

## [Young People Are Not Getting the STI Tests They Need](#)

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) disproportionately affect young people ages 15 to 25. Though this age group accounts for less than a quarter of the population, it accounts for over half of the estimated 20 million STI cases reported each year. In fact, in 2014 young people had the highest rates of both chlamydia and gonorrhea. Yet [a new study finds](#) that most people in this age group are not getting tested because they either don't perceive themselves to be at risk or are concerned about confidentiality and cost. Overall, just 11.5% of respondents had been tested for STIs in the 12 months before the study.

*Females (16.6%) in both age groups were more likely to have been tested than males (6.1%) and those in the older age group were more likely to have been tested (24.3% of females and 9.1% of males 18 to 25 compared with just 6.7% of females and 2.4% of males 15 to 17). The numbers look a little better when only those who said they are sexually experienced are considered, with 27% of young women and 9.8% of young men who have had sex saying they have been tested within the last 12 months. Even then, however, the results show that the majority of sexually active young people are not getting tested.*

*The Body, July 8, 2016*

## [Boys who exercise earn more as adults, according to 30-year Finnish study](#)

*But the effect only seems to hold for men, with no correlation observed between women's earnings and their physical activity as girls*

Children who participate regularly in physical activity not only set themselves up for good health but possibly also higher earnings when they start working in adulthood. In a 30-year study that began in 1980, Finnish researchers have found, among men, childhood physical activity to be positively associated with long-term earnings. Reporting in the July 2016 issue of *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*, the official journal of the American College of Sports Medicine, the researchers found a higher level of leisure-time physical activity at the age of nine, 12 and 15 years was linked with an approximate 12 to 25 per cent increase in average earnings over a 10-year period, compared to those who did little exercise in childhood. This held true even after accounting for individual and family background factors such as an individual's chronic conditions and body fat, parents' education and physical activity, and family income. Among women, however, no such relation was observed.

*South China Morning Post, July 8, 2016*

## [Stigma Prolongs Global HIV Epidemic Among Gays](#)

*High-risk men still deprived of services around the world, study says*

High rates of HIV among gay and bisexual men continue in many regions of the world because of discriminatory laws and lack of access to preventive services, a new study finds. "While HIV rates have flattened overall in recent years, we're really concerned that the HIV epidemic is continuing among gay men and we're going in the wrong direction,"

said study leader Dr. Chris Beyrer, a professor of public health and human rights at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. "It's painful that the history of AIDS is looking like its future, but that's actually where we are," said Beyrer, who is also president of the International AIDS Society. "But the first step in taking on a problem is recognizing and articulating it, and we've really done that here."

*Medline Plus, July 7, 2016*

### [Depression Strikes Nearly 3 Million U.S. Teens a Year](#)

*Effects can be devastating during adolescence, researchers say*

In just one year, almost 3 million U.S. teens suffered a major bout of depression, a new government report shows. "Adolescence is a critical time in a person's development, and battling with depression can be devastating for teens unless they receive effective treatment," said Paolo del Vecchio, director of the Center for Mental Health Services at the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). "Effective treatment is available, but parents, teachers and all concerned members of the community must work to assure that adolescents in need get help," del Vecchio said in an agency news release. These young people feel depressed and lose interest in their activities for at least two weeks. They may also have trouble sleeping, eating or concentrating, the agency explained. The overall rate of depression among young people jumped to 11 percent between 2013 and 2014, up from 9.9 percent the previous year, the SAMHSA report found. The report was published July 7.

*Medline Plus, July 7, 2016*

### [Weaving the HPV Vaccines in Common Practice](#)

HPV has been the victim of poor public relations, despite the fact that it has been available for 10 years, and is an extremely safe and effective vaccine. So what to do? This month, Emily Walling and colleagues from Washington University present a [systematic review](#) of interventions to improve HPV vaccination rates. One of their findings is that the provider herself or himself can be an important barrier to initiation of the HPV series.

*AAP Gateway, July 6, 2016*

### [Men can test their sperm count at home with new device Trak](#)

*A 'male fertility testing' system encourages men to share responsibility for conception by monitoring their reproductive health*

In the febrile world of health startups, entrepreneurs are racing to quantify every possible bodily and environmental function. And so if we can monitor air quality, sleep and heart rate, why wouldn't we monitor sperm quality as well? In May, America's Food and Drug Administration approved Trak, a new "male fertility testing" system. It looks like a cross

between a frisbee, a clock and a Cuisinart blender. The Trak website announces that it is "like a Fitbit for sperm". Even in 2016, conversations about the "biological clock" tend to assume that fertility is an exclusively female concern. Women joke about "dying eggs", but it is rare to hear a man joke about his "dying sperm".

*The Guardian, July 5, 2016*

### [Many Men Ignore Testicular Cancer Symptoms for Months](#)

*Early diagnosis and treatment are tied to 99 percent survival rate at 5 years, urologist says*

*Testicular cancer is the most common cancer affecting males between the ages of 15 and 35, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).*

Early detection and treatment of testicular cancer is key to beating the disease, a urology specialist says. Yet many men who feel something abnormal in a testicle wait a few months before seeing a doctor. But, when diagnosed while still confined to the testicle, the five-year survival rate for testicular cancer is 99 percent, Dr. Jay Raman, chief of urology at Penn State Medical Center said in a university news release.

Medline Plus, July 5, 2016

[GW Cancer Partnership Will Target Tobacco Use and HPV](#) *Researchers will focus on preventative care in Cleveland and Washington, D.C., to lower rates of fatal cancer diagnoses.*

The Milken Institute School of Public Health and the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University are working together to develop community programs aimed at preventing cancer and reducing health-care disparities. The joint effort is part of Vice President Joe Biden's Cancer Moonshot initiative, which seeks to accelerate research and find cures for cancer. MAPS will aim to improve rates of HPV immunizations with outreach and policy efforts. Mobile technology and social media provides experts with easier paths to reach members of the community, Dr. Goldman said. "We're all carrying personalized devices with us that we use to communicate," she . "We can personalize our approaches to prevention in ways that we never have before."

*GW Today, July 5, 2016*

### [Editorial: HPV vaccine: A 'tragically underused' weapon in the cancer fight](#)

The American Academy of Pediatrics is teaching doctors how to talk to patients and their parents about HPV vaccine, and how to overcome reservations with solid scientific information about its safety and efficacy. Experts at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urge physicians who treat youngsters to update the patients' HPV vaccine status at every office visit, whether it's for sickness or just for a sports physical.

That means more chances for doctors to recommend the shot or complete the regimen. Consider this editorial a booster shot for that message.

*Chicago Tribune, July 4, 2016*

### **Michigan Cancer Consortium releases 2015 annual report with HPV facts, findings**

"Cancer remains the second leading cause of death in Michigan, although it's a disease that in many cases can be prevented through the use of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination or detected early by having recommended cancer screening tests," said MCC co-chair Dr. Ernesto Drellichman, a colorectal surgeon with St. John Providence Health System. "Be sure to talk with your doctor because breast, cervical, colorectal and lung cancer can be detected early through screening tests. And HPV vaccination may prove to be a lifesaver for your kids." "Our call-to-action is for children to be vaccinated with the HPV anti-cancer vaccination and for adults to receive the colorectal cancer screening test they're eligible for," said MCC co-chair Joan Westendorp, chief nursing officer of the West Michigan Cancer Center.

*Midland Daily News, July 1, 2016*

### **HPV vaccination may lead to perceived need for safer sexual behaviors**

After receiving HPV vaccine, adolescent girls demonstrated a greater perceived need for safer sexual behaviors and an increased perception of the risk for sexually transmitted infections excluding HPV, according to recent research inVaccine. "Concerns have been raised by parents and clinicians that some girls who received the HPV vaccine may incorrectly perceive themselves to be at less risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) other than HPV and thus may engage in riskier sexual behaviors," Tanya L. Kowalczyk Mullins, MD, MS, of the division of adolescent and transition medicine at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and colleagues wrote. "Therefore, the aim of the current study was to examine the associations between HPV vaccine-related risk perceptions and subsequent sexual behaviors and STI diagnosis ... following the first HPV vaccine dose."

*Helio, June 30, 2016*

### **Ontario to allow gay men to receive free HPV vaccination**

The shot, that normally costs \$450 without insurance, will be made available to LGBT men 26 years old and younger. Justeen Mansourian-Christakos, a communicable diseases nurse at the Sudbury and District Health Unit, said until recently, only teen girls could receive the vaccine for free through the province's immunization program. But that meant the onus was on women to be protected against the sexually transmitted infection. It also meant that men were not protected at all.

CBC News, June 30, 2016

### [AAP updates recommendations for management of adolescent suicide](#)

"From 1950 to 1990, the suicide rate for adolescents 15 to 19 years old increased by 300%, but from 1990 to 2013, the rate in this age group decreased by 28%," Benjamin Shain, MD, PhD, of North Shore University Health System, and the AAP's Committee on Adolescence, wrote. **"Adolescent boys 15 to 19 years old had a completed suicide rate that was three times greater than that of their female counterparts, whereas the rate of suicide attempts was twice as high among girls than among boys, correlating to girls tending to choose less lethal methods."** To aid pediatricians and other child and adolescent health care professionals in identifying and managing adolescent suicide risk, researchers published a report to update the previous statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

*Helio, June 29, 2016*

**NOTE: For more information about suicide and other mental health disorders among adolescent and young adult (AYA) males, visit the mental health section of the Partnership's [Health Provider Toolkit for AYA Males](#) [here](#)**

### [A Gay Male Meningitis Outbreak; DPH's slow response](#)

With one person dead and 8 infected, ranging in ages from 24 to 43 years old, it's looking like deadly "de ja vu" all over again, as Infectious Meningococcal Disease (IMD) breaks out in Los Angeles County and Orange County. At least 4 of the 9 cases are among men who have sex with men. On June 24, a Health Alert was issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), targeted to the "provider community," and entitled "Outbreak of Meningococcal Disease among adult Males in Southern California." With one person dead and 8 infected, ranging in ages from 24 to 43 years old, it's looking like deadly "de ja vu" all over again, as Infectious Meningococcal Disease (IMD) breaks out in Los Angeles County and Orange County. At least 4 of the 9 cases are among men who have sex with men. On June 24, a Health Alert was issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), targeted to the "provider community," and entitled "Outbreak of Meningococcal Disease among adult Males in Southern California." "Since May 2016, nine confirmed cases of meningococcal disease, including one death," the alert reads, "have been reported in men living in Southern California, most of whom were men who have sex with men (MSM)."

*The Pride, June 29, 2016*

### [Ontario To Provide HPV Vaccine For Free To Gay, Bisexual Men, All Grade 7 Students](#)

Ontario is expanding its free vaccine for the human papillomavirus or HPV to people aged 26 or younger who identify as gay, bisexual or men who have sex with men, including some transgender people. Health Minister Eric Hoskins says men who have sex with men

are at increased risk of HPV infection, which can lead to penile and anal cancer. Ontario had already announced plans to offer the HPV vaccine to boys as well as girls in Grade 7 this fall as part of its routine school-based immunization program. Previously, it was offered only to girls in Grade 8. Experts estimate that without vaccination, 75 per cent of sexually active Canadians will get HPV in their lifetime.

*Huffington Post, June 28, 2016*

### **Male Minority Athletes More Likely To Suffer Sudden Heart Failure**

The study goes on to say that around 40% of sudden deaths in males were due to hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, with over 50% of the condition occurring in minority males. Only 1% of the cases were found in minority females.

*Immortal News, June 29, 2016*

### **AAP recommends routine universal screening for adolescent substance use**

The AAP has released an updated policy statement on adolescent substance use that recommends universal screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment become part of routine health care. "Substance use has an enormous direct and indirect public health impact on children and teenagers," Sharon J.L. Levy, MD, MPH, FAAP, co-lead author of the AAP's Committee on Substance Use and Prevention and assistant professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, and colleagues wrote. "Pediatricians play a vital longitudinal role in the lives of adolescents and are uniquely positioned to effect change in adolescent patients' health knowledge, behaviors and well-being." Every year, 83% of adolescents come into contact with a physician, the researchers wrote. In addition, adolescents are the age group at greatest risk for substance use-related consequences.

*According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "Men are more likely than women to use almost all types of illicit drugs, and illicit drug use is more likely to result in emergency department visits or overdose deaths for men than for women. "Illicit" refers to use of illegal drugs, including marijuana (according to federal law) and misuse of prescription drugs. For most age groups, men have higher rates of use or dependence on illicit drugs and alcohol than do women."*

*Helio, June 27, 2016*

**NOTE: For more information about substance use disorders among adolescent and young adult (AYA) males, visit the substance use disorder section of the Partnership's**

**[Health Provider Toolkit for AYA Males](#)**

**[here](#)**

### **The Challenges of Male Friendships**

From childhood on, Dr. Olds said, "men's friendships are more often based on mutual activities like sports and work rather than what's happening to them psychologically. Women are taught to draw one another out; men are not." ... "Men have a harder time reaching their emotions and are less likely than women to reveal their emotional side. But when you have a real friendship, it's because you've done just that. I have a number of men in my practice who feel bad about having lost touch with old friends. Yet it turns out men are delighted when an old friend reaches out to revive the relationship. Men might need a stronger signal than women do to reconnect. It may not be enough to send an email to an old friend. It may be better to invite him to visit."

*New York Times, June 27, 2016*

### [IRELAND: More young people seeking mental health support online](#)

More and more young people are opting to seek mental health support online rather than face to face or over the phone. Over the first five years of operation in Ireland ReachOut.com, Ireland's online youth mental health service, found that 62% of young people would visit a website for support when going through a tough time. Young people are most likely to look for support online, and favour online support as highly as speaking to a friend, it is a first port of call over talking to a health professional (38%), calling a helpline (14%) or speaking to a parent or guardian (28%). These figures have been released as part of ReachOut's five year review.

*Clare Herald, June 26, 2016*

### [Male Attendance at Title X Family Planning Clinics - United States, 2003-2014](#)

Although both men and women have reproductive health care needs, family planning providers traditionally focus services toward women ( 1,2). Challenges in providing family planning services to men, including preconception health, infertility, contraceptive, and sexually transmitted disease (STD) care (3,4), include their infrequent use of preventive health services, a perceived lack of need for these services (1,5), and the lack of provider guidance regarding men's reproductive health care needs (4). Since 1970, the National Title X Family Planning Program has provided cost-effective and confidential family planning and related preventive health services with priority for services to low-income women and men. To examine men's use of services at Title X service sites, CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Population Affairs (OPA) analyzed data from the 2003-2014 Family Planning Annual Reports (FPAR), annual data that are required of all Title X-funded agencies. ***During 2003-2014, 3.8 million males visited Title X service sites in the United States and the percentage of family planning users who were male nearly doubled from 4.5% (221,425 males) in 2003 to 8.8% (362,531 males) in 2014. In 2014, the percentage of family planning users who were male varied widely by state, ranging from ≤1% in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama to 27.2% in the District of Columbia (DC).*** Title X service sites are increasingly providing services for males. Health care settings might want to adopt the



framework employed by Title X clinics to better provide family planning and related preventative services to men (3).

*MMWR, June 17, 2016*

### **Teens' Social Media Use: How They Connect & What It Means for Health**

In this digital age, technology and the Internet are part of everyday life. Social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook are especially prominent in the lives of adolescents, and they're not just for talking with friends: adolescents use social media to express themselves and find information.

***Teens' social media use differs by gender. Boys report going on Facebook most often ; while girls are more likely than boys to use visually-oriented platforms such as Tumblr, Pinterest, and Instagram.***

Below, we look at their habits, the risks and benefits of social media use, and resources to keep youth safe online.

*Office of Adolescent Health, May 13, 2016*

### **The 2016 KIDS COUNT Data Book**

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2016 KIDS COUNT Data Book finds today's youth - Generation Z - are healthier and completing high school on time despite mounting economic inequality and increasingly unaffordable college tuition. Aided by smart policies and investments in prevention, a record number of teens are making positive choices. This year, the annual report focuses on key trends in child well-being in the post-recession years and offers recommendations for how policymakers can ensure all children are prepared for the future, based on the country's shared values of opportunity, responsibility and security.

*Annie E. Casey Foundation, June 21, 2016*

### **Interventions to Improve HPV Vaccine Uptake: A Systematic Review**

#### **Abstract**

CONTEXT: The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is a safe, effective cancer prevention method that is underutilized in the United States. Despite increased understanding of barriers to vaccination, rates remain low. Globally, developed and developing nations have achieved high rates of vaccination.



**OBJECTIVE:** Identification of effective strategies is necessary to optimize uptake of the HPV vaccine. We systematically reviewed the literature for national and international interventions that have successfully increased HPV vaccine uptake.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Population-based vaccination strategies that increased vaccine availability reached the greatest number of adolescents and were most successful in achieving high rates of vaccination.

*Pediatrics, July 2016*

### [Study examines how gender and family history may affect alcohol use in adolescents](#)

This study looked at how gender and family history (FH) of alcoholism might affect alcohol use in a sample of 18- to 19-year-olds from the Dresden Longitudinal Study on Alcohol use in Young Adults (D-LAYA). During the interviews, the females reported significantly less real-life drinking than the males and, in the laboratory, achieved significantly lower mean arterial Blood Alcohol Concentrations (BACs), reported greater sedation, and rated negative effects as high as the males. The authors believe that adolescent women chose lower BACs because they experienced adverse alcohol effects, such as sedation, at lower BACs than men. A positive FH did not appear to be a risk factor for drinking for this sample.

*Medical News, June 25, 2016*

### [Health Care Use and HIV Testing of Males Aged 15-39 Years in Physician's Offices - United States, 2009-2012](#)

In 2014, 81% of new human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection diagnoses in the United States were in males, with the highest number of cases among those aged 20-29 years. Racial and ethnic minorities continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV; there are 13 new diagnoses each year per 100,000 white males, 94 per 100,000 black males, and 42 per 100,000 Hispanic males ( 1). Despite the recommendation by CDC for HIV testing of adults and adolescents (2), in 2014, only 36% of U.S. males aged  $\geq 18$  years reported ever having an HIV test (3), and in 2012, an estimated 15% of males living with HIV had undiagnosed HIV infection (4). To identify opportunities for HIV diagnosis in young males, CDC analyzed data from the 2009-2012 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) and U.S. Census data to estimate rates of health care use at U.S. physicians' offices and HIV testing at these encounters. During 2009-2012, white males visited physicians' offices more often (average annual rate of 1.6 visits per person) than black males (0.9 visits per person) and Hispanic males (0.8 visits per person). Overall, an HIV test was performed at 1.0% of visits made by young males to physicians' offices, with

higher testing rates among black males (2.7%) and Hispanic males (1.4%), compared with white males (0.7%). Although higher proportions of black and Hispanic males received HIV testing at health care visits compared with white males, this benefit is likely attenuated by a lower rate of health care visits. Interventions to routinize HIV testing at U.S physicians' offices could be implemented to improve HIV testing coverage.

*MMWR, June 24, 2016*

### [UK: In a bid for the perfect profile pic, young men are increasingly turning to steroid](#)

What is even more alarming is that a significant number of young men are consuming a range of performance and image enhancing drugs, including steroids and human growth hormone. While the use of steroids has traditionally been limited to professional athletes, bodybuilders, soldiers and police, it is increasingly becoming a mainstream choice for young men looking to bulk up or lose weight.

*The Conversation, June 23, 2016*

### [Behavior Woes Hamper Boys More Than Girls in School: Study](#)

Behavior problems are more likely to hold boys back in school than girls, a new study shows. "When I compared 4- and 5-year-old boys and girls who had the same levels of behavior problems -- including difficulty sustaining attention, regulating emotions, delaying gratification, and forming positive relationships with teachers and peers -- I found that boys were less likely to learn and more likely to be held back in school," said study author Jayanti Owens. She is a professor at Brown University in Rhode Island. "My study also showed that the way schools respond to boys' behaviors plays a significant role in shaping their educational outcomes years later," Owens said in an American Sociological Association news release.

*Bismark Tribune, June 23, 2016*

### [Merck's Gardasil leads to major HPV declines, but coverage holes remain: Study](#)

In recent months, high-profile medical organizations have joined an effort to urge more vaccination against HPV, with the NCI's Cancer Centers even calling the vaccines "tragically underused" and decrying low uptake in the U.S. as a "public health threat." Now, those groups will have more firepower for their arguments as a new analysis--citing a decade's worth of real-world data for Merck's (\$MRK) Gardasil--documented dramatic HPV reductions following vaccine introduction in various countries. Led by the Royal Women's Hospital at the University of Melbourne, Australia, the team looked at 58 studies in 9 countries from 2007 to February 2016, documenting a nearly 90% decrease in HPV incidence in countries with the highest vaccination rates. However, the team found that some countries have a ways to go with their vaccination programs, adding that "HPV-

related disease remains a significant source of morbidity and mortality in developing and developed nations, underscoring the need" for such programs. "The full public-health potential of HPV vaccination is not yet realized," the team wrote in the abstract. In areas with the best coverage, the analysis also found reductions of approximately 90% for genital warts, 90% for high-grade histologically proven cervical abnormalities and 60% for low-grade cytological cervical abnormalities. The data were gathered from PubMed and Embase, with the impact of Gardasil becoming "increasingly evident" over the course of the period. More than 205 million Gardasil doses had been distributed as of Dec. 31, 2015, the team noted.

*Fierce Pharma, June 21, 2016*

### **Cancer doctors leading campaign to boost use of HPV vaccine**

The nation's leading cancer doctors are pushing pediatricians and other providers to help increase use of the HPV vaccine, which studies show could help avert tens of thousands of cancer cases during young Americans' lives. Yet a decade after its controversial introduction, the vaccine remains stubbornly underused even as some of those diseases surge. The oncologists' goal is to rebrand the vaccine to focus on cancer prevention. They are determined to dismantle what researchers say is the No. 1 obstacle to wider inoculation: pediatricians and family doctors who aren't strongly recommending the vaccine. Studies show that a forceful endorsement from a physician is the most important factor in whether children get the vaccine, which is recommended for ages 11 and 12. Yet a frustrating level of "provider hesitancy" persists. "The failure belongs to us," acknowledged Jason Terk, a pediatrician in Keller, Tex. "It's an epic fail."

*Washington Post, June 19, 2016*

### **Snip snap**

*Why more than half of newborn boys in America are circumcised*

Sexual, health and aesthetic norms do not vary much across the West. Male circumcision is an exception. Over half of American boys are snipped, compared with 2-3% in Finland and Britain. The procedure is justified in America on grounds given little credence in Europe: that it makes genitals cleaner, nicer-looking and more socially acceptable. Circumcision first became popular in the late 19th century as a supposed cure for masturbation-and health problems from headaches to tuberculosis. After the second world war it became associated in America with hygiene and wealth; in other rich countries governments (which paid for most health care) were unconvinced of its merits. On the whole, European countries view the snip as an infringement on the child's bodily integrity that cannot be justified on medical grounds. It is true that circumcision can help prevent some sexually transmitted infections-but the evidence is from African countries where HIV/AIDS is common. Other infections can be fought in other ways, for example

with vaccines or antibiotics. America puts parents' wishes first-even if future generations may find their reasons as odd as the Victorians' desire to check "excessive lust".

*The Economist, June 18, 2016*

### [HPV vaccine's worldwide health impact is clear](#)

In the decade since the HPV vaccine was introduced, it has substantially reduced cervical pre-cancers, genital warts and abnormal Pap smears in countries with immunization programs, according to a new international review. The review, published online this month in the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, looked at 58 studies of the effectiveness of Merck's Gardasil vaccine in Australia, Europe, North America, and New Zealand. The review was funded in part by a Merck-supported healthcare research company. Gardasil protects against sexually transmitted strains of the human papillomavirus (HPV) that cause most genital warts and 70 percent of cervical cancers, as well as some less common cancers of the head, neck, and genitals that occur in both men and women. (A newer version of Gardasil protects against strains that cause 90 percent of cervical cancers.) Because HPV-related cancer typically takes decades to develop, the full impact of the vaccine will take more time to emerge.

*Philadelphia Inquirer, June 16, 2016*

### [1 in 13 Young Adults in U.S. Considered Suicide in Past Year](#)

*Federal data from 2013-2014 also finds significant differences between states*

"Breaking down barriers regarding mental health, improving access to mental health services, better parental involvement and increasing awareness of crisis intervention hotlines are all necessary," said Dr. Robert Dicker. He helps direct child and adolescent psychiatry at Northwell Health in New Hyde Park, N.Y. The new report is based on 2013-2014 federal data. The findings also show significant differences in rates of "serious suicidal thoughts" among young adults across various states. Rates ranged from a high of 10.3 percent in New Hampshire to a low of 6.2 percent in Texas, the study found. Other states with the highest rates were Alaska, Indiana, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon and Utah. Some states with the lowest rates were Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, New Mexico, South Carolina and the District of Columbia.

*Medline Plus, June 16, 2016*

### [Male Teen Obesity May Mean Liver Disease Later](#)

*Study found risk increased as weight went up*

Older teen boys who are overweight or obese could be at increased risk for severe liver disease later in life, a new study suggests. The research included nearly 45,000 Swedish males who entered military service in their late teens between 1969 and 1970. The investigators reviewed over 40 years of their health information. Nearly 400 of them were

diagnosed with severe liver disease, the study authors said. Men who were overweight or obese in their late teens were 64 percent more likely to develop severe liver disease compared with men who had a low normal weight in their late teens. The researchers said that worked out to a 5 percent increased risk for every one point increase in body mass index (BMI).

*Healthday, June 16, 2016*

### **School-based programs improved HPV vaccination rates: study**

Improving access to human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine leads to more improvement in vaccine uptake than other interventions, according to a [new study](#). Such interventions often come in the form of school-based vaccination programs (VP) that reach large number of adolescents. The Academy and CDC recommend HPV vaccine as part of routine immunization for males and females at age 11 or 12 years.

*AAP News, June 15, 2016*

### **'We're Not a Threat': Transgender Teen Shares Powerful Message on Bullying**

Corey Maison said she always knew in her heart that she was a female. The 14-year-old transgender teen describes herself as unique, outgoing, funny and has dreams of one day becoming a supermodel. But for now, Corey's main focus is sharing her story of how she's overcome bullying, in the hopes of supporting others who face the same obstacle. "We're not a threat," Corey wrote to ABC News. "We are just like any other kids. We only want people to accept and love us for who we are."

*ABC News, June 15, 2016*

### **Why are most internet trolls men?**

According to Dr Claire Hardaker of Lancaster University, we can't be certain but there is "lots of anecdotal evidence" that most trolls are male - that's despite a study in May revealing half of all tweets containing the words 'slut' and 'whore' come from women. "I don't buy into the simplistic idea that it's a teenage boy sitting in his mum's basement," adds Bates. "Many are men with good jobs and families. The one thing that comes out from the messages I receive is, 'Shut up!' So perhaps it comes from a defensive reaction that by talking about women's rights they think we must be trying to steal something from men." It is hard to know exactly what motivates trolls - they don't tend to volunteer for studies. Yet empirical evidence of those who have turned up in the papers suggests the abusers are often - though certainly not always - from disadvantaged social groups; and as Bates, says, the messages directed at women are often domineering in their tone, which suggests an attempt to grab some of the power they feel has been denied them by society.

*Telegraph, June 15, 2016*

## [What Do We Do If The Orlando Shooter Really Was Gay?](#)

What happens when it's revealed that the man who killed 49 queer people - most of them queer people of color - and wounded 53 others at a queer nightclub might have been a longtime patron of that club and that he was spotted on gay sex apps? One of the most horrific and heartbreaking moments in modern American history threatens to become even more horrific and heartbreaking. Suddenly, instead of simply (or not so simply) blaming the mass shooting on a dizzyingly noxious cocktail of hate, extremism, mental illness and offensively lax gun laws, we now must also grapple with the gruesome and all-too-familiar specter of internalized homophobia materializing to haunt this tragedy.

*Huffington Post, June 15, 2016*

## [Overcompensation Nation: It's time to admit that toxic masculinity drives gun violence](#)

Our national attachment to dominance models of manhood is a major reason why we have so much violence. If toxic masculinity was just about men posturing around each other in a comical fashion, that would be one thing, but this persistent pressure to constantly be proving manhood and warding off anything considered feminine or emasculating is the main reason why we have so many damn shootings in the United States. Whether it's Islamic terrorism or Columbine-style shootings or, as is the case with some of the most common but least covered mass shootings, an act of domestic violence by a man who would rather kill his family than lose control, the common theme is this toxic masculinity, a desire on the part of the shooter to show off how much power and control he has, to take male dominance to the level of exerting control over life and death itself.

*Salon, June 13, 2016*

## [It's 2016 And Two Men Kissing Is Still A Stunning, Terrifying Sight](#)

We don't know exactly why the Orlando he did it and we may never know. What we do know - what I've known my entire life - is that the sight of two men kissing is a stunning, terrifying thing. A dangerous thing. A thing that inspires fury and fear and violence and, yes, murder. Even today, even living in New York City, one of the most accepting cities in the world, I think twice before holding another man's hand or kissing another man's face. I don't want to - every time I do it I internally recoil a bit at my own reaction. And then I take a deep breath and take my date's hand. Or I push my lips towards my friend's lips when we're saying "goodnight." It's a simple act - a moment - but even twenty years after I first came out, I feel the terror swarming me because I do not know what might happen. After the Orlando massacre, we are devastated. We are terrified. We are in mourning. But we aren't alone and we must not let anything stop us from continuing our fight to be heard, to be seen, to be respected and to be free.

*Huffington Post, June 12, 2016*

### **Altered Brain Connectivity in Adolescent Males With Conduct Disorder**

Abnormalities in the connectivity of white matter in teens with conduct disorder may play a role in the presence and severity of antisocial behavior in these youth, indicates a new study in PLOS ONE. Compared to healthy peers, adolescents with conduct disorder had measurably different cellular connectivity-increased fractional anisotropy- in 7 different regions of the brain as measured using the MRI-based technique diffusion tensor imaging (DTI).

*Psychiatry Advisor, June 10, 2016*

### **Suicide attempts in teenaged boys increase future heart disease risk**

According to a new study, teenagers - particularly boys - who try to attempt suicide or are close to someone who has attempted suicide are at a higher risk for heart disease in their 20s. The findings of the study showed that young males had higher blood pressure and systemic low-grade inflammation if they had attempted suicide as a teenager. On the other hand, young women were more likely to be overweight or obese as well as have high blood pressure if they were close to someone who tried to kill himself/herself. "What we are seeing is that suicide attempts in adolescence - which are typically considered as a mental health problem - could also signal the potential for physical health problems into young adulthood," said lead author Lilly Shanahan, assistant professor at University of North Carolina.

*Indian Express, June 9, 2016*

### **Decade of Gardasil vaccination reduces global infection, anogenital warts, cervical lesions**

Garland and colleagues found reductions of approximately 90% for HPV infection, genital warts and high-grade histologically proven cervical abnormalities, as well as an approximately 60% reduction in low-grade cytological cervical abnormalities among countries with the greatest vaccine coverage. However, the reduced impact among countries with less coverage, or among countries not included in the review whose vaccination programs may not be fully developed, suggests areas in need of improvement.

*Helio, June 9, 2016*



### **Teenage boys who show empathy attract 1.8 more girlfriends than boys who don't**

*Landmark study shows the extent that teen males and females select empathic classmates as friends*

It is the first study to examine the extent that adolescent males and females select empathic classmates as friends. And the conclusion based on a study of 1,970 Year 10 students in Queensland and New South Wales (average age of 15.7 years) is that girls are more likely to nominate empathic boys as friends. In contrast, empathetic girls didn't rate quite so highly with the opposite sex. In fact, the study found girls with empathetic qualities "did not attract a greater number of opposite sex friends" at all.

*Science Daily, June 8, 2016*

### **Pubertal timing strongly linked to men's sexual and reproductive health**

A new study finds a strong association between late onset of puberty and subsequent semen quality. This is the first study of its kind to investigate the influence of pubertal timing on male reproductive health. 1,068 healthy young Danish men participated in the study and provided information on the timing of puberty. This suggests that timing of pubertal onset may be a fundamental marker of male reproductive health. Men with a history of early puberty were shorter, had a higher BMI and were often smokers or exposed to prenatal tobacco smoke.

*Science Daily, June 8, 2016*

### **Vaccine Harm Anecdotes Work, Even When People Don't Believe Them**

We found that telling participants about the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), without having them read the actual reports, improved vaccine acceptance only very slightly. Even worse, when participants read the detailed reports, both vaccine acceptance and trust in the CDC's conclusion that vaccines are safe declined significantly. What we found next surprised us: The vast majority of our survey respondents, the same ones who were less accepting of vaccines and less trusting of the CDC, said that they believed the vaccine caused few or none of the reported deaths and disabilities. This means that the individual stories of perceived vaccine harms were highly influential, even when people didn't believe they were true.

*American Council on Science and Health, June 6, 2015*

### **First U.S. Penis Transplant Patient Heads Home**

The first patient to receive a penis transplant in the United States has been discharged from the hospital three weeks after his 15-hour surgery. Thomas Manning, 64, left Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on Wednesday and was traveling back to his hometown of Halifax, Mass., the Associated Press reported. Manning said he can now urinate after two follow-up procedures were performed, but sexual function is months

away from becoming a reality, the wire service said. After being diagnosed with penile cancer in 2012, Manning's penis was amputated. He is the third man in the world to receive a new penis, following transplants in South Africa in 2014 and China in 2005, the AP reported.

*Healthfinder.gov, June 2, 2016*

### [Tough Economy, Alcohol Fuels Suicide Risk in Men: Study](#)

*But similar link not seen for women*

Heavy drinking may fuel the risk of suicide among men when the economy is sinking, new research suggests. In general, recessions are linked with an overall decline in drinking, but heavy drinking increases, particularly among people affected by the economic downturn, said study author Mark Kaplan, a professor of social welfare at UCLA. "Surprisingly, there is evidence that individuals intoxicated at the time of death did not necessarily have a history of alcohol abuse prior to suicide," Kaplan said. The researchers analyzed data from 16 states to compare alcohol use between suicide victims and the general population in 2005-2007, during the 2008-2009 recession, and again in 2010-2011. The percentage of suicide victims who were drunk at the time of their death rose during the recession. Among men, heavy drinking among suicide victims increased more than in the general population. But the same did not hold true for women who died by suicide, the researchers found. Instead, the rate of heavy drinking by women was identical to the general population.

*Health Day, May 26, 2016*

### **Partnership Awarded Grants for 2016 Projects**

The Partnership is pleased to announce that it been awarded a number of new unrestricted educational grants from Merck to support its 2016 programming.

The grants will support the Partnership's continuing work in the areas of clinical practice and engagement of male youth. Among other things, the grants will support updating the web-based [Health Provider Toolkit for Adolescent and Young Adult Males](#), condensation of its contents into a series of practical clinical tools, and activities to engage male youth in their own health care.

"These awards will add to our momentum in highlighting the health care needs of adolescent and young adult males," said Dennis Barbour, Partnership President and

CEO. "2016 has already been a productive year for us. With these and other grants we hope to be able to collaborate even more closely with our Partners in reaching our vision."

### **Black male suicide matters: Facts you should know**

Suicide is a sad growing trend among young Black men. Because of the stigma attached to mental health care, in the Black community undiagnosed depressive disorders go unnoticed by family and friends. Shockingly the biggest increase is among Black children ages 5 through 11. The latest CDC information shows that suicide among that age and demographic rose from 1.78 to 3.47 per one million. While the suicide rate for White children declined from 1.96 to 1.31 per million. During the four-year study that was completed by the CDC in 2012, there were 41 suicide deaths among black boys, and 73 among white boys. The book *Black Suicide: The Tragic Reality of America's Deadliest Secret* starkly speaks of this point. Authors Alton R. Kirk and Donna Holland Barnes state, "Only in recent years have Black people begun to recognize that suicide is a major problem for the African-American community. Suicide within this population exists in far greater numbers and for a longer period than many people realize."

*Rolling Out, June 5, 2016*

### **The damage being done when people insist 'boys will be boys'**

Another small American town has been rocked by revelations of sexual abuse at the hands of some of their most protected football stars this week, and local response is sadly much as we've come to expect. According to the Washington Post, the town of Dietrich, Idaho is "a community on edge" after charges were filed against three high school football players alleged to have sexually assaulted a fellow student. While it's not uncommon for residents to rally around young men with "promising futures" (remember Steubenville?), there is one key difference between this case and most of the ones we hear about - in Dietrich, the victim is a male teammate. He's also an intellectually disabled black male in an overwhelmingly white town. Prior to the assault, he had been subjected to racist bullying. During the assault, the three defendants allegedly inserted and then kicked a coat-hanger into his rectum.

*Daily Life, June 3, 2016*

### **Young People At Risk For STDs Often Don't Get Tested: Study**

Although they account for half of all new sexually transmitted infections, most young people between the ages of 15 and 25 have never been tested for those infections, according to a study published in the May issue of the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. The 2013 survey of 3,953 adolescents and young adults by researchers at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 11.5 percent had been tested for a sexually transmitted infection in the previous year, including 17 percent of females and 6 percent of males. Overall, young people between 15 and 25 make up a quarter of the population who are sexually experienced. But the survey found that nearly

half - 42 percent - of those who had sex and had not been tested for disease thought they were not at risk.

*Kaiser Health News, June 3, 2016*

### **Enhanced communication improves HPV vaccination completion rates**

Recent research in Vaccine identified specific areas which provider-based interventions should focus on, such as improving communication skills regarding adolescent sexuality, in order to improve HPV vaccination completion rates. "If we don't fully vaccinate young people, they don't receive the full protection," Sharon M. Hudson, PhD, a researcher in the department of research and evaluation at Kaiser Permanente Southern California, told Infectious Diseases in Children. "That is why it's important for health care systems and providers to do everything we can to ensure complete vaccination. Our study identified several areas where we can focus efforts to improve vaccine coverage and therefore better protect our patients against these cancers." Study results showed that at both high- and low-performing medical centers, support for HPV vaccination was strong. However, clinicians at higher-performing centers were more likely to use effective communication techniques, such as engaging parents and patients in two-way conversation and acknowledging cultural and practical vaccination barriers. Clinicians from higher-performing centers also were able to recall conversations about sexuality in greater detail, were more likely to describe these conversations as difficult, and they more frequently led to successful vaccination, when compared with clinicians at lower-performing centers.

*Helio, June 3, 2016*

### **GPs call for all boys to receive HPV jab as scheme for gay men launched**

GPs have renewed calls for boys to receive the HPV vaccine, as pilot schemes to vaccinate men who have sex with men (MSM) at selected GUM and HIV clinics in England get underway. Public Health England (PHE) said the pilots to vaccinate MSM will 'help to determine whether it is possible to establish an appropriate and effective way to deliver the vaccination programme across the country at a later date'. A vaccination programme for girls aged 12-13 has been in place since 2008 to protect them from cervical cancer, genital warts and other cancers. The same scheme is not currently extended to boys, who are considered to receive a herd protection effect as a result of vaccination for girls. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) says it is currently unclear whether a scheme targeting all boys would be cost-effective. It has said it cannot consider approving a scheme until results from two mathematical models determining this are ready by '2017 at the earliest'. But MSM are less likely to receive the herd protection benefits of vaccinating girls, and the JCVI concluded it was 'highly likely' a targeted vaccination programme would be cost-effective late last year.

*GP, June 2, 2015*

### [U.S. Teen Birth Rate Continues to Fall, Hits New Record Low](#)

*CDC statistics for 2015 show another 8 percent drop*

The number of babies born to American teenaged girls fell another 8 percent in 2015, reaching a new record low. According to the report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, moms aged 15 to 19 accounted for about 22 of every 1,000 live births in 2015 -- down from about 24 per 1,000 the year before.

*Medline Plus, June 2, 2016*

### [Reported data on vaccines may not build public trust or adherence](#)

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a national vaccine safety reporting system that collects information about possible side effects that may occur after inoculation. Developed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and available online, anyone can report possible adverse reactions to vaccines for any reason, making it a rich source of information about possible vaccine harms. Recently, University of Missouri researchers proposed that open communication about VAERS could improve public trust that vaccines are safe, thereby increasing vaccine acceptance. Findings from the study suggest that data and stories may not increase the public's acceptance of vaccines.

"Since anyone can report anything to VAERS for any reason, the VAERS reports contain incidents of serious adverse events that may not have anything to do with the vaccine," Scherer said. "We thought that by having people read the actual reports, they would see that there are very few reported serious events, and that the vaccine may not have even caused the event. Taken together, we felt this might make participants feel more assured that vaccines are safe-but in fact, what we found was the opposite." Results showed that participants who were educated about the VAERS system and who were given summary data about adverse events had slightly more vaccine acceptance compared to those who received the vaccine statement alone. However, exposure to detailed incident reports significantly reduced vaccine acceptance and trust in the CDC's declaration that vaccines are safe. "When participants read the incident reports, there was a marked reduction in their willingness to vaccinate-even though most participants believed the vaccines caused few or even none of the deaths," Scherer said.

*Medical Express, June 1, 2016*

*And the number who are OK with homosexuality has quadrupled in last 40 years, survey finds*

The number of Americans who say they've had sexual activity with someone of the same gender has doubled since the 1970s, a new survey reveals.

And, during the past 40 years, the number of Americans who say they have no problem with same-sex sexual activity has more than quadrupled, the survey showed. "This data showed strikingly how quickly opinions on same-sex sexuality changed," said study lead author Jean Twenge, a professor of psychology at San Diego State University. The trend,

she added, "suggests a fundamental shift in sexual behavior toward more freedom and the abandonment of previously strict social rules against same-sex sexuality."

The findings come from the National Opinion Research Center's General Social Survey, spanning 1973 to 2014. Participants were between 18 and 96 years old.

*Medline Plus, June 1, 2016*

### [Genes Might Help Shield Some Black Men From Obesity](#)

*But these same factors don't appear to reduce risk of excess weight for black women*

Though the obesity epidemic affects people of all backgrounds, experts have long noted that black women face a notably higher risk of being overweight or obese than black men. Now, a new study has identified genetic factors in black men with a strong West African ancestry that are associated with a lower risk of belly fat. But this apparent benefit doesn't extend to black women, regardless of their lineage.

*Medline Plus, June 1, 2016*

### [New Zealand: HPV funding "a big step forward" for gay & bi men](#)

Pharmac has announced a proposal to fund human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines for males aged 26 years and younger, a "big step forward" for gay and bisexual men says Dr Peter Saxton who also calls for an extension of this age range for the demographic. "Young gay men who are the group most at risk of developing anal cancer later in life can receive the vaccine without having to disclose their sexuality, which may be unsafe for them, or paying for it themselves at a cost of \$500 for three doses", says Saxton.

*GayNZ, May 31, 2016*

### [Males and Depression: 7 Signs and How To Help](#)

As a female therapist, it can be very difficult for me to work with adolescent boys who are irritable, defensive, and struggling with depression. It is not one of the easiest jobs. Why? Because males tend to have so many layers to their thought patterns and personality that helping them increase awareness of what is happening to them is like trying to help a 2 year old understand that temper tantrums are immature. Men have so many social expectations to overcome and so many personal goals to achieve. Focusing on depression is not something they want to make time for. That's why it is important (as a therapist, a wife, sister, cousin, mother, etc.) that we understand how to help them .

*Psych Central (blog)*

### [New Zealand: Free HPV shots will save boys' lives - doctors](#)

New Zealand Medical Association chairperson Dr Stephen Child said it was a positive step that would save lives, whatever the cost. "Cancers of the mouth and tongue are becoming increasingly common and there is a link with the (HPV) virus, which is what we are trying to prevent," he said. Auckland head and neck surgeon Dr John Chaplin said the vaccine was already free to boys in Australia, Canada, the United States and the UK. It was time it was in New Zealand too, he said. "I see an increasing number of people with human papillomavirus-related throat cancers and that's occurs predominantly in men, in a ratio of four to one, men to women" he said. About 60 percent of teenage girls were vaccinated, and parents needed to be encouraged to immunise their sons as well, said Dr Chaplin.

*RNZ, May 30, 2016*

### [Lifestyle May Be Key to Improving ADHD in Kids](#)

*Healthier habits related to exercise and diet could help many with the disorder, researcher says.*

"Many parents of children diagnosed with ADHD do not want their children on medication. Having their children follow healthy lifestyle behaviors may be an effective intervention, either alongside or in the place of traditional ADHD medications," said study author Kathleen Holton. She is a member of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience at American University in Washington, D.C. "Parents of children with ADHD should talk with their pediatrician about how to improve health behaviors, such as limiting screen time, encouraging physical activity, improving bedtime routines and drinking water rather than other beverages," she suggested in a university news release.

NOTE: The ADHD diagnosis rate among male adolescents is 2.3 times that among female adolescents

*Healthfinder, May 30, 2016*

### [AUSTRALIA: Male suicide: "We have to name the problem to deal with it"](#)

TEN Queensland men a week are taking their own lives. The rate of male suicide has risen by more than a third in under a decade and experts say the alarming toll can no longer be ignored. "This is a daily tragedy affecting individuals, families and communities that isn't going away. We can and must do more," said Glen Poole, founder of a new project, Stop Male Suicide. "Everyone has heard of the gender pay gap, but no one has heard about the gender suicide gap," he said. "We have to name the problem to deal with it." Queensland's level of suicide for both sexes is above the national average, with the 648 lives lost in 2014 accounting for one in four of the Australian total, ABS figures show. More than three-quarters of those - 490 - were male. "The simple fact is that men and boys are three times more likely to kill themselves than women and girls," Mr Poole said.

*Herald Sun, May 28, 2016*

### [Female clinicians more likely to initiate vaccinations at acute visits](#)



Recent research in the Journal of Adolescent Health found that, along with other clinical characteristics related to vaccination, female clinicians were more likely to administer vaccinations to adolescents during acute care visits. "Because little is known about gender-related differences in delivery of adolescent preventive care, we examined the relationship between clinician, child, and guardian gender and receipt of HPV vaccine compared to Tdap and MCV4 vaccines, which are not associated with a sexually transmitted infection or gender-specific diseases," Laura Johnson Faherty, MD, MPH, of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at the University of Pennsylvania, and colleagues wrote. The researchers studied electronic health records of adolescents aged 11 to 18 years who visited 27 primary care clinics in The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Network between 2009 and 2014. Faherty and colleagues included visits during and after which the first HPV vaccination was due. After adjustment, data were analyzed to estimate the proportion of capture opportunities for HPV vaccine, Tdap and MCV4 administration. Study results showed no overall difference in the proportion of adolescents vaccinated between male and female clinicians during preventive visits. The researchers found, however, that female clinicians delivered all three vaccines significantly more often than male clinicians during acute care visits. Specifically, more HPV (2.7% vs. 1.2%;  $P < .001$ ), Tdap (6.4% vs. 4.1%;  $P = .013$ ), and MCV4 (6% vs. 3.7%;  $P = .013$ ) vaccinations were given by female clinicians as opposed to males.

*Helio, May 27, 2016*

### [UK to trial HPV vaccine in gay men but no plans yet for all boys](#)

The UK is to trial offering the HPV vaccine to gay and bisexual men, but campaigners are calling for the vaccine to be given to all boys, as is done in the US and Australia. Since 2008, girls in the UK have been vaccinated against the human papillomavirus, which can cause cervical cancer. But the virus, which is spread by sexual activity, can also trigger a range of other cancers, including anal, penile and throat cancer. Now the UK public health minister, Jane Ellison, has announced a pilot programme to offer the jab to 40,000 gay and bisexual men. Campaign groups have welcomed the announcement, but have repeated the call for all boys in the UK to be vaccinated. "Vaccinating all men who have sex with men against HPV would be a vital step, but to be most effective, the HPV vaccine must be made available widely to all boys before they're sexually active," said Shaun Griffin, of the Terrence Higgins Trust charity.

*New Scientist, May 27, 2016*

### [INTERVIEW: What makes teenage boys so clumsy?](#)

Scientists have given an explanation for why some teenage boys go through a clumsy phase. Scientists in Italy say that a sudden growth-spurt seen in puberty affects the body's ability to control established motor skills - like walking. Normally this only lasts as long as it takes for the brain adjusts to the body's new dimensions. But as Health Check's James Gallagher explained to Claudia Hammond, his clumsiness didn't go away.

BBC, 26 May 2016

### [App for young boys aims to prevent domestic violence](#)

A concept for an app aimed at engaging boys aged 10 to 15 to teach them respectful relationships with girls has been developed by a QUT social marketing expert as "another part of the jigsaw" to prevent domestic violence against women. The app, however, never mentions the words "domestic violence" or "violence against women," says social marketing expert Professor Rebekah Russell-Bennett from QUT Business School's School of Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations, who developed the concept with Logan-based (Brisbane) non-profit community organisation YFS. "Interventions at this stage of life can change young people's personal and relationship trajectories, preventing problems in adulthood," Professor Russell-Bennett said. "However, we are careful to steer clear of using the words 'domestic violence' anywhere in the app because, at that age, many young boys would not find it relevant. This may deter them from downloading and using the app.

*Medical Express, May 25, 2016*

### [AUSTRALIA: David Pocock's call for a new definition of masculinity](#)

Wallabies flanker David Pocock has called for a new conversation about what it means to be a man. The Rugby World Cup player met Wednesday with boys from Sydney's Waverley College and took the opportunity to share ideas with students. "It was great being able to sit down and explore this idea of what is real strength and how do you cultivate this strength to care, " he told SBS. Pocock wants young people to consider sexism, homophobia, domestic violence and the way we treat our environment as issues we are all responsible for and all have a part in affecting.

*SBS, May 25, 2016*

[More Young Male Australians Are Reaching Out For Mental Health Help](#) *There's been a 626 percent increase in contacts to Kids Help Line about mental health.*

Boys and young men remain reluctant to seek help for personal issues, amid a more than 500 percent increase in approaches to Kids Help Line over mental and emotional health concerns over the past 20 years. The Kids Help Line 2015 Insights Report shows there has been a 626 percent increase in contacts to KHL about mental health and/or emotional health, including self-injury, since 1996. The report also shows a 246 percent increase in contacts about suicide over the same period. But CEO Tracy Adams told The Huffington Post Australia young boys and men are still reluctant to reach out for help. "It's telling us young people are engaging in help seeking, which is a very positive thing," she said. "But it's also outlining a help seeking issue for boys and young men - most of the help seeking continues to be done by girls and young women.

*Huffington Post, May 24, 2016*

### **[Our future: a Lancet commission on adolescent health and wellbeing](#)**

This is the largest generation of adolescents and young adults in human history (1.8 billion), they are a group that demands more attention and action. Adolescents and young adults face unprecedented social, economic, and cultural change. This new Lancet commission argues that there are tremendous unrealised opportunities not only for the health and wellbeing of young people themselves but also for the future of society and future generations. Inaction however remains a threat to health, economic development, and even the health of our planet. The most powerful actions for adolescent health and wellbeing are intersectoral, multilevel, and multicomponent and engage and empower young people themselves to be part of change and accountability mechanisms. In addition to this groundbreaking Commission, *The Lancet* is also launching a campaign to continue dialogue around this critical topic. Increasing social impact of science and research will lead to better lives for all.

*The Lancet Commissions, May 10, 2016*

### **[QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates for Females and Males, by Method - National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2000 and 2014](#)**

From 2000 to 2014, the age-adjusted suicide rate increased from 4.0 to 5.8 per 100,000 for females and from 17.7 to 20.7 for males. Suicide rates by specific method (firearm, poisoning, suffocation, or other methods) also increased, with the greatest increase seen for suicides by suffocation. During the 15-year period, the rate of suicide by suffocation more than doubled for females from 0.7 to 1.6 and increased from 3.4 to 5.6 for males. In 2014, among females, suicide by poisoning had the highest rate (1.9), and among males, suicide by firearm had the highest rate (11.4). Suicide among adolescents and young adults is increasing and among the leading causes of death for those demographic groups .

*MMWR, May 20, 2017*

### **[Role of the School Nurse in Providing School Health Services](#)**

Policy Statement from From the American Academy of Pediatrics

School nurses and pediatricians, both community- and school-based, working together can be a great example of team-based care, defined as the provision of comprehensive health services to individuals, families, and/or their communities by at least 2 health professionals who work collaboratively along with patients, family caregivers, and community service providers on shared goals within and across settings to achieve care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable.

*Pediatrics, May 2016*

## [\*\*A Call for Fertility and Sexual Function Counseling in Pediatrics\*\*](#)

Historically, reproductive health in pediatrics has focused primarily on contraception and prevention of sexually transmitted infections. However, there is now a growing body of literature discussing the long-term impact of many pediatric conditions and treatments on fertility and sexual function, such as oncologic therapy, hematologic or autoimmune conditions requiring bone marrow transplantation, renal and rheumatologic disorders in which alkylators are used, cross-sex hormonal therapy used in the care of transgender youth, disorders of sex development, and other genetic syndromes such as galactosemia. Pediatric providers face dilemmas about the optimal approaches for assessing and discussing fertility and sexual function with patients and families, the type of guidance to give to parents about related communications with their children at each developmental stage, and ethical obligations regarding disclosure when parents are opposed to sharing sensitive information with their children.

*Pediatrics, May 2016*

## [\*\*Non-Surgical Male Circumcision Device Approved for Use in Adolescents by the World Health Organization\*\*](#)

PrePex - the ONLY non-surgical male circumcision device - was specially designed to scale-up Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) programs for HIV/AIDS prevention in 14 priority countries in Sub-Saharan Africa

The World Health Organization (WHO) expanded the Intended Use of the currently-prequalified PrePex device to include adolescents aged 13 years, and above. Effective immediately, the PrePex device, manufactured by Circ MedTech, can be offered for adult and adolescent males in the 14 priority countries in Southern and Eastern Africa. PrePex was the first male circumcision device to receive WHO Prequalification on 31 May 2013.

*PR Newswire, May 23, 2016*

## [\*\*Frat Brothers Keep Chugging Despite Anti-Booze Efforts\*\*](#)

*What works for other college students doesn't work for those in Greek organizations, study finds.*

The boys of "Animal House" and "Neighbors" may be immune to anti-boozing programs that curb drinking for other college kids, new research suggests. As Brown University researcher Lori Scott-Sheldon put it: "Current intervention methods appear to have limited effectiveness in reducing alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems among fraternity and possibly sorority members." Scott-Sheldon's team reviewed data on more than 6,000 fraternity and sorority members. The information came from 15 studies done over 25 years. Overall, the researchers looked at 21 different interventions aimed at reducing on-campus drinking. The investigators found no differences in drinking behaviors between those who had received some kind of anti-drinking intervention, and those who had not.

*Healthfinder, May 20, 2016*

### **High HIV Rates for Gay Men in Some Southern Cities**

*In Jackson, Miss., Columbia, S.C., and El Paso, Texas, rates now exceed or approach 30 percent, report finds.*

Rates of HIV infection among gay and bisexual men are approaching 30 percent to 40 percent in some southern U.S. cities, a new report finds.

According to the study, about 39.5 percent of gay and bisexual men in Jackson, Miss., are now HIV-positive, as are about 29 percent of gay/bisexual men living in El Paso, Texas, or Columbia, S.C. Other southern cities -- Augusta, Ga., Baton Rouge, La., Little Rock, Ark. -- also have rates of HIV infection for gay and bisexual men around 25 percent, the report found. Of the 25 U.S. metropolitan areas with the highest rates, 21 were in southern states, the researchers said. Their analysis of 2012 data identified six states where more than 15 percent of gay/bisexual men had HIV, and all of those states were in the South. Overall, about 15 percent of gay/bisexual men in the United States have HIV.

*Healthfinder, May 18, 2016*

### **Uniformity in male HPV vaccinations encouraged in Canada**

A recent Canadian analysis published in *CMAJ* reported that male vaccination programs are necessary in order to ensure equality in protection from HPV-associated diseases for men. "Including boys in school-based HPV vaccination programs across all Canadian jurisdictions is important to ensure that protection from HPV-associated diseases is not dependent on a child's gender or province of residence," Gilla Shapiro, MPA, MPP, in the department of psychology at McGill University in Montreal, told *Infectious Diseases in Children*.

*Helio, May 18, 2016*

### **Female sexuality is 'more fluid': Women evolved to be bisexual to 'reduce conflict and tension' when men had multiple wives**

In the new proposal, published to *Biological Reviews*, Kanazawa explains that sexuality differs between men and women. People of both genders have been known to be sexually fluid, meaning they may not adhere to particular sexual identity, and can switch between homosexual, bisexual, and heterosexual identities. But, studies have found that this is more common in women. 'The theory suggests that women may not have sexual orientations in the same sense as men do,' said Dr. Satoshi Kanazawa. 'Rather than being straight or gay, to whom women are sexually attracted may depend largely on the particular partner, their reproductive status, and other circumstances.'

*Daily Mail, May 16, 2016*

### **Adolescent males, females with eating disorders display differences in depression**

A significantly higher percentage of adolescent males with eating disorders had comorbid depression compared with adolescent females with eating disorders, according to research presented at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. "These are early findings, but they do suggest that there is a greater psychiatric comorbidity load in the male adolescent patients," researcher Samuel J. Ridout, MD, PhD, of Brown University School of Medicine, reported at a press conference. "And they suggest that males, as is the case across medicine, present later. They don't go to the doctor when they should. "This of particular significance, because males complete suicide at much higher rates, about three to one compared to females," Ridout said. "If you have a population that is presenting later, the risk of that later presentation and identification can be a very serious consequence for them."

*Helio, May 16, 2016*

### **AAFP Immunization Resources Aim to Keep FPs Up to Speed**

According to Jennifer Frost, M.D., medical director for the AAFP Health of the Public and Science Division, changes to the 2016 recommendations did not signal any dramatic changes in care, but rather added clarity to existing vaccine guidance. The most significant changes involved HPV vaccination, serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine and pneumococcal vaccination. For instance, Merck's nine-valent HPV vaccine (HPV9; Gardasil 9) is now recommended as one of three options to vaccinate males and females ages 9-26. The HPV vaccine is routinely recommended at age 11 or 12, but it can be administered as early as age 9. It is also included in catch-up schedules for women through age 26 and men through age 21. It's worth noting, however, that men at high risk for HPV (e.g., men who have sex with men or those who are immunocompromised or have HIV infection) can be given the vaccine through age 26.

*AAFP, May 16, 2016*

### **Road accidents, self harm and violence are the top causes of teenage deaths worldwide while rates of unsafe sex are soaring**

Road accidents, self harm and violence are the leading causes of teenage deaths worldwide, a landmark study has found. Two-thirds of young people grow up in countries where preventable or treatable health problems like HIV/AIDS, childhood pregnancy, unsafe sex, depression, road accidents, self harm and violence remain a daily threat. While global efforts have significantly improved the health of children aged five and under, campaigns have ignored young people aged 10 - 24, researchers said. And rates of unsafe sex have soared - making it the fastest-growing risk factor for illness in this age group, they added. There are 1.8 billion people aged 10 to 24 - representing over a quarter of the world's population - and nine out of ten live in developing countries. The

figures were collated by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington, which contributed to a global investigation of adolescent health and well-being published in The Lancet medical journal. The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington analysed findings from the Global Burden of Disease survey. It covered the period from 1990 to 2013. It found while death rates for young children have declined since 1990, rates for teenagers - especially boys - were slower to fall. HIV/AIDS, road accidents and drowning cause a quarter of all deaths in 10-14 year olds, they found.

*Daily Mail May 10, 2016*

### **Homosexual Status as a Contributing Factor to Depression and Anxiety in Young Men**

Gay and bisexual men younger than 26 years are 2 times more likely to experience depression and anxiety, and are up to 7 times more likely to inflict self-harm or attempt suicide than those older than age 45, according to a new community-based study reported in the Journal of Public Health by researchers from the United Kingdom. The outcomes of the survey suggest that mental health interventions in gay and bisexual men need to primarily target younger men. "The population level patterns of mental ill health suggest that interventions at levels other than the individual level are required," Dr Hickson said. "Central and local government policies that promote meaningful participation (eg, maximizing employment, promoting community cohesion) and foster a sense of belonging (eg, inclusive education health and social services, opportunities for voluntary organizing) are central to the mental health of the country." He pointed out that consideration of the roles of sex, gender, and sexuality in these policies will expand their social impact.

*Psychiatry Advisor, May 9, 2016*

### **Should You Circumcise Your Baby Boy?**

Over all, the evidence arguing for and against circumcision fails to make a compelling case in either direction. The benefits, while arguably real, are small; likewise the harms. In such cases, we usually leave the decision to the patient. There is, of course, an ethical problem here, since the choice is almost always made by parents, not by the boys themselves. Circumcision is irreversible, and many argue, quite stridently, that this is "genital mutilation" inflicted on children for no reason.

*New York Times, May 9, 2016*

### **Men get eating disorders too**

Men of any age can develop an eating disorder, but they are most likely to begin between ages 14 and 25. This increased likelihood could have something to do with life transitions during that period. Eating disorders are still thought of as an issue only



affecting women and girls, but according to leading eating disorder charity Beat up to 1 in 4 of the 725,000 people in the UK with eating disorders are men. Over the last five years there has been a 63% increase in men admitted to hospital for eating disorder related issues. However, many men still feel like they don't have access to the support they need.

*Netdoctor UK, May 9, 2016*

### [Penis Reconstructions 'Life-Altering' for Men, Studies Show](#)

*Both transgender patients and victims of trauma did well, but procedures not for fainthearted, expert says*

Men who undergo surgery to create a new penis seem to fare well in the long term, two new studies show. The surgery, known as phalloplasty, is most often done for transgender men who want to undergo a surgical transition. But it's also an option for men who've lost their penis to cancer or trauma -- including soldiers who've been wounded on the battlefield. The new studies, presented at the American Urological Association's annual meeting in San Diego, included both groups of patients. And the studies suggest that by and large, both types of patients do well in the long run. "A lot of people may not know there are surgeons who have this capability," said Dr. Gregory Bales, a urologist and surgeon at the University of Chicago who was not involved in the studies.

*Health Day, May 9, 2016*

### [Med Student Explores Why Missouri Has Low HPV Vaccination Rates](#)

In Missouri, only 28.3 percent of girls and 11.3 percent of boys have received at least one dose of the HPV vaccine series - leaving a large number of young people vulnerable to HPV infection and potential future development of HPV-associated cervical and oropharyngeal cancers. Chen's project will send questionnaires to vaccine-eligible students in St. Louis area school districts. The surveys will be adapted to the appropriate reading level for students. Surveys targeted at parents and school staff also will be sent out. "The project will help us determine where the baseline is," Chen said. "The next step will be to implement an education plan based on those results."

*St, Louis University, May 9, 2016*

### [How Being Male or Female Can Affect Your Health](#)

"Without studying both sexes, we wouldn't know if we're taking steps in the right direction toward appropriate clinical treatment for men and women," Clayton says. "Our differences also affect how we respond to medications, as well as which diseases and conditions we may be prone to and how those diseases progress in our bodies." "NIH now requires scientists to ask: 'What are my research results for males and for females?'" Clayton says. "We need to learn more about the roles of sex and gender in health and disease."

Understanding these influences improves health and saves the lives of both men and women."

*NIH News in Health, May 2016*

### **Drug approval gives hope to Duchenne boys: New NHS treatment will protect children from muscle-wasting disease**

- Treatment could protect boys from Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD)
- Revolutionary drug slows progression of DMD by correcting genetic faults
- Therapy costing £220,000 per patient approved by the medicine watchdog

About 100 boys each year are born with DMD, which mostly affects only males. Sufferers are usually confined to a wheelchair by the age of 11, and those with the condition have a life expectancy of 30. Patients do not produce dystrophin, a protein in muscles that helps to protect them from injury as they contract and relax during normal activity, and their muscles eventually stop working. The newly approved drug is Translarna, also known as ataluren.

*Daily Mail, May 7, 2016*

### **Depression, suicidal behavior more common in adolescent gang members** **Between 1998 and 2009, gang members were overwhelmingly male with less than ten percent of total gang members being female.**

Participants who joined gangs reported higher levels of depressive symptoms and were nearly two times as likely to report suicidal thoughts, compared with those who did not join gangs. Youth who became gang members were three times more likely to report attempting suicide in the last year compared with non-gang youth. "Together, this body of work suggests that gang membership has the potential to desensitize youth to violence while providing increased access to the tools most likely to lead to a completed suicide. Based on this growing body of literature, the intersection of violence, mental health, and access to weapons among gangs and gang members is an area for future exploration," the researchers concluded.

*Helio Psychiatric Journals, May 6, 2016*

### **Rutgers students should consider getting new meningitis shot, school says**

Rutgers University students should consider getting a new vaccine for meningitis B after a student was diagnosed with the strain of the contagious disease, campus officials said. The serogroup B strain is not covered by the routine meningitis vaccine that students living in college housing are required to get under state law. That vaccine only protects against serogroups A, C, W and Y. Rutgers officials recommended students consider

getting a new "MenB" vaccine designed to protect against meningitis B. The vaccines have the trade names Bexsero and Trumenba.

*NewJersey.com, May 6, 2016*

### **[China's Childhood Obesity Epidemic Due To Western Lifestyles](#)**

A 29-year study in nearly 28,000 children and adolescents published in the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology shows that 17 percent of boys and nine percent of girls were obese in 2014, compared to less than one percent of children and adolescents in 1985. The authors speculate that boys may be fatter than girls because of a societal preference for sons.

*Asian Scientist, May 6, 2016*

### **[Weight Loss Surgery May Boost Good Cholesterol in Obese Boys](#)**

Weight loss surgery could help severely obese teenage boys reduce their risk for heart disease by increasing their levels of "good" cholesterol, a preliminary study suggests. The surgery also enhances the protective effects of HDL cholesterol, the researchers said. "We already knew that weight loss surgery improves weight and cholesterol numbers. This new research shows that there are actually changes in the way HDL functions in adolescents, which may lead to a reduction in long-term cardiovascular risk," study author Dr. Amy Shah, a pediatric endocrinologist at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital, said in an American Heart Association news release.

*The Journal Times, May 5, 2016*

### **[DUKING OUT CANCER: Assistant coach John Rhodes takes part in Pittsburgh City Council Proclamation on Oral Cancer Awareness](#)**

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation and the Eye & Ear Foundation are collaborating on a community-wide HPV Vaccination Initiative to increase uptake of one of the few vaccines in the world proven to prevent cancer. The initiative is mobilizing healthcare providers, parents, young adults, community activists, and policy-makers in the Pittsburgh region to shield boys and girls from the consequences of HPV. Coach Rhodes - an HPV-related oral cancer survivor - is among those who has rallied behind the initiative. Diagnosed with HPV-related oral cancer in 2015, Rhodes has since served as a mentor to a Duquesne guard Derrick Colter, who battled non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in the summer of 2014, and has shown his support for preventing HPV-related cancer - both by vaccinating his own children, and becoming a public advocate.

*Go Duquesne, May 3, 2016*

### [HPV vaccination rates for boys in Nova Scotia climbing, province says](#)

Nova Scotia has one of the best HPV vaccination rates in the country with boys getting the vaccine at the same rate as girls, the province's chief public health officer says. In 2008, Nova Scotia started offering the vaccine to Grade 7 girls to protect against cancer. In 2015, it expanded the program to offer it to boys, too. Strang said he has no official data yet, but frontline reports show boys and girls are getting the vaccine at equal rates.

*CBC, May 3, 2016*

### [Health officials push doctors to promote HPV vaccinations](#)

On April 20, the county Health Department invited local doctors to a dinner and presented speakers from the state Health Department and from Roswell Park Cancer Institute, as well as a cervical cancer survivor, to push the idea that doctors should promote the HPV immunization to their patients. In Niagara County, 30.4 percent of girls ages 13 to 17 have completed the HPV immunization series. For 13-year-old boys, it's 20.5 percent. Both of those numbers are slightly ahead of the statewide averages for counties outside New York City, but are a far cry from where officials would like the numbers to be. HPV shots are mandated in only two states, Rhode Island and Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia. The Rhode Island Health Department's mandate for seventh graders, which took effect last fall, was highly controversial, and some state legislators tried unsuccessfully to repeal it.

A bill to require HPV shots in New York went nowhere in the State Senate last year and is stuck in committee this year. "We are hoping to educate physicians. If physicians give a good, strong recommendation, parents will pay attention to that," Cavagnaro said.

*Buffalo News, May 1, 2016*

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### [What "manly men" need to know about their health](#)

"Macho" men are less likely than women to visit a doctor, and more likely to request male physicians when they do make an appointment, researchers say. But these "tough guys" tend to downplay their symptoms in front of male doctors because of a perceived need to keep up a strong front when interacting with men, according to three recent studies. The results can be dangerous. "These studies highlight one theory about why masculinity is, generally, linked to poor health outcomes for men," said Mary Himmelstein. She is co-author of three recent studies on gender and medicine and a doctoral candidate in the department of psychology at Rutgers University in Piscataway, N.J. "Men who really buy into this cultural script that they need to be tough and brave -- that if they don't act in a certain way they could lose their masculinity (or) 'man-card' (or) status -- are less likely to seek preventative care, and delay care in the face of illness and injury," Himmelstein added.

*CBS News, April 29, 2016*

### **[This Map Of Vaccination Laws Proves Exactly Why We Need To Address The Problem Head-On](#)**

Vaccines remain a controversial topic in the United States. Despite the wealth of information out there that should quell anti-vaccine advocates, the raging debate has only grown bigger in recent years. Now, a map of vaccination laws put together by the National Conference of State Legislatures proves exactly why the country needs to address the problem head-on. According to the map, a color-coded guide of state legislation mandating vaccination, most states have either religious or personal exemptions, meaning that if parents don't want to vaccinate their children for either of those reasons, they don't have to. (Every state maintains a medical exemption, for obvious reasons.) Currently, rates of vaccinations remain high overall in the United States, but "pockets" of unvaccinated children can still lead to outbreaks of various diseases, according to the CDC, which is the biggest concern.

*Romper, April 29, 2016*

### **[AUSTRALIA: Sugar rage: Teenage boys are Big Soda's softest targets](#)**

Because the facts are these: Australian Bureau of Statistics data released this week show boys aged 14 to 18 are consuming up to 38 teaspoons of sugar a day and are the highest consumers of the stuff, with average consumption at 22 teaspoons a day. According to the report, these amounts are probably a conservative indication, due to the way "bad" substances are self-documented in food studies. Let's consider another few facts. The average Australian kid guzzles 1.2 cans of soft drink a day, with adolescent males being the highest consumers. That's about 12 teaspoons of sugar. To put this in context, the World Health Organisation now advises an upper limit of three teaspoons a day for kids and six to nine for adults. When you factor in sports drinks, flavoured milks, instant breakfast drinks (six teaspoons per serve), breakfast cereals (up to nine teaspoons) and energy bars (seven teaspoons), you can see how a kid could be pouring 700 per cent of the safe amount of sugar into their gob on any given day.

*The Age, April 29, 2016*

### **[Transgender teen fights back after suspension for using 'wrong' bathroom](#)**

The pep rally was underway as a South Carolina high school student headed to the bathroom. A teacher trailed him. The student is transgender, and she wanted to make sure he used "the right one," he said. To him, the right one is the boys' bathroom, which he says he has used since seventh grade without incident. Then, in his senior year, school administrators told him he had to use the girls' restroom, he said. They also gave him the option to use the nurse's restroom. When he exited the bathroom, the teacher did not say anything to him, but he knew from the "exasperated" look on her face that he was in trouble.

CNN, April 27, 2016

### [Skateboarding Mishaps Send 176 U.S. Kids to ERs Every Day](#)

Skateboarding can be a fun and challenging activity, but it also comes with a significant risk of injury, researchers report. The researchers examined data spanning two decades and found that more than 64,500 U.S. children and teens were treated in hospital emergency rooms each year -- about 176 a day -- for skateboarding-related injuries. Fractures and dislocations were among the most common injuries, the study indicated. Males were far more likely than females to be injured.

Medline Plus, April 27, 2016

### [Young, gay and male: Suicide survey spotlights risks](#)

Young gay and bisexual men may be much more likely to attempt suicide or harm themselves than their older counterparts, and blacks are at greater risk than whites, British researchers report. "We know minority groups are at higher risk of poor mental health than the heterosexual majority, however the mental health differences within sexual minorities is unclear," said study author Ford Hickson, from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. "Our study showed that among gay and bisexual men, age and ethnicity had a significant impact on mental health, as did income and education. This is possibly because men are better able to cope with homophobia the older they are, or if they are relatively privileged in other areas of their lives," he said in a school news release.

CBS News, April 27, 2016

### [SOUTH CAROLINA: Erectile Dysfunction Bill Advances](#)

A stunt bill proposed by Rep. Mia McLeod, a Richland County Democrat, is making its way through the S.C. House. Under McLeod's bill, a man who wants a prescription for Viagra, Cialis or another erectile dysfunction drug would have to get a notarized affidavit from a sexual partner, undergo a cardiac stress test and get sexual counseling, among other measures. She filed it in December to troll colleagues who push legislation to make it harder for women to get abortions, telling Free Times, "I just decided that until they could stay out my uterus I would refuse to stay out of their bedroom." Surprisingly, the bill was set for an April 27 hearing before the House Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs, which approved the measure and sent it to the floor for a vote.

Free Times, April 27, 2016

### [Increased HPV vaccination is cost-effective](#)

Recent Yale-led research shows that increasing vaccination rates of the new, nonavalent HPV vaccine - which protects against nine different strains of HPV - in low-coverage

areas like Utah, Tennessee and Mississippi would be a cost-effective way to reduce cancer rates nationally.

*Yale Daily News, April 26, 2016*

### **Spotlight: What Prince Taught Us About Sexuality**

The desire to be one of the girls is still largely taboo within male heterosexual culture, and one of the gifts Prince has left us is the template for how to approach these instincts and desires without shame. Part of the power of Prince's queer beacon during the '80s was precisely this: despite not being gay, he implied to his male audience that whatever their relationship to femininity was, there was no need for any shame around it.

*Music OMH, April 23, 2016*

### **HIV Patients Now Living Long Enough to Develop Alzheimer's**

Last week, researchers at Georgetown University announced a 71-year-old man was the first HIV patient to be diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Dr. R. Scott Turner, Ph.D., a neurologist at G.U., says the patient could dispute what researchers know about HIV and dementia, namely how some patients may be misdiagnosed with HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders (HAND) when they may be developing Alzheimer's disease, or both. "Chronic HIV infection and amyloid deposition with aging may represent a 'double-hit' to the brain that results in progressive dementia," Turner said in a press release. It's an important designation because there are four drugs approved to treat Alzheimer's, while HAND is treated with antiretroviral drugs. While the finding is important, this man may not be the first person with HIV diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

*HealthLine, April 22, 2016*

### **Increased use of Gardasil 9 for HPV prevention would reduce cervical cancer rates, healthcare costs**

Gardasil 9 vaccination for human papillomavirus (HPV) has the potential to reduce the incidence of cervical cancer as well as overall healthcare costs if its use is more widely adopted, according to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Using a transmission model that took into account the factors affecting HPV transmission and progression of cervical cancer, the researchers found that a switch to Gardasil 9 would decrease incidence of cervical cancer by 73%, compared to 63% with older vaccines, and reduce mortality by 49% versus 43%.

*Clinical Advisor, April 22, 2016*

### **U.S. suicide rates up, especially among women, but down for black males**



The number of suicides in the United States has been on the rise since 1999 in everyone between the ages of 10 and 74, according to a new report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The report is the first since 1999 to look at suicide rates among all age groups, she said. The number of suicides increased among all racial groups except for black males, who saw an 8% decline in suicide rate from 10.5 to 9.7 per 100,000 between 1999 and 2014, respectively. The largest increases were among American Indians and Alaska Natives; in this group, the suicide rate climbed by 89% among women and 38% among men. Suicide rates among white women and white men increased by 60% and 28%, respectively. A contributor to the rise in suicide rates could be the growing number of overdose deaths from opiate painkillers, which are considered suicide if a medical examiner or coroner determines that they were probably intentional, Moutier said. "Access to lethal means is one of the most significant risk factors for an individual to die by suicide," she added.

*CNN, April 22, 2016*

### **Ontario expanding HPV vaccination program to include boys**

Boys will be able to get free vaccinations against HPV infection and the cancers that can result from it starting in September. Health Minister Eric Hoskins said the human papilloma virus program - now limited to girls - is being expanded to all students in Grade 7.

*The Star, April 21, 2016*

### **AUSTRALIA: Headspace urges father-son conversations to support mental health**

When boys are young they often follow their fathers around, asking endless questions and trying to be "just like Dad". But as boys get older, much can go unsaid - especially when it comes to struggles and challenges in their lives. While one in four young Australians experience mental health issues, only 13 per cent of young men are likely to seek help. Youth mental health service provider headspace is now turning to fathers to help encourage young men to get support when they need it. "Young men ask for help differently than young women," clinical psychologist for headspace ACT Tim McLauchlan told 666 ABC Canberra's Drive program. "They're not as likely to admit they have problems; they're not as likely to seek a conversation with someone about that when it's going on"

*ABC, April 21, 2016*

### **HPV vaccination increases among teens with health-seeking behaviors**

HPV vaccination rates increased among high-risk urban youth with health-seeking behaviors, highlighting the significant influence health care providers have over vaccine adherence, according to research presented at the Annual Conference on Vaccine Research. "Providers need to think about any opportunity to vaccinate and think about bundling of services as people are come into the clinic for any other health check [sexually transmitted infection (STI) or other vaccine] ," Holly B. Fontenot,

PhD, RN/NP, assistant professor at the William F. Connell School of Nursing at Boston College, told Infectious Diseases in Children. "So, if patients are there for STI or HIV testing, then the health provider need to stop and think about what else they might be missing in terms of vaccination."

*Helio, April 21, 2016*

### **[UK: Dental profession supports calls for HPV vaccinations](#)**

HPV vaccinations should be made available to adolescent boys as well as girls, the HPV Action coalition has said. The HPV Action coalition is made up of 44 organisations, including the British Dental Association (BDA), and is fighting for the UK vaccination programme to offer gender-neutral vaccinations for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). HPV can cause numerous diseases, including oral cancer, and has been found to be the cause of 5% of all cancer cases, leading the BDA to call on the dental profession to support HPV Action's calls. 'Dentists are on the front line in the battle against oral cancer,' Russ Ladwa, chair of the BDA's Health and Science Committee, said.

*Dentistry, April 21, 2016*

### **[CME Presentation: Meningococcal B Disease: Implementing the ACIP Category B Vaccine Recommendations](#)**

(requires sign-in)

*Medscape Multispecialty, April 21, 2016*

### **[Neuroimaging biomarker tracks autism treatment effectiveness in boys](#)**

A new method using neuroimaging to track brain function in boys affected by autism could provide doctors with a biomarker for how patients are responding to behavioral or drug treatments, according to results of a study published online in JAMA Psychiatry. Such a tool has eluded autism researchers until now, said study co-author and professor Kevin Pelphrey, PhD, of George Washington University in Washington, D.C. "This is significant because biomarkers give us a 'why' for understanding autism in boys that we haven't had before," he said in a press release. "We can now use functional biomarkers to identify what treatments will be effective for individual cases and measure progress."

*Health Imaging, April 20, 2016*

### **[AUSTRALIA: Rape culture: what makes a boy a man?](#)**

There is a war we need to fight to change the mindsets of boys, young men, and wider masculinity, to end the awful history of sexual violence against women and girls. The peer group language has to be opened up, talked about, and changed. Former PM Tony Abbott's inability to filter the sleaze out of even his public comments is a good example of this. It's not just a context issue: mistaking the wider public for a peer group where that

kind of comment would go down well. The problem is that it may reveal true attitudes that underlie the veneer. Of course it starts in boyhood.

Sydney Morning Herald, April 19, 2016

### **[Nova Scotia funds consent education for young men](#)**

*Nova Scotia's strategy is in part a response to the 2013 death of Rehtaeh Parsons*

It is a sea change in governmental response to sexual assault: Nova Scotia is funding new programs to teach young men about consent and "positive masculinity," in a bid to address the causes of sexual violence rather than just its aftermath." Our youth, male and female both, felt there was a need to educate young boys," Juliana Julian, health director of Paqtnkek Mi'kmaq Nation, said Monday. "We were talking about consent but we were missing half of population."

*CBC News, April 18, 2016*

### **[JAMAICA: Fatherlessness a huge problem, says health official](#)**

A holistic male development initiative is being developed in Jamaica to address problems affecting young males. The initiative, titled 'Man-Up, a Call to Healthy, Responsible Manhood' was launched at a male retreat in February, with the intention of being rolled out in schools, colleges, youth groups and churches. It claims the absence of a father has implications for the majority of social and public health challenges, including crime and violence, mental illness, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, child and adult sexual abuse, gender-based violence, teen suicide, youth incarceration, poor performance in schools, unattached youth, gang membership.

*Jamaica Observer, April 18, 2016*

### **[Fewer Teens Are Getting Formal Sex Ed, Study Finds](#)**

Many teens are getting less sex ed, at least in a formal setting, and many U.S. teens are not getting educated about sex at all, according to "Changes in Adolescents' Receipt of Sex Education, 2006-2013" by Laura Lindberg, principal research scientist at the Guttmacher Institute, et al. For the study, Dr. Lindberg and her colleagues reviewed data on 15- to 19-year-olds from the 2006-2010 and 2011-2013 rounds of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Survey for Family Growth. The teens who said they received a formal education about birth control went down from 70 percent to 60 percent among females, and 61 percent to 55 percent among males. And, in 2011-2013, 43 percent of adolescent females and 57 percent of adolescent males received no info on birth control before they first had sex.

*Bustle, April 15, 2016*

### **KU raises awareness for HPV-related cancers, vaccination**

Even though Kansas City, Kan., has a National Cancer Institute-designated provider, one statistic continues to unnerve Dr. Roy Jensen : Kansas has the nation's lowest rate of human papillomavirus vaccination rates.

*Kansas City Business Journal, April 15, 2016*

### **Our porn-saturated media landscape is wreaking havoc on teen boys, too**

Here's a disturbing calculation, cited in Zimbardo's book: Let's say, Zimbardo suggests, that a 15-year-old boy watches a couple hours of porn a week. He has sex for the first time around the average age of 17. That's nearly 1,400 pornographic experiences, a huge dose of virtual sex education, before anyone actually does the deed in the real world. Mix in drugs, add video games, Zimbardo says, and the moodles ("man-poodles" unable to care for themselves) may never grow up.

*The Globe and Mail, April 14, 2016*

### **African-American Men Underutilize Mental Health Treatment**

African-American communities tend to assume mental health as a forbidden topic, even though it has been found that across the country, an estimated 14.8 million people go through depression annually. The elderly members of the family usually suggest black men to avoid any professional health assistance for depression. They are instead advised to get engrossed in prayers to discover peace in scriptures. Also, they are urged to be strong, behave like a man, and not a worthless person. Limited research has been conducted on African-American men and depression among them. However, a research paper was published in 2015 in the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved revealed that African American males who go through depression very rarely opt for mental healthcare and also experience overall highest mortality levels among all the racial and ethnic groups present in the United States.

*Maine News Online, April 14, 2016*

### **CANADA: Aboriginal males seven times more likely to commit suicide**

Aboriginals are three times more likely than the general Canadian population to commit suicide, says the report, produced as part of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation Research Series. And the news is even worse for aboriginal males. "Adolescent aboriginal males are five times more likely to die by suicide than the average Canadian male adolescent," says the report. In addition, a study of B.C. aboriginal males (graphic below) found they were seven times more likely to commit suicide than B.C. aboriginal females.

*Vancouver Sun, April 14, 2016*