be announced shortly; in the meantime if you have any questions, ideas you would like to discuss or would like to participate in this effort please contact Dennis at (202) 841-7475 or dbarbour@partnershipformaleyouth.org.

Thanks for your continuing support, and here's to working together on behalf of our young males!

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David L. Bell, MD, MPH

Chair

The Partnership for Male Youth

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Dennis J. Barbour, JD

President and CEO

The Partnership for Male Youth

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| [**Throat Cancer is Becoming a National Health Epidemic Say Oral Fitness Experts**](https://californianewswire.com/throat-cancer-is-becoming-a-national-health-epidemic-say-oral-fitness-experts/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/d41dbf03-97b8-4c34-a596-50134fc001ac.jpg?a=1127124379604 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   "HPV can cause cervical cancer, as well as cancer in the back of the throat, including the base of the tongue and tonsils, though these are not the same strains of the virus. Cancer often takes years, even decades, to develop after a person gets HPV. More than half of American men who are having sex will get HPV at some point in their lives." According to the CDC, there is no approved test to check for HPV in the mouth or throat; this is why regular visits to your dentist are critical. A dentist can monitor any changes in your mouth. There are HPV tests that can be used to screen for cervical cancer.  *California Newswire, February 10, 2017* |

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| [**AAP reports teenage immunizations fall short of targets**](http://www.drugstorenews.com/article/aap-reports-teenage-immunizations-fall-short-targets)  Immunization is a key preventive cornerstone of pediatric care but efforts often fall short with adolescents, according to two new clinical reports released by the American Academy of Pediatrics earlier this week. Nationally, adolescent vaccination rates lag well below the targeted threshold of 80% or greater for the HPV and influenza vaccines. Vaccination rates also vary considerably by vaccine and by state. During the 2015-16 influenza season, only 46.8% of adolescents ages 13 through 17 were vaccinated against the flu. And while HPV vaccination rates are improving slowly, only 40% of girls and 22% of boys had completed the then-recommended three-dose series of the HPV vaccine in 2014.  *Drug Store News, February 9, 2017* |

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| [**Can the HPV Vaccine Protect Against Skin Cancer?**](http://www.livescience.com/57805-hpv-vaccine-skin-cancer.html)  The HPV vaccine, which protects against several strains of the   human papillomavirus , shows potential for preventing new spots of skin cancer from popping up in people who have had skin cancer in the past, a new report of two patients' cases suggests. Previous research has suggested that there's a link between HPV and certain types of skin cancer. However, the study was very small, and more research in larger groups of patients is needed before scientists can determine if the   HPV vaccine   really does reduce skin cancer risk.  *Live Science, February 8, 2017* |

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| [**ACS endorses two-dose HPV vaccination schedule**](http://www.healio.com/hematology-oncology/cancer-prevention/news/online/%7B027acf09-23bc-4936-8142-2e804ddcba52%7D/acs-endorses-two-dose-hpv-vaccination-schedule)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/623180eb-d70a-4c00-b4ed-cf40275e9149.jpg?a=1127124379604 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   The American Cancer Society endorsed the updated recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices that support a two-dose schedule for boys and girls who initiate HPV vaccination from 9 to 14 years of age. "In the past several years, studies have shown the vaccine is even more effective than expected,"   Debbie   Saslow, PhD,   senior director of HPV-related and women's cancers for ACS. "This new two-dose regimen is easier to follow, and we now know is very effective in preventing HPV, which is linked to a half dozen types of cancer."  *Helio, February 7, 2017* |

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| [**At-Risk Baltimore Youth Need Access to HIV Testing**](http://www.contagionlive.com/news/atrisk-baltimore-youth-need-access-to-hiv-testing)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/a17aaa9e-4c7f-43ff-bdb7-13f03004f817.jpg?a=1127124379604 |   With over 1.2 million individuals living with HIV in the United States, the virus continues to be a major public health concern. For younger individuals (15-24 years of age) who are at increased risk, particularly men who are a part of racial/ethnic minority populations and men who have sex with men (MSM), testing is imperative. Unfortunately, testing rates for these at-risk populations remain low.   Researchers from Johns Hopkins University decided to find out if these rates were low simply because the testing was not accessible to these populations. According to first author Arik Marcell, MD, MPH, "The study demonstrates the need for more transparent cross-collaboration between clinical and nonclinical realms that serve youth. We can do a better job to bridge these historical silos, and, as a result, improve the care youth receive. Having a better understanding of community-based organizations that serve youth can help clinical settings and HIV testing programs improve the access to youth being tested, especially in cities with high rates of HIV, such as Baltimore."  *Contagion Live, February 7, 2017* |

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| [**Men: The STD You Have a 75% Chance of Contracting in Your Lifetime**](http://www.mensjournal.com/health-fitness/articles/the-std-you-have-a-75-percent-chance-of-contracting-in-your-lifetime-w463831)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/1098c832-8b5c-4868-93a4-d177030e34db.jpg?a=1127124379604 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Data published in JAMA Oncology reveals for the first time just how many U.S. men have HPV right now. According to a nationwide survey of 18- to 59-year-olds, 45 percent of guys currently carry this virus. However, the youngest men - the 18- to 22-year-olds, who likely have less sexual experience and are more apt to have been vaccinated - skew this average way low. Looking at a few of the older groups, HPV rates among 28- to 32-year-olds are an eyebrow-raising 51 percent, while a sky-high 60 percent of 58- and 59-year-olds have the virus.  *Men's Journal, February 7, 2017* |

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| [**STD testing rates low in adolescent sexual minority males**](https://www.univadis.com/viewarticle/std-testing-rates-low-in-adolescent-sexual-minority-males-488153) (registration required)  Low levels of testing were found among sexually experienced adolescent sexual minority males (ASMM), especially those who reported sex without a condom at last intercourse.  *Univadis.com, February 6, 2017* |

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| [**AAP reports highlight how to optimize adolescent immunization**](http://www.aappublications.org/news/2017/02/06/AdolescentImmunization020617)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/e0c6770a-4968-4cae-8595-118590d2156b.jpg?a=1127124379604 |   Over the past decade, the AAP-recommended immunization schedule for 11- through 18-year-olds has become more complex due to the introduction of vaccines that protect against serious pathogens such as meningococcus, pertussis and human papillomavirus (HPV) and the recommendation for annual vaccination against influenza. The Academy has released two clinical reports to consolidate information on these vaccine-preventable diseases and their consequences, and to support pediatricians in achieving high vaccination rates in their adolescent population.  *AAP Gateway, February 6, 2017* |

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| [**CDC, AAFP Release 2017 Immunization Schedules Updates Include New HPV, MenB and HepB Vaccine Recommendations**](http://www.aafp.org/news/health-of-the-public/20170206immunskeds.html)  The CDC and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), together with the AAFP and other medical professional organizations, have released the 2017 adult and childhood immunization schedules. Changes this year include updated recommendations for a two-dose schedule of nine-valent HPV vaccine (HPV9; Gardasil 9) for patients ages 11-12, a two-dose schedule of meningitis B vaccine (MenB) for adolescents, a clarification regarding recommended adult candidates for hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine and revisions designed to make the adult schedule easier to navigate.  *AAFP, February 6, 2017* |

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| [**Black Americans Still Undertreated for HIV**](https://medlineplus.gov/news/fullstory_163420.html?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=share&utm_campaign=mplus_share)   |  | | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/0edcac0e-7c88-49b3-b47f-893088177b25.jpg?a=1127124379604 |   Although progress has been made, blacks in America are still being hit harder by HIV/AIDS, a new report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says. The findings also indicated that many black men may be infected with HIV for years without knowing it. The CDC study found that of more than 12,200 black men and women diagnosed with HIV in 2014, nearly 22 percent had progressed to AIDS by the time they were diagnosed. That means diagnosis and treatment is often coming too late. Moreover, among all black Americans with HIV in 2013, only about 54 percent were receiving continuous medical care. Of those getting care, less than half had effectively suppressed the virus. This is far below the National HIV/AIDS Strategy goals of 90 percent of HIV patients in treatment and 80 percent with undetectable HIV by 2020, the study authors noted.  *Health Day, February 3, 2017* |

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| [**Irish Cancer Society warns parents about fake HPV vaccine news**](https://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/ireland/irish-cancer-society-warns-parents-about-fake-hpv-vaccine-news-774369.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/a5eb1b2a-0b01-4a4e-8926-aa5ac9917490.jpg?a=1127059550027 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   The Irish Cancer Society is warning parents to beware of misleading information about the HPV vaccine. Health professionals are said to be concerned about a significant drop in the numbers getting the vaccination. It's reported that just 50% of girls have taken up the offer of the first dose, down from 87% two years ago. The Irish Cancer Society says parents are being frightened by fake news that the vaccine has serious long term side effects. Dr. Brenda Corcoran from the National Immunisation Office, says they've got spread the word the vaccine is safe and effective. "It is a challenge to all of us to counteract alternative facts which parents are reading and parents are believing. "Unfortunately they are not true. We have to be more involved in social media, we have to be more involved in ways that parents connect with each other to get the information out through whatever means."  *Irish Examiner, January 27, 2017* |

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| [**Kids with ADHD make 6.1 million doctor visits a year in U.S.: CDC**](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2017/01/26/Kids-with-ADHD-make-61-million-doctor-visits-a-year-in-US-CDC/4731485466316/)     |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/6c6f0b53-8a82-4c39-8269-731f2414dca9.jpg?a=1127059550027 |   Kids with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder account for more than 6 million physician office visits a year in the United States, say U.S. health officials. An average 6.1 million trips to a doctor, pediatrician or psychiatrist by children aged 4 to 17 in 2013 involved treatment for diagnosed ADHD, according to a report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The percentage has increased from a decade earlier, when 4 percent of physician visits were related to ADHD treatment, she said. ***This new research finds that the ADHD visit rate was more than twice as high for boys as for girls. Boys visited the doctor at a rate of 147 per 1,000, compared with 62 per 1,000 for girls.***  *UPI, January 26, 2017* |

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| [**COMMENT: HIV Criminalization And Black Men**](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/aids-hiv-criminalization-and-black-men_us_58408e27e4b09e21702da78d?utm_content=buffer4330d&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c84f6c9c-92be-4ef5-a287-90e0b99ad781.jpg?a=1127059550027 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   For many black people, HIV isn't a death sentence. It's a prison sentence.  Centers for Disease Control (CDC)  data shows that Black people, especially young black gay and bisexual men continue to account for more than half of new HIV diagnoses, the largest single category of people living with HIV, and they are already disproportionately criminalized because of the color of their skin and their sexual orientation. Coming from socially and politically vulnerable communities in the Deep South, many of us face multiple intersections of stigma and discrimination, as well as a very tense history with the public health system and police violence, even before the advent of HIV.  *Huffington Post, December 1, 2016* |

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| [**How Trump's executive order impacts future of the Affordable Care Act**](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/trump-executive-order-affordable-care-act/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/a932d3fa-42e9-48fb-a676-1eb15cdfab0d.jpg?a=1126999518422 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   The executive order may not have much impact for 2017, since government rules for this year have already been incorporated into contracts signed with insurance companies. Departments like Health and Human Services and Treasury will have to issue policies that embody the new president's wishes. The Trump administration can rewrite regulations carrying out the legislation. New regulations cannot be issued overnight, but would have to follow a legally established process that requires public notice and an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the administration's changes.  *PBS Newshour, January 21, 2017* |

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| [**Nearly half of U.S. men infected with HPV, study finds**](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2017/01/19/Nearly-half-of-US-men-infected-with-HPV-study-finds/4511484858577/?spt=su&or=btn_tw)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/9fb0c05b-75ab-4d0e-b8d7-d61fd6e778ed.jpg?a=1126999518422 |   Many American men are infected with the cancer-causing human papillomavirus (HPV), but unlike women, men are more likely to stay infected throughout their lives, a new study finds. About 45 percent of U.S. men are infected with the sexually transmitted disease, as are 45 percent of women. Among women, the prevalence of HPV infection drops to about 22 percent as they age, but it remains high among men, said lead researcher Dr. Jasmine Han. She is in the division of gynecologic oncology at Womack Army Medical Center, in Fort Bragg, N.C. "We don't know why it stays high in men while it drops in women," she said. "Among men it's higher than expected." Han speculates that the virus may remain in men because it lives in the penile glands, while in women, the virus is near the surface of the vagina and is more easily shed.  *UPI, January 20, 2017* |

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| [**HPV: Almost Half Of US Men Infected With Cancer-Causing Human Papillomavirus; Should Vaccine Be Mandatory?**](http://www.medicaldaily.com/hpv-almost-half-us-men-infected-cancer-causing-human-papillomavirus-should-408971)  A new  report  compiled by scientists from the Womack Army Medical Center in North Carolina revealed that although an equal percentage of U.S. men and women are infected with HPV (45 percent), vaccination rates are much lower for men. Based on this information, the study's lead author has suggested that the HPV vaccine become mandatory in order to prevent all genders from further cases of HPV-related cancers.  *Medical Daily, January 20, 2017* |

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| [**Study Maps "Uniquely Devastating" Genital Injuries Among Troups**](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/13/health/genital-injuries-among-us-troops.html?smid=fb-nytscience&smtyp=cur&_r=1)  A new report on one of the most dreaded war wounds finds that 1,367 men in the United States military suffered injuries to their genitals or urinary tract in Iraq or Afghanistan from 2001 to 2013, mostly from bomb blasts. More than a third of the injuries were severe. The   report, published this week   by military researchers in The Journal of Urology, is thought to be the most comprehensive review of so-called genitourinary injuries in veterans. The problem was recognized before, but the extent was uncertain. The number of cases is "unprecedented" and the injuries "uniquely devastating" because they can impair a man's ability to have sex, father children or urinate normally, according to the report. Most of the wounded men - 94 percent - were 35 or younger, in "their peak years of sexual development and reproductive potential," the report said, adding that the psychological toll was especially heavy in such young men. Researchers say these men are at high risk for suicide.  *New York Times, January 13, 2017* |

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| [**Joint Statement by 69 Cancer Centers Supports CDC's HPV Vaccination Guideline**](http://www.ajmc.com/newsroom/joint-statement-by-69-cancer-centers-supports-cdcs-hpv-vaccination-guideline#sthash.5LDMPH7l.dpuf)  Late last year, the CDC released new guidelines on vaccinating children against the human papillomavirus (HPV)-the new recommendations suggest fewer shots and spacing them apart. Now, a conglomerate of 69 National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers has come together to endorse the CDC's recommendations.   According to the new recommendations, 11- to 12-year-olds should be administered 2 doses of the 9-valent vaccine, which should be spaced 6 months apart. However, adolescents and young adults, 15 years and older, should be administered 3 doses.   "This collaborative effort is a tremendous opportunity to raise awareness of these new recommendations and the importance of HPV vaccination, knowing that most people will be exposed to HPV at some point in their lives," Lois Ramondetta, MD, professor of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine at MD Anderson Cancer Center, said in a statement. "We hope that requiring 2 shots instead of 3 will make it easier for children to be vaccinated, bringing rates closer to the Healthy People 2020 goal of 80%."  *American Journal of Managed Care, January 12, 2017* |

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| [**Lawrence Solomon: How vaccine safety turned into one of Trump's first presidential priorities**](http://business.financialpost.com/fp-comment/lawrence-solomon-how-vaccine-safety-turned-into-one-of-trumps-first-presidential-priorities)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/d9abd77b-471f-4984-a62f-51c1abbe32d4.jpg?a=1126949795013 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   With repealing Obamacare, building a wall, cutting corporate taxes and keeping jobs at home all high on Donald Trump's agenda, the announcement Tuesday that he asked Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to consider chairing a commission into vaccine safety and scientific integrity took many by surprise. It shouldn't have. Vaccines and his belief that they can cause autism are personal to Trump, who held multiple meetings with vaccine skeptics in the late stages of the presidential campaign and into the packed transition period prior to assuming the presidency. Moreover, although vaccine skeptics are often associated with far-left Birkenstock elites, many Republicans - including top Republicans close to Trump - have expressed doubts about the uncritical acceptance of vaccines.  *Financial Times, January 11, 2017* |

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| [**Student Athletes Emulate the Pros in Abusing Prescription Painkillers**](http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/online_features/community_cares/article_818bb055-1ac2-566a-a31c-86704f441d68.html)  At least one study put the number of college student athletes who've used prescription medications to enhance their performance at as high as 53.3 percent. And another recent study on high school athletes, published online in the Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse, reported that 12 percent of male seniors and 8 percent of female seniors admitted to abusing painkillers.  *The Herald, January 11, 2017* |

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| [**Talking With Both Daughters and Sons About Sex**](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/11/well/family/talking-about-sex-with-daughters-and-sons.html)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/828838de-b763-42d5-afad-1fff8e09070b.jpg?a=1126949795013 |   Parents play a key role in shaping sexual decision-making among adolescents - especially for girls. A 2016   review   of more than three decades of research found that teenagers who communicated with their parents about sex used safer sexual practices. Likewise, new research   from Dutch investigators who studied nearly 3,000 teenagers found that young adolescents who reported feeling close with a parent were unlikely to have had sex when surveyed again two years later. Notably, both research teams found that daughters benefited more than sons, and that the effective conversations and relationships were typically had with mothers. According to Laura Widman, lead author of the review study and an assistant professor of psychology at North Carolina State University, "parents tend to talk about sex more with daughters than with sons, and we can speculate that that's what's probably driving these findings. Boys may not get the messages as frequently or have the kind of in-depth conversations that parents are having with girls."  *New York Times, January 11, 2017* |

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| [**Male Sexual Health: Why Young Men Don't Get The Information They Need About Reproductive And Sexual Health**](http://www.medicaldaily.com/male-sexual-health-why-young-men-dont-get-information-they-need-about-408162)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/1a8b5c33-8403-49a6-8c63-6b70c1b88bd3.jpg?a=1126949795013 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Fear is one barrier that keeps some young men from racial and sexual minority groups from getting proper sexual health care. A   study in the Journal of Adolescent Health used information from several dozen black and Hispanic guys between 15 and 24 years old to determine their own perceptions of factors that work for or against their reproductive health care. Of the young men in the study, 16 percent were gay or bisexual. The researchers from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine found that some young men reported concern about the stigma of being seen at certain clinics, like those where health care professionals test for sexually transmitted diseases. They said that was something that could keep them from getting adequate care for their sexual and reproductive health. They also expressed concerns about long wait times at clinics, privacy issues, and the cost of care.  *Medical Daily, January 10, 2017* |

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| [**New study reveals significant use of indoor tanning among sexual-minority adolescent boys**](http://www.news-medical.net/news/20170106/New-study-reveals-significant-use-of-indoor-tanning-amongc2a0sexual-minority-adolescent-boys.aspx)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/4c6ba5a7-00e7-423a-a268-90fd35624a48.jpg?a=1126874046068 |   In a new study of indoor tanning and skin cancer risk, the use of indoor tanning among non-heterosexual black male teens was found to be nearly equal to that of heterosexual white females. The study led by San Diego State University researcher Aaron Blashill, was recently published in the journal JAMA Dermatology. "Contrary to popular thought, racial and ethnic minorities engage in indoor tanning and it appears to be particularly concentrated among sexual-minority adolescent boys," said Blashill, an assistant professor of psychology.  *Medical Life Sciences News, January 6, 2017* |

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| [**Females seeking a sex partner can tell whether males experienced stress during adolescence**](https://scienceblog.com/491206/females-seeking-sex-partner-can-tell-whether-males-experienced-stress-adolescence/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/c9d0dc45-6454-411b-932b-abae4e0f94ad.jpg?a=1126874046068 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   Among dominant pairs, female rats preferred the stressed males, spending more time with and visiting them more often. Among submissive pairs, females spent more time with control males than with social stress males. The results show that experience of stress in adolescence leads to long-lasting changes in males that are perceptible to females, are moderated by social status and influence sexual behavior.  *Science Blog, January 5, 2017* |

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| [**Stores may steer teen boys to supplements doctors advise against**](http://www.foxnews.com/health/2017/01/04/stores-may-steer-teen-boys-to-supplements-doctors-advise-against.html)  Posing as a 15-year-old athlete wanting to bulk up during strength training, a researcher asked more than 200 health food stores whether he should take a sports performance supplement containing creatine.  Despite recommendations against using creatine under age 18 by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American College of Sports Medicine, more than two-thirds of the stores' sales attendants told him to give it a try. Creatine is a naturally occurring compound involved in the production of energy in the body. Risks of creatine use include liver and kidney damage, dehydration and muscle cramps. [The study](https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2016/12/29/peds.2016-1257.full.pdf)  was conducted by undergraduate student researchers participating in a summer clinical research program at Cohen Children's Medical Center in New York in 2014.  *Multiple Sources, January 5, 2017* |

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| [**Too much TV and video linked to mental health issues for boys, not so for girls: research**](http://www.smh.com.au/national/health/too-much-tv-and-video-linked-to-mental-health-issues-for-boys-not-so-for-girls-research-20170105-gtmebm.html)  Boys who watch an average of two hours of television every day are at a 2.6-time higher risk of developing "conduct and emotional problems". New research from the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute has found a link between time watching television or playing video games and mental health among boys.  *Sydney Morning Herald, January 5, 2017* |

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| [**Diagnosis of Concussions in Adolescent Male Athletes**](https://www.medicalnewsbulletin.com/diagnosis-concussions-adolescent-male-athletes/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/71a61978-a155-4994-aaff-fb99b4677797.jpg?a=1126874046068 |   Concussions are the result of an impactful force applied to the head usually leading to temporary unconsciousness. If severe, they can lead to long-term neurological dysfunction. Concussions are a major health concern, specifically in adolescents and athletes, and are often difficult to diagnose. A recent study  published by Springer introduces plasma metabolomics profiling, a new method for diagnosing concussions and determines its function in adolescent male hockey players.  *Medical News Bulletin, January 5, 2017* |

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| [**On The Men Who Rattled Pop's Gender Rules - And What It Means To Lose Them Now**](http://www.npr.org/2016/12/30/507575982/on-the-men-who-rattled-pops-gender-rules-and-what-it-means-to-lose-them-now?utm_campaign=storyshare&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_medium=social)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://files.constantcontact.com/e9ceb78d001/080d0efa-1452-41cc-9b22-4cd3bbb15b40.jpg?a=1126874046068 | https://imgssl.constantcontact.com/letters/images/sys/S.gif |   *David Bowie* ,  Prince  and  George Michael  are all pop icons who died in 2016. But there is something else that connects them: They all helped to redefine the concept of masculinity in pop culture. Cultural critic Wesley Morris has been thinking about how these artists performed gender and sexuality. He  recently wrote  in The New York Times that in today's climate, "The Princes and the George Michaels seem as radical as ever." Morris joined NPR's Ari Shapiro to discuss how Bowie, Prince and Michael called upon their audiences to reimagine what it is to be a man. Hear their full conversation at the audio link and read an edited transcript below.  *NPR, December 30, 2016* |

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| [**Few young men are unable to report last partner's contraceptive use**](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-contraception-men-idUSKBN14F14E)  Most young men say they know whether their last sexual partner used birth control and what kind it was, according to a recent U.S. study. The results provide valuable data for programs intended to prevent unplanned pregnancies that are aimed at young men, the researchers write in American Journal of Men's Health.  *Reuters, December 26, 2016* |

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| [**Student bullying on school buses: Comparing teen boys and girls**](https://journalistsresource.org/studies/society/education/bullying-students-school-bus-teen-research)  Teenage boys who take the bus to school have a greater chance of being bullied than those who use other types of transportation, according to a recent study that also suggests girls generally are more likely to be bullied than boys.  *Journalist's Resource, December 15, 2016* |

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| **Journal Article**   [**Sex and Racial/Ethnic Differences in Positive Outcomes in Delinquent Youth After Detention A 12-Year Longitudinal Study**](http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/article-abstract/2592310)  *Karen M. Abram, PhD1; Nicole M. Azores-Gococo, MS1; Kristin M. Emanuel, PhD1; et al*  *JAMA Pediatr. Published online December 19, 2016. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2016.3260*  Findings: This 12-year longitudinal study of 1829 delinquent youth found that, 12 years after detention, only 21.9% of males and 54.7% of females had achieved more than half of the 8 positive psychosocial outcomes examined. Minority males, particularly African Americans, were the least likely to achieve age-appropriate milestones. |