

CDC: Two-Dose Regimen of HPV Vaccine Sufficient Up to Age 15

Children aged 9 to 14 years can now receive the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine on a two-dose schedule, rather than a three-dose one, according to updated recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The recommendations are based on the findings of a year-long review of new clinical trial data conducted by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The data show that among girls and boys in this age range, immunogenicity associated with the two-dose regimen was not inferior to, and in some cases was superior to, that seen with the three-dose regimen.

Medscape, December 15, 2016

STC Poses the Question - The HPV Vaccine To Prevent Cancers In Men: How Are We Doing?

How are we doing in getting our young people vaccinated? STC recently reviewed vaccination rates for young males and females (9-18 years old). Using data from a number of state public health departments (with a sample size of over 3 million cases) revealed a completion rate for all three doses of 15.5% for girls and just 11% for boys.

Digital Journal, December 15, 2016

What Parents of Early-Teen Boys Need to Know

A glance into any middle-school classroom tells the tale: Boys in braces, papers spilling out of their backpacks, watch in silence as girls 6 inches taller, their homework all done, wave their hands in the air to give answers. The maturity gap between boys and girls looms largest in the early-teen years. New research on adolescent development reveals exactly which skills develop more slowly in boys after they enter puberty, and where they surpass their female classmates. Boys do catch up. Research shows boys' and girls' performance on many tasks tends to converge around age 15. But early adolescence is a critical stage when children are developing a sense of personal identity and social status. The research lends insight into the kind of support early-teen boys may need.

Wall Street Journal, December 13, 2016

[More are positive about HPV vaccine on Twitter than not, Drexel study finds](#)

"In our sample, I expected to see a large number of negative tweets based on traditional news coverage of the topic and because HPV can be portrayed as controversial because it brings together the fields of sexually transmitted infections, immunizations and cancer prevention," Massey said. "But that wasn't the case on Twitter, we found." A vocal portion of the population has been lashing out -- especially online -- against the immunization due to perceived side effects. Massey's study sought to quantify how much content that negative population might be posting online. And through analyzing nearly 200,000 English-language tweets between the summers of 2014 and 2015, Massey and his team found that the most popular sentiment attached to tweets about the HPV vaccine were positive. Almost 39 percent of tweets gathered were classified as positive, while negative sentiments were detected in just a little more than 25 percent of the tweets analyzed.

Eureka Alert, December 12, 2016

[Young Males: Keep it Moving](#)

By now it is pretty well accepted both that physical inactivity is bad - recently linked to 6 percent of all cases of heart disease worldwide and 11 percent of all premature deaths in the United States - and that exercise is good, because it tends to increase life span and protect against heart disease. Yet few studies actually show that exercise reduces the unhealthful impacts of too much sitting. People who work out but also sit for long hours - active couch potatoes, you might say - may often share the same elevated risks for disease and early death as their less active peers. A study published last month in *The American Journal of Physiology - Endocrinology and Metabolism* is one of the first to directly compare exercisers who also sit extensively with those who are more active generally. For their study, researchers from the University of Texas at Austin asked seven healthy young male volunteers to wear monitors and spend four active days in a row and four sedentary days in a row. When active, the subjects walked as often as they could, averaging more than 17,000 daily steps, and ended up sitting for a total of roughly eight hours a day on average; when sedentary, they sat for 14 hours or so. The findings suggest that a single vigorous workout may do little to counter the effects of prolonged sitting, while strolling around frequently in addition to exercising does seem to keep the harm at bay.

New York Times, December 9, 2016

[Measure your penis and chat about mental health, young Swedes told](#)

A clinic in southern Sweden hopes that its new penis measuring tape will convince more young men to stop by for appointments. The tape, which measures diameter rather than length, is designed to help young men find the appropriate size of condom. It is part of a new project in collaboration with the Blekinge county council which aims to get more young men to visit youth clinics. "When you get guys to visit you can move on to mental health, so we want to get them here one way or another," Emelie Svensson, a district nurse at the clinic told radio station P4 Blekinge. Since October the clinic has been visiting male-dominated upper secondary school courses to inform them about their work and sexual health, and will now also begin to visit homes for vulnerable young people. The Blekinge clinic is not the first in Sweden to use this kind of scheme. This time last year a public clinic in Stockholm started handing out measuring tapes to young men in an effort to encourage them to practice safer sex.

The Local SE, December 7, 2016

[Philippines HIV prevention policies leave behind men who have sex with men: rights group](#)

The Philippines is not doing enough to tackle soaring HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men by offering greater access to HIV testing and condoms, an international rights group said on Thursday. The prevalence of HIV among men who have sex with men in the Southeast Asian country has increased tenfold over the last five years, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said in a report. Last year, at least 11 cities in the Philippines reported HIV prevalence rates of more than 5 percent among men who have sex with men, the study said. The Philippines introduced effective policies targeting the outbreak of HIV among sex workers in the 1990s, however "it has failed to adapt its prevention strategies in line with the epidemic's shifting epicenter", HRW said in a statement.

Business Insider, December 7, 2016

[Tip for Improving HPV Vax Rates in Youth: Just tell parents that kids are due for immunizations](#)

Training providers to inform parents that adolescents are due for an HPV vaccine, as opposed to engaging in an open-ended conversation, is an effective way to increase vaccine initiation, according to a study published

in Pediatrics. Clinics that received announcement training reported a 5 percentage point increase in HPV vaccine initiation coverage for 11- and 12-year-olds at 6 months compared with control clinics (95% CI 1.1% to 9.7%), reported the researchers, led by Noel T. Brewer, PhD, of the University of North Carolina School of Public Health in Chapel Hill and chair of the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable. Conversely, providers who were trained on participatory conversations did not see an increase in coverage.

MedPage Today, December 5, 2016

[Men More Likely to Use Marijuana Than Women, Study Finds](#)

Researchers suggest 2007 recession may have spurred rise in pot use among men with low incomes

As more American adults choose to puff at the marijuana pipe, a gender difference is becoming clear -- men are significantly more likely to smoke pot than women, a new study finds. Compared with 2002, an additional 6 million men reported past-year pot smoking in 2014. For women, that number was 4 million, the researchers said. Use remained at about 13 percent for men and 7 percent for women for a number of years. But after 2007, use rose about 4 percent among men and 3 percent among women, according to study authors Hannah Carliner and Deborah Hasin. They are epidemiologists at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York City. "These changes parallel national trends in decreased perceived harmfulness of marijuana use, and legalization of both recreational and medical use in over half of U.S. states," Carliner said in a university news release. "However, changes in attitudes and legality do not sufficiently explain why we observe a sharp increase in use in 2007, or why this increase was greater in men than in women," she added. Further investigation revealed that the widening gender gap was driven by people with low incomes. Between 2007 and 2014, marijuana use increased about 6 percent among men in households earning less than \$20,000 annually, compared to only 2 percent of women in that group.

Medline Plus, December 5, 2016

[WEBCAST: Niobe Way, "The Crisis of Connection for Adolescent Boys"](#)



Partnership board member and NYU Professor Niobe Way explains how boys' intimate friendships in early and middle adolescence support their mental health. By late adolescence, many boys speak of losing the close male friendships and reveal feelings of loneliness and isolation. The webcast illuminates the dangers of assuming that boys don't want or need close male friendships and the importance of fostering positive friendships that can help adolescent boys thrive.

Office of Adolescent Health, DHHS, December 1,

2016

[Young guys may think preventing HPV is "women's work"](#)

Pitts and her collaborators presented findings on the perceptions college-age men hold about HPV at the National Communication Association's recent annual convention in Philadelphia. Pitts and colleagues also published a [related article](#) earlier this year in *Health Communication* entitled College Males' Enduring and Novel Health Beliefs about the HPV Vaccine. The team involved 84 undergraduate or newly graduated men in the study. The team held focus groups in which the men were able to discuss their beliefs, attitudes, and values associated with HPV. "Males are an important and overlooked population in HPV prevention," Pitts says. "The more we see equality with HPV messages targeting both males and females, the better. That will help to prevent the spread of HPV and negative health consequences in the future." Pitts is also studying male perceptions about the HPV vaccine, and what barriers exist for getting it. "For years, professionals have said women are at high risk of getting HPV, but we can now protect them through the vaccine. But no one was thinking about the male role," Pitts says.

Futurity, December 2, 2016

[Why do so many U.S. teens skip the HPV vaccine?](#)

Vaccination rates were measurably higher among teenagers who received a recommendation by a medical provider. Rates for girls living in the Midwest and boys from low-income families eligible for the "Vaccines for Children"

program were also higher. But while provider recommendation was "the strongest predictor" of vaccine completion, it was "insufficient to achieve high coverage rates, especially among boys," according to the study published in the *Journal of Community Health*. In addition, provider recommendation did not lead to a higher rate of vaccine acceptance among girls with "highly educated" mothers. "Highly educated mothers were immune to provider recommendations, suggesting that they may arrive at clinic visits with preconceived notions of what is appropriate for their child," the study says. "This paradox suggests some caregivers may perceive messages conveyed by clinicians as an option, rather than a direct recommendation. "Failure to address the skepticism of caregivers about HPV vaccines may significantly weaken the effectiveness of provider recommendations," the authors say.

Futurity, December 2, 2016

California Has High Aspirations For Lowering HIV Infections

Zero.

That's the number of new HIV infections California officials are aiming for under a comprehensive initiative released this fall. The "Getting to Zero" plan, intended to guide the state's AIDS policy from 2017 to 2021, is designed to boost surveillance, increase access to care and eliminate disparities in treatment. "Thanks to better treatment and prevention options, new testing technology and better access to health care, California has reached a point where we can envision the possibility of zero new HIV infections," said Dr. Karen Smith, director of the California Department of Public Health.

California Healthline, December 2, 2016

Mouth cancer rates soar over 20 years

A Cancer Research UK analysis reveals that rates of mouth (oral) cancer have jumped by 68% in the UK over the last 20 years. The figures - released during Mouth Cancer Action Month - reveal the cancer is on the rise for men and women, young and old, climbing from eight to 13 cases per 100,000 people over the last two decades. For men under 50, the rate has jumped by 67% in the last 20 years - going up from around 340 cases to around 640 cases each year. For men aged 50 and over, rates have increased by 59% climbing from around 2,100 cases to around 4,400 cases annually. Oral cancer is more common in men, but there have been similar increases women. Around nine in 10 cases are linked to lifestyle and other risk factors. Smoking is the biggest avoidable risk factor, linked to an estimated 65% of

cases. Other risk factors include alcohol, diets low in fruit and vegetables, and infections with the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV).

Drug Target Review, December 1, 2016

No play makes your son a dull boy: Study

The study showed that adolescent boys spending less time in physical activity and more hours in sitting idle are prone to show poor academic skills. "Boys who had a combination of low levels of physical activity and high levels of sedentary time had the poorest reading skills through Grades 1-3," said Eero Haapala from the University of Eastern Finland. On the other hand, increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary time, may improve academic achievement, the researchers said. It could improve reading skills amongst boys in Grades 1-3. This was also associated with better arithmetic skills among boys in Grade 1. However, in girls, there were no such strong and consistent associations of physical activity and sedentary time with reading or arithmetic skills, the study observed.

IANSLIVE, December 1 2016

Doctors Seeing More HIV Patients With Multidrug Resistance

People resistant to older medication also have problems with newer drug, study finds.

A significant number of people with HIV have strains of the AIDS-causing virus that are resistant to both older and newer drugs, researchers report. The researchers looked at 712 HIV patients worldwide whose infection was not controlled by antiretroviral drugs. They found that 16 percent of patients whose infection was resistant to modern drugs had HIV mutations linked with resistance to older drugs called thymidine analogues. Among patients whose HIV had this mutation, 80 percent were also resistant to tenofovir, the main drug in most modern HIV treatment and prevention programs, the researchers reported. The findings were published in the Nov. 30 issue of *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* journal. "We were very surprised to see that so many people were resistant to both drugs, as we didn't think this was possible," study lead author Ravi Gupta, of University College London, said in a school news release.

Healthfinder, December 1, 2016

HIV Treatment Good and Getting Better

On World AIDS Day there is much to celebrate

When the first World AIDS Day was marked, on Dec. 1, 1988, only one drug - zidovudine (AZT) -- had been approved to treat HIV. And it was already becoming clear that, by itself, AZT could not stop progression to AIDS. On World AIDS Day 2016 -- nearly 30 years later -- the picture is dramatically different. There is still no cure for HIV. There is still no vaccine. Millions of people around the world catch HIV every year and many still die. But some 18.2 million people are on HIV therapy, including a million who started in the past 6 months, according to the United Nation Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and that treatment can save their lives.

MedPage Today, December 1, 2016

[Why Don't Doctors Tell Patients the HPV Vaccine Can Prevent Anal Cancer?](#)

When it comes to the HPV vaccine cancer-preventing benefits for boys and men, much attention has been given to the association between the virus and cancers of the mouth and throat. But there are other HPV-related cancers that men can get. Of men with cancers caused by HPV, about 14 percent are anal cancers, according to Dr. Stephen Goldstone, a New York City surgeon and assistant clinical professor in surgery at Mount Sinai's Icahn School of Medicine, who specializes in the treatment of cellular changes related to HPV. In a recent conversation, Dr. Goldstone stressed that men who have never had sex with other men can still get anal warts or cancer, but the substantial preponderance of HPV-related anal cancers occur in gay or bisexual men. Often, however, the discussion about HPV and cancer risk in men stops at the neck or fails to include the vaccine's broader protective benefits for men who have sex with other men. Like so many potentially fraught topics in medical care, balancing the reality of persistent homophobia with the need to fully educate parents about the benefits of a cancer-preventing vaccine requires nuance and a willingness to tolerate potentially awkward conversations. Even if the potential benefit is greater for those who may grow up to be gay or bisexual, the protective effect against anal cancer applies to all boys, and it should be included as part of the reasons to recommend it. And any discussion about the vaccine for older patients that doesn't specifically mention queer men does a disservice to those who need the information most.

Slate, November 30, 2016

[Majority of Brits unaware of a leading mouth cancer cause](#)

As a result of the Oral Health Foundation survey, conducted for Mouth Cancer Action Month, the charity is calling on dental and health associations and bodies, the government and policy-makers, as well as other charities, to help increase public awareness of the potential impact of HPV in a bid to reduce the amount of lives lost to mouth cancer each year. The Oral Health Foundation particularly wants further education and support for those aged between 25 and 34. This group displayed least awareness of the link but are conceivably at the highest risk due to low HPV vaccination levels and high levels of sexual activity.

Dentistry, November 30, 2016

[Shanghai reports more HIV infections of young males](#)

Shanghai has reported fewer new HIV infections this year than last year, while the figure in young males has seen a significant growth, the city's health authorities said Wednesday. Data from Shanghai Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning shows, from Jan. 1 to Nov. 20 in 2016, Shanghai reported 1,959 new HIV infection cases, 0.8 percent lower than the same period last year. The city reported 318 new HIV cases in males aged 18 to 24 during that period, a surge of 79.7 percent year on year.

Xinhuanet, November 30, 2016

[Young Men And Mental Health: Challenging Stereotypes](#)

The Office for National Statistics reported that 75% of the 6122 suicides in the UK in 2014 were undertaken by men. That's roughly 12 men every day. Shockingly, many of those will not have been in contact with any mental health professional. Only 53% of men who have felt depressed have actually spoken to anyone about it. Throughout the history of mankind, the male persona has been the epitome of stoicism, strength and courage. The male heroes from childhood stories instil in us the (perhaps dangerous) notion that the best kind of man is all of these things, and therefore dependable in the face of great adversity. Maybe the need to be strong, physically and mentally, goes some way to explain why men often only seek help when the mental condition has become extreme, making it all the harder to treat.

Huff Post Young Voices, November 30, 2016

[CANADA: HPV RATES ON THE RISE IN MEN](#)

A new study has been released and human papillomavirus (HPV) in men in Canada is on the rise. Mouth and throat cancers caused by HPV have been rising steadily over the past two decades, with a "dramatic" increase among Canadian men, according to a new report from the Canadian Cancer Society (CCS). According to this new study, the incidence of HPV-related mouth and throat cancers increased 56 per cent in males and 17 per cent in females, between 1992 and 2012. "In 1992, the age-standardized incidence rate (or ASIR) of those cancers was 4.1 per 100,000 Canadian males. In 2012, it was 6.4 per 100,000 males. In females, the rate was 1.2 in 1992 and 1.4 in 2012."

Niagara News, November 29, 2016

[Trending data: A small increase in suicide rates for black boys](#)

Historically, statistics had shown that being black in the United States afforded protection against dying by suicide. African Americans across all age ranges had seen a low rate of suicide compared to other races, including whites. But this fact was overturned in 2015, when researchers examining suicide in very young children made a startling discovery: Among 5-11-year olds, rates of suicide for black children were actually higher than those for whites. Even more alarming, the suicide rate among black children was increasing, particularly for boys. The research team used publicly available data provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to examine trends spanning a twenty year period from 1993 to 2012, the last year that national suicide data was available at the time of their 2015 study. They found that rates of suicide among black children nearly doubled during that time, from 1.36 to 2.54 per one million. Among white children, rates actually declined, from 1.14 to 0.77 per one million.

Philly.com, November 29, 2016

[UK: Mindfulness Classes For Five-Year-Olds Introduced At Boy's School To Support Mental Health](#)

"Taking time out allows them to recharge their mental batteries."

"Research has shown everything is becoming younger and younger, even to the extent of puberty starting sooner. The earlier we can teach them to spot the signs of when they're not quite right, and be responsive to that, the better." Poole introduced sessions after lunch, where pupils at the Bromley-based school enjoy "five minutes of calm". The idea of running mindfulness sessions in schools is not new. Dr Mark Williams, a professor of clinical psychology who researches the benefits of mindfulness, previously said

during the Mindfulness in Schools Project conference in London: "Mental health difficulties really kick in at the age of adolescence - that's when children who perhaps have been struggling a bit but who have managed before suddenly find that they can't manage."

Huffington Post UK, November 28, 2016

The Hidden Risks of Eating Disorders in Guys

Think of someone who's suffering from an eating disorder, and a female face probably comes to mind. Unfortunately, this is often true for health care professionals, too, which is why eating disorders among men often go unrecognized and untreated. Believe it or not, 25 percent of those who suffer from eating disorders are male, according to N.A.M.E.D., The National Association for Males with Eating Disorders. "In the last 10 years, we've seen a rapid increase in eating disorders in males," says Stuart Murray, an assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of California--San Francisco, and director of N.A.M.E.D. "This has to do with more objectification of the male body, and unprecedented pressure for males to achieve a certain body type muscularity like The Rock [a.k.a., actor Dwayne Johnson]. For the first time ever, the rates of disordered eating practices in boys are now increasing faster than they are in girls."

U.S. News & World Report , November 23, 2016

'Moonlight' Sheds Light On The Taboo Of Being A Gay Man In The Black Community

In the Black community, talking about male sexuality - especially homosexuality - is taboo, with the virility of a man determined by his sexual preference. That's why Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight* is so important, as the acclaimed film has a fearlessness when it comes to the topic of Black men's sexualities. The movie explores the coming-of-age of a gay Black man, and it tackles the subjects of masculinity, sexuality, race, and self-worth in a way that few movies ever dare to do. And after the 2016 election, in which race and sexuality were hot-button issues, the movie is apparently resonating with audiences even more than it originally did.

Bustle, November 22, 2016

RED ZONE: ONE IN EVERY 16 COLLEGIATE MALES WILL FACE SEXUAL ASSAULT

When people think about rape victims they often picture a female, and for the most part that is because females are disproportionately the targets of sexual assault and rape. While there is a big gap between rates of female versus male rape, for a minority of males in college their own experiences with sexual violence can be very present and traumatic. The Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) lists statistics showing that males aged 18-24 who are college students are approximately five times more likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault. Similar to women, men in college have a higher chance of being raped than non-college students of the same age, which equates to about one in every 16 men in college according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

The Northern Light, November 22, 2016

Campaign led by George Washington University public health student raises awareness for men's mental health

Some men on campus will grow their facial hair this month in honor of "no shave November." But health promotion and prevention services at GW are taking the month to raise awareness about men's mental health. Shawn Chiang, a graduate student in the Milken Institute School of Public Health, joined other organizations in a new social media campaign aimed at raising awareness for men's mental health as part of his practicum in the Colonial Health Center. Chiang said he started the campaign, which is largely through social media, because men are often hesitant to seek out counseling for mental health issues. "Men really care about their privacy and protecting their masculinity," Chiang said. "Social media was the right approach to it in the sense that they can access that information on their own time without invading their privacy."

GW Hatchet, November 9, 2016

More 'blue state' parents get kids vaccinated for HPV

A new study shows how differences in vaccination rates can potentially reflect cultural norms and political beliefs. States that are more politically conservative, or "red states," tend to shy away from vaccines for teens, including the vaccine against HPV, a sexually transmitted disease. Blue states tend to be more socially and politically liberal. Comparing data from the 2012 National Immunization Survey-Teen, to voting results of the presidential election of 2012, and also factoring in a variety of socio-demographic factors including median household income, education, and ethnicity, the study revealed a 10 percent higher HPV vaccination rate for girls, and a nearly 25 percent higher HPV vaccination rate for boys that live in blue states.

Futurity, September 16, 2016

'As boys, we are told to be brave': men on masculinity and mental health

Efforts have been made to challenge traditional stereotypes, but there is still pressure on men to be strong, independent, stoical, competitive and tough. According to research published by the American Psychological Association, these "masculine traits" have been linked with mental health issues such as depression and substance abuse.

'Sexist' men more likely to have mental health issues, study finds

Joel Wong, who led the research team at Indiana University Bloomington, said: "In general, individuals who conformed strongly to masculine norms tended to have poorer mental health and less favourable attitudes toward seeking psychological help, although the results differed depending on specific types of masculine norms." The research collated results of more than 70 US-based studies involving more than 19,000 men over 11 years. It focused on the relationship between mental health and conformity to 11 masculine norms. They included a desire to win, need for emotional control, and risk-taking. The traits most closely linked to mental health problems were playboy behaviour or sexual promiscuity, Wong said.

The Guardian, November 24, 2016

Inspiration

Being a Boy in an Unconventional Way

Boy makes hundreds of stuffed animals for sick kids around the world



While other children play soccer or video games, Campbell "Bumble" Remess hunches over a sewing machine, crafting stuffed animals. "I just like coming home and sewing," said Remess in a video by Feed SBS about his toy making, which has been viewed 29 million times on Facebook. Even when mom Sonya "Son" Whittaker encourages him to do something else, Remess "sneaks" back to make more stuffed animals. "If Campbell could be on that sewing machine 24/7, he would. It's 'Campbell, go and play your Xbox.' 'Campbell come and watch a movie,'" she said in the video. "He's just not a normal kid. Not every 12 year old would want to do that." Over the past three years, Remess has made more than 800 plush toys, many of which he personally delivers to sick children at the local hospital. "I literally shake with emotion - it's an incredible thing to witness," Whittaker told TODAY via email. "One small idea, one small gesture can make huge impacts." Remess, who lives in Hobart, Tasmania, was 9 he asked his parents if he could buy Christmas gifts for sick children. He wanted to do something to brighten their spirits. His parents said no; Remess is one of nine children and it's hard enough buying for their brood.

Today, October 31, 2016

[Stopping the Spread of Japan's Antivaccine Panic](#)

Tokyo's indecisiveness in the face of controversy has fueled unfounded doubts about the safety of the HPV vaccine.

In June 2013, just two months after the HPV vaccine was included in the National Immunization Program, the Japanese government made the unusual and perplexing decision to keep the vaccine in the NIP but suspend "proactive" recommendations for it. This was evidently in response to highly publicized accounts of alleged adverse reactions. The result was that girls in the target age group, from the 6th grade of primary school to the third grade of high school, stopped receiving the vaccine. Vaccination rates dropped to below 1% from about 70%.

Wall Street Journal, November 24, 2016

[1 in 7 Young Teens Is a Stalking Victim: Survey](#)

They're at higher risk of substance abuse and depression, researchers say

"Teen stalking is a public health issue. A lot of kids are being stalked," said Dennis Reidy, a behavioral scientist with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's division of violence prevention. He is lead author of a study reporting the survey findings. The new study is based on a 2013 written survey of over 1,200 students -- average age 14 -- in grades 6 and 9 at 13 U.S. schools. About two-thirds of the participants were white. The results showed that about 14 percent of the girls and about 13 percent of the boys had been stalking victims. Unwanted messages, such as voice mails and texts, were among the most common forms of stalking. Stalking victims were more likely to show signs of post-traumatic stress and mood disorders (including depression), and they appeared to be less hopeful based on their answers to other questions. They also were more likely to report alcohol use, binge drinking, and violence directed at them in dating relationships. And they were also more likely to be sexually active, the findings showed.

The study was published in the December issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

Medline Plus, November 23, 2016

[Penile Cancer is Commonly as a Result of Human Papilloma Virus \(HPV\), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus \(HIV\) Infection](#)

Cancer, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) resulted in the death of around 4.6 million men worldwide in 2012. Around 14% of the world's total annual deaths are as a result of various cancers. Modern medicine has extended the life expectancy of a cancer patient by a great margin. However newer cases are diagnosed every year globally, the present rate stands at 7.4 million newly diagnosed males

annually, according to the WHO. This is commonly as a result of the changing lifestyles, unhealthy diet, hereditary factors and exposure to carcinogenic elements, cigarette smoking, etc. Male specific cancers include: prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and penile cancer. Among which prostate cancer is the most prevalent form of male cancer. Male specific cancers are generally benign/malignant tumors that rarely undergo metastasis. Penile cancers are an even rarer form of cancer specific to the male reproductive organ i.e. penis, but unlike prostate and testicular cancer, they are commonly as a result of human papilloma virus (HPV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. According to the U.S National Cancer Institute study roughly 40% of all penile cancer is as a result of HPV infections, whereas HIV patients exhibit eight time increased risk of penile cancer. Hence penile cancer rates are high in developing countries of Africa, South Asia and South America. This is probably why vaccination for HPV virus (Gardasil or Cervarix) is regarded by a share of expert medical practitioners as a preventive measure in decreasing penile cancer rates globally.

Medgadget, November 22, 2016

[UK: Charities launch coalition to tackle issues facing men and boys](#)

More than 50 UK charities, academics, journalists and campaigners have launched a new coalition to tackle gender-specific issues that affect men and boys. The Men and Boys Coalition, which was launched at an event in the House of Commons last week, has also called on the Big Lottery Fund to create a new Men and Boys Initiative to run alongside its existing ringfenced funding stream for women and girls. Charities involved in the coalition, which brings together organisations and people who specialise in fields ranging from mental health and suicide prevention to education and parenting, include the Campaign Against Living Miserably, the male domestic abuse charity the ManKind Initiative and the sexual violence charity Survivors Manchester. A statement announcing the new initiative said it was believed to be the first coalition of its type in the world and it would aim to ensure that issues affecting men and boys were fully recognised and tackled by government, the statutory sector and society in general.

Third Sector, November 22, 2016

[UK: The Vaccines' Justin Young on raising awareness for male mental health](#)

The Vaccines have spoken out about raising awareness for depression among men and using music to fight it, as they join a new campaign for male mental health with Years & Years, Frank Turner and more. This week, the

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) launches 'Torch Songs' - inviting huge artists to cover their favourite songs that highlight the power of music to raise the spirit and help us through darker times. In 2015, 4,618 men took their own lives - an average of 12 men every day and one every two hours. Now, more is being done to use music to combat depression. "Music is a constant, a saviour in the world which is unique to everyone," said project champion and BBC Radio One DJ Huw Stephens. "We all know how much music means to us, and can help us sometimes. The artists involved, sharing their unique cover versions of their personal Torch Songs, are magnificent. The songs strike the right note; give you hope; remind you of the possibilities; remind you you're not alone. We launch Torch Songs with some spectacular talents sharing their intimate Torch Songs with us - it's a great way to get people talking about talking."

NME, November 22, 2016

[Me And My Father's Suicide: The Importance Of Sharing How You Feel](#)

It wasn't until I entered my early twenties that I started to feel comfortable talking about how my father died. It was through being open about his suicide that I ended up having some incredible conversations with others, which over time has helped me to become at peace with what happened. It's also enabled me to reflect on how and why suicide in men has got to where it has, along with my own observations and experiences of growing up as a young man. Traditionally, boys tend to be less familiar and comfortable articulating their emotions. The ability to attach words to feelings is not something that perhaps comes as naturally to boys as it does to girls, and this can potentially be one of the influences that can lead to something as extreme as suicide further down the line.

Huffington Post UK, November 21, 2016

[What more boy births could reveal about South Africa's health status](#)

Our statistical analysis found that as the sex ratio at birth went up - that is, more males were born - so did life expectancy in a strongly related manner. In a similar fashion, as the sex ratio at birth went up the infant and under five mortality rates and total fertility rate went down. Simply put, the degree of statistical correlation between the sex ratio at birth and the other sentinel health indicators was strong and highly significant. This strongly indicates to us that sex ratio at birth in South Africa may be a sentinel health

indicator. Correlation does not, of course, mean causation. However, other evidence from the past decade or so boosts our supposition.

Medical Express, November 21, 2016

Dennis J. Barbour Commentary on Trump: The election is over. That was interesting. Masculinity.

Looking ahead, whatever one's partisan perspective, we are in for a very bumpy ride.

Who knew? Very few, as it turned out. Apart from the "election forecasting guru" Allan Lichtman and Michael Moore most of us believed we were on a course to "protect his legacy", as one of Secretary Clinton's flyers proclaimed, referring to President Obama.

Full disclosure: I'm very familiar with that flyer because I spent a week in Ohio before the election presenting it to voters on their doorstep or posting it to their doors. I did so not necessarily because I consider myself a partisan. I did it because I firmly believed my passion for my work representing young males would have a more receptive ear within a Clinton Administration.

And here's why.

To begin, speaking as a male I take great pride in how we, as a sex, have begun to liberate ourselves from the strictures of an outdated, and perverse, notion of masculinity. Today many younger males, in particular, are more open to the full human experience of sharing, understanding and vulnerability. They are less anchored to older, toxic norms of masculinity that served to isolate them and cause them so much pain. Yet, even with this greater acceptance of new norms of masculinity, the suicide rate among young males is still four times that of their female contemporaries, evidencing continuing emotional strain between competing masculinity norms. While the aphorism "Most men lead lives of quiet desperation and die with their song still inside them," is incorrectly attributed to Emerson, it does nonetheless capture the shackles that many males continually aspire to release themselves from.

That should be celebrated. Unfortunately, the rhetoric of the election season turned that positive development on its head. Again, speaking as an older male who is constantly trying to free himself from archaic notions of what it means to be "a man", I feel personally violated when repugnant male

behavior is dismissed as "locker room talk" or merely "boys being boys." As someone who has spent time in male locker rooms numerous times a week over the course of 35 years I can attest that such talk does not occur. Even among gay males, a group to which I belong and which can be notoriously candid and loose about sexual matters, such talk is largely absent from locker room banter. Straight, Gay, Bi or Trans, real men who are confident in themselves have no need to speak that way and have no interest in doing so.

Similarly, I'm sure I'm not alone among my male compatriots in recoiling at statements like "I'd like to beat the crap out of (fill in the blank)" and "I love war". Unsolicited grabbing of anyone's genitals, male or female, is not something that any male I know would be boasting about.

Many young men today understand that these attitudes are evidence of weakness, not strength. To be sure, today many young men do not fear being labeled as less than a man because they don't condone brutish behavior or language. Many young men today don't fear being labeled sissy or faggot because they believe that those terms are archaic at best and demeaning at worst. Today increasing numbers of young men understand that masculinity has everything to do with confidence and caring and nothing to do with condescension and conquest.

Yet, this dated bravado was a large part of election rhetoric. How retro is that, and does it really make any difference anyway?

I can demonstrate how it does make a difference in the real world through anecdote. A physician colleague of mine, who is a gay male and a government employee, has been able to disclose his same sex marriage without fear of retribution because of an executive order issued by President Obama that disallows discrimination in the federal workplace on the basis of sexual preference. Since the election and much talk about reversing executive orders he now wonders whether his job may be in jeopardy because he has "come out" and the executive order protecting him may be revoked by the new President.

How's that for reality?

I grew up in the sixties - that period in time that, in many ways, represented a bridge between what our society had been and what it had the potential to be. It represented an opening to different values, perspectives and societal priorities. It represented the beginning of an openness about our country's diversity and what it means for us to be a "melting pot".

Since then we've continued forward on that path, be it with fits and starts and roadblocks erected by the darker side of politics. We've always been a relatively sane country and people, which has tempered any human tendencies by those in power to take us to extremes from which we cannot

escape, extremes that fundamentally threaten to undermine our social contract through perversion of our democratic institutions.

From the perspective of many, the outcome of our recent Presidential election represents the darkest side of our politics, bringing with it the potential for unprecedented, fundamental attacks on our system of government, ushering in a period of intolerance, hatred and abusive behavior. And with it, undermining of new norms of masculinity.

As I mentioned, among the more alarming, and archaic, cliches uttered during the Presidential campaign was "boys will be boys," a cliché that suggests that reckless or abusive behavior on the part of males is naughty at worst but mostly amusing and innocent. The flip side of that cliché is that, to be a man, to be masculine, is to engage in such behaviors; to act on primary instinct and applaud brute behavior. Most importantly, not to "feel" and explore the depths of one's humanity but to shut emotion down; to "stuff" it.

Health care providers, social workers, caregivers and all who are committed to serving young males understand that traditional norms of masculinity are dangerous to the physical and mental health of young males. Yet, those norms have been given new life and legitimacy by the outcome of the election. This year's election rhetoric turns the clock back by encouraging young males to believe that it is weak to be open and vulnerable. The rhetoric provides an alternative, mixed message: crudeness, cruelty and narcissism have rewards, among them, POWER, as evidenced by the outcome of this year's election.

Reflective of our primary constituency, adolescent males, the Partnership is a young organization, representing a young movement in this country - a singular focus on advancing the health and wellbeing of adolescent and young adult males. Regardless of one's political perspective, the results of the election could have a major impact on our ability to fulfill our mission.

The Partnership's mission is to strengthen young males through better health care and encouragement of healthy behaviors and attitudes. As a group, young males have already begun down this path. Our job now, more than ever, is to continue to encourage these behaviors and attitudes. As we enter uncharted political territory it is important to underscore for those young males in our lives the importance of being open, caring and always questioning of norms that would serve to straightjacket them to lives of frustration and pain.

*With your help, we are inaugurating a new program we've called "**Speaking for Myself**". The program will engage young males to send us a video describing what they think it means to be a man. Those videos will be posted*

on our social media and the narrators of the best videos will be invited to submit a proposal on how they would spread their video message in their school, community or wherever young males can be found. Young males with the best proposals will be provided a small grant to implement their ideas.

*Please help us by sending a contribution to the Partnership for "Speaking for Myself". We welcome contributions large, small and tiny and encourage you to enroll as a long-term supporter by signing up for an automatic monthly contribution. **To get started, click [here](#)** . Contributions are tax deductible.*

Let's do what we can to support our young males in this challenging time.

Kids who watch porn won't necessarily turn into sex offense

Of course, many young people search for it. In an Australian study of 200 young people, 38 per cent of 16- and 17-year-old boys and 2 per cent of girls said they searched for pornography . Another Australian study reported 93 per cent of boys and 61 per cent of girls aged 13-16 years old had seen pornography. Another study reported 44 per cent had seen online pornography. For both of these studies we don't know if this was by accident or on purpose. We know children who watch pornography are more likely to be either physically or verbally sexually aggressive, especially if the pornography is violent. Behaviours range from verbal sexual harassment and unwanted kissing to sexual assault. We also know that popular porn is becoming more violent. But has there been a corresponding increase in young people watching violent pornography to match the rise in sexual offending?

We don't know.

ABC net, November 14,, 2016

Some Depressing News about Adolescent Depression That Requires Our Time and Attention

10.1542/peds.2016-1878) provide us with some troubling data using trend information gleaned from the National Surveys on Drug Use and Health from 2005-2014 involving more than 172,000 teens ages 12-17 and more than 178,000 young adults ages 18-25. The authors show an increase in major depressive episodes increasing from 2005 to 2014 in teens from 8.7% to 11.3%, and a smaller yet significant increase as well in young adults. Even after adjusting for substance use disorders and controlling for socioeconomic confounders, the trends persist.

AAP Gateway November 14, 2016

How Do You Break The Stigma Attached To Mental Health In Young Men?

HuffPost UK is running a month-long focus around men to highlight the pressures they face around identity and to raise awareness of the epidemic of suicide. To address some of the issues at hand, Building Modern Men presents a snapshot of life for men, the difficulty in expressing emotion, the challenges of speaking out, as well as kick starting conversations around male body image, LGBT identity, male friendship and mental health.

Huffington Post UK, November 11, 2016

Stress 'changes brains of boys and girls differently'

Very stressful events affect the brains of girls and boys in different ways, a Stanford University study suggests. A part of the brain linked to emotions and empathy, called the insula, was found to be particularly small in girls who had suffered trauma. But in traumatised boys, the insula was larger than usual. This could explain why girls are more likely than boys to develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), the researchers said. Lead study author Dr Megan Klabunde said it was important to consider the different physical and emotional reactions to stressful events. "It is important that people who work with traumatised youth consider the sex differences. "Our findings suggest it is possible that boys and girls could exhibit different trauma symptoms and that they might benefit from different approaches to treatment." And she added: "There are some studies suggesting that high levels of stress could contribute to early puberty in girls." Dr Klabunde said they would now look at other regions of the brain connected to the insula to see if they could detect similar changes.

BBC, November 12, 2016

School Vaccine Requirements Raise HPV Shot Rates

There may be a 'spillover' effect when kids get other mandated immunizations, study finds

Schools that require routine vaccines as a condition of attendance have higher rates of vaccination, including higher rates of immunization for the human papillomavirus (HPV), a new study finds.

WebMD, November 8, 2016

Young Adolescents as Likely to Die From Suicide as From Traffic Accidents

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recently found that in 2014, the most recent year for which data is available, the suicide rate for children ages 10 to 14 had caught up to their death rate for traffic accidents. "It's clear to me that the question of suicidal thoughts and behavior in this age group has certainly come up far more frequently in the last decade than it had in the previous decade," said Dr. Marsha Levy-Warren, a clinical psychologist in New York who works with adolescents. "Cultural norms have changed tremendously from 20 years ago." In all, 425 children ages 10 to 14 killed themselves in 2014. In contrast, 384 children of that age died in car accidents. Far more boys than girls killed themselves in 2014 - 275 boys to 150 girls - in line with adults in the general population. American men kill themselves at far higher rates than women.

New York Times, November 4, 2016

The Cognitive Benefits of Being a Man-Child

For men and women, extending adolescence has the potential to make the brain more capable in adulthood. In a time when college graduates return to live under their parents' roofs and top careers require years of internships and graduate degrees, the age of adulthood is receding, practically into the 30s. Adolescence, loosely defined as the period between puberty and financial independence, now lasts about 15 years, twice as long as it did in the 1950s. According to developmental researchers, there is one lasting gift that extended adolescence can bestow, and it resides in the brain. "Neurobiological capital" is built through a protracted period of learning capacity in the brain, and it is a privilege that comes to those lucky enough to enjoy intellectually stimulating environments in late adolescence. Far from a contributor to emotional immaturity, the trend toward an adolescence that extends

into the mid-20s is an opportunity to create a lifelong brain-based advantage.

The Atlantic, November 3, 2016

Heavy drinking while young may mean health problems later

Young adults who are problem drinkers tend to suffer from more health problems later in life than non-drinkers, even if they conquered their alcoholism years earlier, a new study indicates. Men with alcohol dependence in young adulthood had, on average, three medical conditions in their 60s, while non-drinkers only reported two, researchers found in an analysis of Vietnam-era veterans. In addition, drinkers' scores on a depression scale were about twice as high as those of non-drinkers. These effects were seen even among former drinkers who had been free from alcoholism for decades, said study author Randy Haber. He is a clinical psychologist with the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Health Care System, in Menlo Park, Calif.

UPI, November 2, 2016

Anal Cancer Rates Rising in Many Parts of the World

HPV vaccine, safe sex practices would help reverse trend, cancer specialists say

Anal cancer rates are on the rise in many countries. But vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) -- a virus linked to the development of anal cancer -- may help curb rates of the disease, a new study suggests. Researchers looked at data from the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The data included 18 countries. The investigators found that anal cancer rates have been increasing in women and men in 13 of those countries, particularly Australia and other countries in the Americas, and northern and western Europe.

HealthDay, November 2, 2016

Opioid Poisoning In Kids Is On The Rise. Too

The number of children and teenagers likely to be poisoned by opioids prescribed for other family members are rising, a new study shows. The rate of hospitalization for kids getting poisoned by prescription painkillers has increased 165% from 1997 to 2012 - that makes 3.71 children per 100,000.

Around one in 10 high school kids reportedly take opioids for no medical reason. Close to 40% of them say they got their drugs from prescriptions.

Immortal News, November 1, 2016

A risky trend? Teen boys and muscle-building products

It's not just teenage girls who are bombarded with images of 'perfect' figures. Teenage boys today are influenced daily by bodybuilders, athletes and models. Unfortunately, they're lifting the bar bell for our adolescent boys to look more muscular and 'perfect'. This was discovered in a recent study involving 13,683 teens and young adults. Many boys are taking muscle-building products. By age 19, 12 percent of all males reported past-year use of a muscle-building product. Males 16-25 years old were more than three times more likely to use a product than those 13-15 years old. This study looked at the muscle-building products creatine, anabolic steroids, dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), hydroxymethylbutyrate (HMB), amino acids and growth hormone...so we should, too.

Philly.com, October 31, 2016

Examining differences in how autism manifests in boys and girls

Think autism, and an image of an awkward boy typically emerges. The developmental disorder is at least four times more common in boys, but scientists taking a closer look are finding some gender-based surprises: Many girls with autism have social skills that can mask the condition. And some girls are born without autism despite the same genetic mutations seen in boys with the condition. The gender effect is a hot topic in autism research and one that could lead to new ways of diagnosing and treating a condition that affects at least 1 in 68 U.S. children.

The Daily Progress, October 30, 2016

Birth control: Male contraceptive injection 'shows promise'

A hormone injection has been shown to be a safe and effective method of contraception - for men. US researchers say the jab was almost 96% effective in tests on around 270 men who were using it, with four

pregnancies among their partners. However, a relatively high number developed side effects, including acne and mood disorders. Researchers have been investigating potential for male hormonal contraceptives for around 20 years. They have all been looking for an effective way of suppressing sperm production without causing unpleasant or unbearable side effects. Because men constantly produce sperm, high levels of hormones are needed to reduce levels from the normal sperm count of over 15 million per millilitre to under one million/ml.

BBC, October 28, 2016

GSK Will No Longer Supply HPV Vaccine in U.S.

In a statement to FiercePharma, a spokesperson for GSK said, "With another HPV vaccine available in the U.S., patients will continue to have an option to help prevent HPV infection. Our license with the FDA is still in effect and the vaccine has 107 regulatory approvals covering 136 markets internationally." Two other HPV vaccines that are currently available include Gardasil (HPV Quadrivalent [types 6, 11, 16, and 18) and Gardasil 9 (HPV 9-valent vaccine [recombinant], both from Merck. In addition to being approved for girls and women (9-26 years of age), Gardasil and Gardasil 9 are indicated for use in boys and men 9 through 26 years of age to prevent anal cancer, genital warts, and anal intraepithelial neoplasia Grades 1, 2, and 3 caused by specific HPV types.

MPR, October 28, 2016

Sons 'fear talking to their fathers about mental health'

When depression hit Keenan Atkins in early secondary school, he was scared to talk to his father about it. Men of his dad's generation are afraid to talk about their feelings in case they are seen as "weak", he says. And this seems a common experience for teenage boys, with 49% telling a survey they would feel uncomfortable talking about mental health with their dads. A third of boys also told the survey, for the Time to Change campaign, their fathers do not talk about "feelings". The poll of 1,000 16- to 18-year-olds suggests more than a quarter of young men of this age experience mental health symptoms on a weekly basis. The research aimed to shed light on how teenage boys' own attitudes to mental health are influenced by their fathers' behaviour.

BBC, October 28, 2016

[Last Taboo: Why Pop Culture Just Can't Deal With Black Male Sexuality](#)

These are banner times for penises onscreen. In the last 18 months or so, I've seen casually naked men on "The Affair" and on "Girls," plus casually naked robots on "Westworld." Penises have appeared on "Game of Thrones" (where one was once violently disappeared) and been simulated by a killer drill on "American Horror Story: Hotel." They were in movies like "Get Hard" and "Unfinished Business"; one was there-ish on John Cena in "Trainwreck"; they showed up in stunt form on a meek Adam Scott in "The Overnight" and through the boxer briefs of a smugly sunny Chris Hemsworth in "Vacation." A vast majority of these penises are funny, casual, unserious. Their unceremonious appearance - as naturalism, comedy, symbolism, provocation - is new, and maybe progressive. But that progress is exclusive, because these penises almost always belong to white men. As commonplace as it has recently become to see black men on television and at the heart of films, and as normal as it's becoming to see male nudity in general, it has been a lot more difficult to see those two changes expressed in the same body. A black penis, even the idea of one, is still too disturbingly bound up in how America sees - or refuses to see - itself. I enjoyed HBO's summer crime thriller, "The Night Of," but it offered some odd food for thought: The most lovingly photographed black penis I've ever seen on TV belonged to a corpse in the show's morgue. Meanwhile, the series's most sexual black character was a rapist inmate.

New York Times, October 27, 2016

[AUSTRALIA: Anti-suicide ad encourages blokes to 'Man Up' and cry](#)

Triple M presenter Gus Worland has released a new ad showing men crying as part of his quest to lessen the suicide rate of Australian men. The spot, which closed out Worland's three-part ABC series [Man Up](#), is being praised for its interpretation of what "manning up" should really mean. "Why do we tell boys to stop crying, to harden up, to grow a pair? F-k that. If you feel down, speak up," the voice over says. "Because silence can kill." The ad ends with a slate listing all the people who would be affected by "your" suicide - your mum, boss, barber, dog and so forth.



Were YOU bullied as a child? Why the effects could last a lifetime: Victims are 'twice as likely to suffer mental health problems as adults'

- *Study tracked the mental health of 9,000 people over 40 years*
- *Found consequences of childhood bullying were still 'significant' at 50*
- *Persistent bullying was also linked to adult relationships breaking down*
- *Researchers suggest interventions could save the NHS millions in care*

The study, by the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and King's College London, tracked more than 9000 people over 40 years. It found more boys than girls used mental health services in childhood and adolescence. Conversely, more women than men were found to use it in adulthood. Lead researcher Dr Sara Evans-Lacko said the impact of childhood bullying was most notable at an early age. More young males using mental health services could be the result of more adults recognising and referring boys, who show more outward

signs of bullying than girls, it is believed. Meanwhile, the higher use of mental health services among women could be down to men feeling more stigmas associated with mental health problems - and consequently not seeking support. 'Bullying may also set the conditions for a cycle in which people are at risk of exposure to further victimisation in later life,' Professor Louise Arseneault from King's College London , said.

Daily Mail, October 26, 2016

[The startling rise in oral cancer in men, and what it says about changing sexual habits](#)

Oral cancer is on the rise in American men - jumping 61 percent from 2011 to 2015, according to a new analysis of insurance claims. The most dramatic increases were in throat cancer and tongue cancer, and the data show that claims were nearly three times as common in men as in women during that same period with a split of 74 percent to 26 percent. The startling numbers - published in a report on Tuesday by FAIR Health an independent nonprofit - are based on a database of more than 21 billion privately billed medical and dental claims. They illustrate both the cascading effect of human papillomavirus (HPV) in the United States and our changing sexual practices. Surveys have shown that younger men are more likely to perform oral sex than their older counterparts and have a tendency to engage with more partners. "These differences in sexual behavior across age cohorts explain the differences that we see in oral HPV prevalence and in HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer across the generations and why the rate of this cancer is increasing," Gypsyamber D'Souza, an associate professor in the Viral Oncology and Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, said at the time. The work was published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases.

Washington Post, October 25, 2016

[PharmaJet® and Vaccibody collaborate on HPV vaccine development Needle-free device cited to improve patient compliance](#)

"We are pleased that the PharmaJet device is being used for this important study, and are encouraged by the improved compliance that needle-free may provide. This is consistent with our survey data that shows 93% of patients would choose needle-free again for their next vaccination 2 ," said Ron Lowy, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,

PharmaJet Inc. "Given that multiple vaccine doses are required for the HPV vaccine, improved compliance with needle-free is an important advantage."

PR Newswire, October 25, 2016

Mores about depression stop male students from seeking help

Male students at the University of Cincinnati may find themselves reluctant to seek help for mental health concerns due to societal pressures - a stigma campus initiatives aim to extinguish. About 26 percent of those identifying as male reported feeling so depressed that it was difficult to function anytime within the past 12 months, according to the University of Cincinnati Executive Summary released in 2016. This is up by over 9 percent since the last report released three years ago. Comparatively, only 6 percent of males said they had been diagnosed or treated by a professional for depression. These reports are conducted at UC every three years as part of the National College Health Assessment, a national research effort organized by the American College Health Association. Some cultures may associate mental health concerns with weakness and perceive a man's gender role as having to be "strong" and "masculine," which can influence whether a man gets help, according to Mohamed Elzarka, a third-year neuroscience student and the director of mental health services through UC Student Government.

News Record, October 23, 2016

She Never Spoke of It to Her Husband. Then She Heard the Trump Tape.

For the first time, women say, they are telling their husbands and boyfriends about the times they were groped at nightclubs or on a subway, flashed on the street, shushed or shouted down at work. Some men, in turn, said they were starting to see how gender could shield them from needing to defensively palm their keys as they walk to a car, from being trailed home by a stranger, from having co-workers rate their bodies.

New York Times, October 22, 2016

Men Need Help. Is Hillary Clinton the Answer?

If Hillary Clinton wins this election and becomes the first female president of the United States, American men may well be one of her most urgent problems. Consider some startling statistics. More than a fifth of American men - about 20 million people - between 20 and 65 had no paid work last year. Seven million men between 25 and 55 are no longer even looking for work, twice as many black men as white. There are 20 million men with felony records who are not in jail, with dim prospects of employment, and more of these are black men. Half the men not in the labor force report they are in bad physical or mental health. Men account for only 42 percent of college graduates, handicapping them in a job market that rewards higher levels of education. Lawrence H. Summers, the former Treasury secretary and now a professor of economics at Harvard, estimates that a third of men between 25 and 54 without college educations could be out of work by midcentury. Well-paying jobs that don't demand a college degree have been shrinking for generations - and technology is accelerating that trend. Driverless cars, for instance, could eliminate trucking as we know it, a refuge for many blue-collar men. In the short term, liberal economists and even some conservative ones back an idea that Mrs. Clinton has said she would push in her first 100 days - a \$275 billion infrastructure jobs plan, which could provide at least temporary employment to a key segment of those hurting the most: blue-collar men. Liberal economists tend to coalesce around other solutions, such as raising the minimum wage and expanding eligibility for the earned-income tax credit, a proven way to reduce poverty. Mr. Summers is one of many who would push the Federal Reserve to continue stimulating the economy to boost employment, rather than focusing on curbing inflation. He also argues for government subsidies to bolster the wages of less-skilled employees.

New York Times, October 21, 2016

[ACIP updates recommendations on HPV, HepB, MenB vaccines](#)

Adolescents under age 15 years need only two doses of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine instead of three under a new recommendation from a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) committee. The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) said a two-dose schedule could improve lagging completion rates, while still providing protection against the infection. The group also made changes to hepatitis B and meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine recommendations during Wednesday's meeting.

ACIP's HPV recommendations were approved by the CDC director within hours.

AAP News and Journals Gateway, October 20, 2016

[What Should Boys Learn From Election News About Sexual Assault?](#)

A sex education author says this election season is a good time to reopen conversations about sexual assault, consent and what we as a society teach boys and young men about sex. The issues have been in the spotlight since a 2005 videotape surfaced earlier this month showing Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump bragging about using his celebrity to grope and kiss women. Trump dismissed the tape as "locker room talk" and has denied subsequent allegations from at least 11 women who have stepped forward accusing him of some form of sexual assault. Peggy Orenstein, author of "Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape," said the tape and Trump's response to it is having negative effects on boys and young men as they build relationships with women. "One of the things that I really felt after writing about girls was that as little as we talk to young women about sexuality and consent and all these issues, we talk to young men less," Orenstein said, adding she plans a follow up book with males. "I felt that we were just sort of throwing them out there and expecting them to find their way and leaving them to be educated by these old ideas, by the media and by the Internet."

Wisconsin Public Radio, October 20, 2016

[Sleep Can Affect Male Fertility](#)

Sleeping too little or too much can affect a man's ability to impregnate his partner, new research suggests. The "sweet spot" appears to be 7 to 8 hours of sleep a night, said study author Lauren Wise, a professor of epidemiology at Boston University School of Public Health. Among the 790 couples the researchers followed, "we found both short and long sleep duration -- less than 6 hours or 9 or more per night -- were associated with a reduced probability of pregnancy," Wise said. Using 8 hours of sleep as the reference point, men who slept less than 6 or more than 9 hours a night "had a 42 percent reduced probability of conception in any given month," she added.

Healthfinder, October 19, 2016

Canada: Advocates push vaccines for boys amid rise in HPV-caused cancers

Mouth and throat cancers caused by the human papillomavirus are on the rise in Canada, underscoring an urgent need for all provinces to publicly fund vaccine programs for boys, according to the Canadian Cancer Society. On Wednesday, the society released its annual cancer statistics report, which found that over the past 20 years, HPV-related mouth and throat cancers rose by 56 per cent among men and 17 per cent among women.

Globe and Mail, October 19, 2016

Canadian Cancer Society sees sharp increase in HPV-related oral cancers

Malignant tumours in the mouth and throat caused by the human papillomavirus have risen dramatically among men and could surpass the rate of HPV-induced cervical cancer in women, new statistics from the Canadian Cancer Society suggest. In a report released Wednesday, the organization said the incidence of HPV-related mouth and throat cancers jumped 56 per cent in males and 17 per cent in females between 1992 and 2012, the latest year for which statistics are available.

Toronto Metro, October 19, 2016

Canada: HPV vaccine ad aimed at women 25-45 airing in Cineplex theatres

An awareness campaign is airing in movie theatres across Canada, aimed at women who might not have received the HPV vaccine when it came out 10 years ago but are still at risk of infection. The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SOGC) launched the Human papillomavirus (HPV) awareness campaign to target women aged 25 to 45. The society said HPV is becoming more prevalent among women in their 30s and 40s; women who have likely never displayed any symptoms, yet could still become infected with genital warts or cancer.

Global News, October 18, 2016

What Our Sons Are Learning From Donald Trump

If there is a silver lining to Mr. Trump's views on manliness, it's that it has prompted a national discussion about the "boys will be boys" excuse for things like bullying, boasting or appraising women in crassly sexual terms. That has offered an opportunity for parents and teachers to make clear what behavior is unacceptable. Michelle Obama, in an emotional speech on Thursday, asked what message Mr. Trump's words and behavior sent not just to girls, but also to men and boys.

New York Times, October 18, 2016

[People who don't get CDC-recommended shots cost the U.S. \\$7B in 2015: Report](#)

Last year, unvaccinated adults cost the economy \$7.1 billion, an analysis done by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill found. Researchers at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy examined the cost of care, medication and lost productivity caused by missing the 10 vaccines recommended by the CDC. Those 10 vaccines protect people against 14 pathogens, including influenza, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, herpes zoster virus, pneumococcal diseases, meningococcal diseases, measles, mumps, rubella, HPV, chickenpox, hepatitis A and hepatitis B.

Fierce Pharma, October 18, 2016

[Is 20-Something Too Late For A Guy To Get The HPV Vaccine?](#)

But therein lies a complication. An estimated 80 percent of sexually active people will be exposed to HPV by age 45. In most people, the virus goes away on its own after two years. For men, there's no commercially available test to find out if you have been exposed. Women can be checked for HPV exposure as part of a Pap test.

NPR Shots, October 17, 2016

[FDA Expands Gardasil 9 Use in Adolescents](#)

On October 7 the Food and Drug Administration approved an updated license for Gardasil 9 to include a 2-dose regimen for adolescents aged 9 to 14 years. The Gardasil nine-valent vaccine was approved in 2014. In addition to HPV types 6, 11, 16, and 18, Gardasil 9 protects against HPV types 31, 33, 45, 52, and 58, which account for about 15% of

cervical cancers. On August 26 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report on [National, Regional, State, and Selected Local Area Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13-17 Years - United States, 2015](#). That report indicated that, nationwide, 6 out of 10 girls and 5 out of 10 boys have started the HPV three-dose vaccine series.

By reducing approved the Gardasil 9 dosage to two doses from three, it is expected that HPV vaccine adherence rates will increase. The three-dose regimen has been widely perceived as a barrier to full inoculation due to its inconvenience. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) develops recommendations on how to use vaccines to control disease in the United States. That body will need to make a recommendation regarding a change in the three-dose regimen to a two-dose regimen, which will then be sent to CDC's Director for approval. Once an ACIP recommendation has been reviewed and approved by the CDC Director and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, it is published in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). The MMWR publication represents the final and official CDC recommendations for immunization of the U.S. population.

PMY Staff Report, October 16, 2016

[**Australia: Adolescent males targeted in new mental health campaign**](#)

In conjunction with the 2016 Mental Health Awareness Week, researchers at the University of Wollongong (UOW) are calling on local sporting clubs to get involved with a new project targeting adolescent males, a group at high risk of mental health problems. The Ahead of the Game program is targeted at adolescent males who participate in sports and includes coach training workshops, programs for adolescent males and programs for their parents. As part of the program, researchers will be undertaking a study to better understand how Ahead of the Game can help local clubs to improve mental health knowledge and how to prevent or reduce the impact of mental health problems in adolescent males. Ahead of the Game lead researcher Dr Stewart Vella from UOW's Early Start Research Institute (ESRI) said the program uses organised sport as a way to reach adolescent males, who are naturally at high risk of mental health problems.

Health Canal, October 14, 2016

[Mixed News on Drug Abuse Among Lesbian, Gay Americans](#)

This group is more likely to use illicit substances, but also more apt to seek out help, report finds

The new data comes from the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, focusing on a wide range of U.S. adults. The study found that about 39 percent of lesbian, gay or bisexual adults said they had used some type of illicit drug over the past year, compared to about 17 percent of straight respondents. In terms of people battling an actual substance use disorder (for example, alcoholism or illicit drug abuse), about 15 percent of lesbian, gay or bisexual adults said they had done so in the past year, compared to just under 8 percent of heterosexuals. Rates of cigarette smoking and drinking were also higher among lesbian, gay and bisexual adults, the SAMHSA report found. For example, smoking rates were about 32 percent among this group, compared to just under 21 percent for straight adults.

HealthDay, October 13, 2016

[Loss of parent tied to kids' smoking, drinking](#)

Study looked at separation before age; impact greatest among males

Children who experience the loss of a father or mother early in life are more likely to smoke and drink before they hit their teens, a new study of English families found. This association between parental absence and risky behavior in childhood occurred no matter whether the cause was death, separation or divorce. The overwhelming majority of preteens said they had not smoked. However, 11-year-old boys were more likely than girls to have tried cigarettes: 3.6 percent versus 1.9 percent. Drinking was much more common among the 11-year-olds. Here again, the boys outnumbered the girls, with one in seven boys reporting that they'd tried alcohol, compared with one in 10 of the girls. Of the preteens who tried drinking, nearly twice as many boys (12 percent) said they'd had enough to feel drunk, compared with slightly less than 7 percent of the girls.

CNN, October 13, 2016

[Study: Broader Availability Of Information, Focus On Prevention Would Aid HPV Immunization Efforts](#)

Roswell Park study based on surveys of parents and physicians highlights barriers, opportunities in HPV education`

Currently, human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination rates remain low across the U.S., with fewer than 40% of girls and just over 21% of boys receiving the recommended vaccine series. Research from Roswell Park Cancer Institute has identified barriers that need to be overcome to improve vaccination rates, as well as possible strategies for doing so. The study has been published online ahead of print in the Journal of Cancer Education. "Many HPV-related cancers are preventable with the HPV vaccine (Gardasil9®) which is a safe and effective vaccine," says senior author Martin Mahoney, MD, PhD, Professor of Oncology in the Department of Medicine at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. "This research offers practical strategies to help parents and clinicians to overcome barriers in order to increase HPV vaccination rates, which is a real opportunity to prevent thousands of cases of cancer." "This research is novel in that it assesses the views of both parents and clinicians in the same community at the same time," adds first author Christy Widman, Community Outreach Manager in the Department of Cancer Prevention and Control at Roswell Park. "What we found most striking was the need for education about the HPV vaccine among both parents and clinicians. School-based programming and general media campaigns also emerged as promising avenues for future educational efforts."

Newswise, October 12, 2016

[Abstract: HPV Vaccination Rates Lag in Teens](#)

Vaccination rates against human papillomavirus (HPV) among US teens remain stubbornly lower than those of tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine and quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY), according to a [recent CDC report](#). Data from a 2015 national survey of more than 22,000 teens aged 13 to 17 years showed that overall, coverage with at least 1 dose of HPV vaccine was 56.1% and 45.4% with 2 or more doses; coverage with the full 3-dose series was 34.9%. In comparison, coverage with 1 or more doses of Tdap was 86.4%, and coverage was 81.3% with at least 1 dose of MenACWY. All 3 vaccines are routinely recommended at age 11 to 12 years.

JAMA, October 11, 2016

Rise in oropharyngeal cancer incidence not solely driven by HPV in United Kingdom

The rise in incidence of oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma in the United Kingdom from 2002 to 2011 was not solely attributable to a rise in incidence of human papillomavirus (HPV)-positive disease because the proportion of HPV-positive and -negative cases remained the same throughout that period, according to a study published in *Cancer Research*, a journal of the American Association for Cancer Research. Oropharyngeal cancer is a type of head and neck cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma (OPSCC) is the most common form of oropharyngeal cancer. It includes cancers arising in the tonsil, base of the tongue, soft palate, and the side and back walls of the throat. "We were surprised to find that while the overall incidence of OPSCC in the U.K. rose year on year as anticipated, the proportion attributable to HPV remained static, meaning that not only is HPV-positive OPSCC increasing in incidence, but that HPV-negative OPSCC disease incidence is rising in parallel," continued Jones. "This is different to trends reported elsewhere in the developed world, which illustrates that we cannot generalize the causes underlying the rise in OPSCC incidence between populations; they must be analyzed in a population-specific manner."

Medical Express, October 11, 2016

Obesity set to soar for boys, but not girls, from poorer homes

Most boys from deprived backgrounds in England will be overweight by 2020 while better-off boys grow slimmer, says study

Childhood obesity is set to increase so sharply among boys from poorer homes in England that three in five of them will be dangerously overweight by 2020, [research shows](#). But the number of well-off boys who are overweight or obese is expected to fall to one in six in that time, underlining that obesity's already stark class divide will widen even further. Doctors and health campaigners urged ministers to take tough action to reduce the number of children and young people who are becoming very heavy, including restricting advertisements on

television for junk food before the 9pm watershed and taxing unhealthy foodstuffs.

Guardian, October 10, 2016

[AUDIO ABSTRACT: Impact and Effectiveness of the Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus Vaccine: A Systematic Review of 10 Years of Real-world Experience](#)

Susan J. Wysocki, WHNP, FAANP

Medical Director, Partnership for Male Youth

ReachMD, Prova Education, October 11, 2016

[How to Be a Man in the Age of Trump](#)

"Don't sexually assault women' (or, for that matter, "Don't get a girl pregnant") is an awfully low bar for acceptable behavior. It does little to address the complexity of boys' lives, the presumption of their always-down-for-it sexuality, the threat of being called a "pussy" if you won't grab one, the collusion that comes with keeping quiet. Boys need continuing, serious guidance about sexual ethics, reciprocity, respect. Rather than silence or swagger, they need models of masculinity that are not grounded in domination or aggression... Donald Trump (and, for that matter, Billy Bush) have unwittingly provided grist for a more radical, challenging discussion: about what it means - what it should mean, what it could mean - to be a man, a discussion that must continue in public and in our homes long after the candidate himself is told it's game over."

Peggy Orenstein, New York Times, October 15, 2016

The Fear of Having a Son

"The common wisdom, as research verifies, is that most men want sons. That's starting to shift. Some men, like me, fear becoming fathers to sons. At the website for the NPR radio show "On Being," the writer Courtney E. Martin observes of many younger middle- and upper-middle-class fathers-to-be, "I've noticed a fascinating trend: They seem to disproportionately desire having a girl instead of a boy." An informal Facebook survey she took yielded these results: "I wanted a girl mainly because I felt it was harder to be a boy in today's society. If I have a boy I will embrace the challenge of raising a boy...who can learn the power of vulnerability even as male culture tries to make him see it as weakness. But, frankly, I hope that when I have a second child, it'll be another girl." This was emblematic of a lot of the responses, which revealed that men felt more confident, or "better equipped," co-parenting "a strong, confident daughter."

Andrew Reiner, New York Times, October 14, 2016

Generation Adderall

Like many of my friends, I spent years using prescription stimulants to get through school and start my career. Then I tried to get off them

Adderall is prescribed to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, a neurobehavioral condition marked by inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity that was first included in the D.S.M. in 1987 and predominantly seen in children. That condition, which has also been called Attention Deficit Disorder, has been increasingly diagnosed over recent decades: In the 1990s, an estimated 3 to 5 percent of school-age American children were believed to have A.D.H.D., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; by 2013, that figure was 11 percent. It continues to rise. And the increase in diagnoses has been followed by an increase in prescriptions. In 1990, 600,000 children were on stimulants, usually Ritalin, an older medication that often had to be taken multiple times a day. By 2013, 3.5 million children were on stimulants, and in many cases, the Ritalin had been replaced by Adderall, officially brought to market in 1996 as the new, upgraded choice for A.D.H.D. - more effective, longer lasting.

We know very little about what Adderall does over years of use, in and out of college, throughout all the experiences that constitute early adulthood. To date, there is almost no research on the long-term effects on humans of using Adderall. In a sense, then, we are the walking experiment, those of us around my age who first got involved with this drug in high school or college when it was suddenly everywhere and then did not manage to get off it for years afterward - if we got off it at all. We are living out what it might mean, both psychologically and neurologically, to take a powerful drug we do not need over long stretches of time. Sometimes I think of us as Generation Adderall.

Casey Schwartz, New York Times, October 12, 2016

PMY Editor's Note: *While there is controversy surrounding ADHD diagnoses, male adolescents have an ADHD diagnosis rate that is three times that of adolescent females. About two-thirds of those with a current diagnosis receive prescriptions for stimulants like Ritalin or Adderall, which can drastically improve the lives of those with ADHD but can also lead to addiction, anxiety and occasionally psychosis. It is speculated that such widespread prescribing has led to unnecessary dependence and the use of them by friends and others for which they were not prescribed (source: www.ayamalehealth.org)*

Remembrance

[Young man wrote heartbreaking Facebook post about struggling with depression days before he died](#)



Steven Goodwin's dad Paul is now urging men to talk to each other openly and seek help by opening it - and not just changing the subject to football or rugby

A young man urged others to talk about mental health in a heartbreaking Facebook message about struggling with depression just days before he died. Steven Goodwin's family say he had suffered for decades and was undergoing counselling. But the 36-year-old died on Wednesday, August 24 - just days after sharing a moving message about his mental health problems on Facebook. Steven, from Wigan, told friends on the social media site he found it 'genuinely sad' that men don't talk about mental health, reports Manchester Evening News. He wrote: "I usually have to talk to women for conversations with depth, guys attitude is chin up, crack on, now let's talk about sport."

Mirror, UK, October 11, 2016

[Doctors May Not Be Telling High-Risk Patients About HIV Prevention Drug](#)

Less than half of gay and bisexual men are aware of once-a-day pill PrEP, study shows.

A once-a-day pill known as PrEP -- short for pre-exposure prophylaxis medication -- has been found to reduce HIV infection by 92 percent in people at high risk for the AIDS-causing virus, including men who have unprotected gay sex, the researchers said. The researchers studied 2014 data from 401 HIV-negative gay and bisexual men in Baltimore. Only 42 percent knew about PrEP. Those who had been tested for HIV in the previous year were more likely to be aware of it. But having recently seen a doctor or getting tested for another sexually transmitted disease did not increase the likelihood that gay or bisexual men knew about the preventive drug, the researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found. The findings

suggest many health care providers don't discuss PrEP with gay and bisexual men and other high-risk patients, even though the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the therapy for them.

Healthfinder, October 10, 2016

[**AUSTRALIA: 'Bloke whisperer' challenges what it means to be an Aussie man**](#)

Mr Harkin said men often act in a way that fits a stereotype of what a man should be, and his workshops aim to shift that perception. 'It is great to be a bloke, but let's look at how it is going for us. Did we decide all of these rules or were they decided for us?'" The issue is masculinity and male mental health is explored in a new documentary, Man Up, which follows radio presenter Gus Worland on his mission to answer the question: what does it mean to be a man? Mr Harkin takes part in the show and works with a group of teenage boys to address the question. The Man Up documentary begins by addressing the suicide of Worland's friend Angus in 2006, and the reasons that might have led to it. Suicide is the leading cause of death in Australia for men aged 15 to 44, and of the 2,864 Australians who took their own lives in 2014, three-quarters were men. Mr Harkin and Worland want to explore why.

ABC, October 10, 2016

[**Males Conceived Via Fertility Treatment May Have Weakened Sperm: Study**](#)

Males who were conceived using an infertility treatment where sperm is injected into an egg may themselves have lower sperm quantity and quality than those conceived naturally, Belgian researchers report. "We treated couples where the husband had very abnormal sperm, so it is not so surprising that in their sons the quality of their sperm had an impact on them," explained lead researcher Dr. Andre Van Steirteghem, an emeritus professor at Vrije Universiteit in Brussels.

Healthfinder, October 7, 2016

[**Risk of Opioid Addiction Up 37 Percent Among Young U.S. Adults Study also finds painkiller abuse often precedes heroin use**](#)

Young adults in the United States are more likely to become addicted to prescription opioids than they were in years past. And they're more likely to use heroin, too, a new study says. A review of federal data found the odds of becoming dependent on opioids like Vicodin and Percocet increased 37 percent among 18- to 25-year-olds between 2002 and 2014. The study was

conducted by researchers from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in New York City.

Medline Plus, October 4, 2016

[Exposure to community violence linked to violent behavior among minority adolescent men](#)

As exposure to community violence increases for adolescent men of color, symptoms of depression subside and violent behaviors increase, according to new research published in the Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology, a journal of the Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology. The results add evidence to a model demonstrating the desensitization to violence that can occur with greater exposure.

Medical Life Sciences, October 5, 2016

[Men who smoke are THREE times more likely to have children with asthma](#)

Children whose fathers smoked before they were even conceived are more than three times more likely to develop asthma, according to new research. The effect of a mother's lifestyle on child health is well documented, but this suggests the link is also be true for fathers-to-be. It is believed male sperm cells are damaged by nicotine, affecting a child's genes. The study of 24,000 children found boys having their first cigarette before the age of 15 put offspring at particular risk.

Daily Mail, October 3, 2016

[Study exposes vicious cycle of community violence on youth](#)

"Examining the Pathologic Adaptation Model of Community Violence Exposure in Male Adolescents of Color" is the first study to test the theory of desensitization in a sample consisting entirely of males of color over a long period of time. The study looked at the links between exposure to community violence, depressive symptoms and violent behavior among 285 African-American and Latino males in Chicago for five years, starting in the fifth or seventh grade. Researchers found that as black and brown teens are exposed to more community violence, their symptoms of depression subside and violent behaviors increase.

Chicago Sun Times, October 1, 2016

[Smoking Bans May Keep Young Men From Heavy Smoking](#)

Smoking bans may help reduce smoking among young American men, a new study finds. Researchers examined data from more than 4,300 people in 487 cities nationwide who were interviewed annually between 2004 and 2011 when they were aged 19 to 31. Among young men who were light smokers and lived in areas with smoking bans, their rate of smoking in the past 30 days was 13 percent. It was 19 percent for young men in areas without such bans. Rates were the same (11 percent) for women in areas with and without smoking bans. "These findings provide some of the most robust evidence to date on the impact of smoking bans on young people's smoking," said study co-author Mike Vuolo, an assistant professor of sociology at Ohio State University.

Healthfinder, September 30, 2016

[A Doctor's Words Key to Whether Child Gets HPV Vaccine](#)

In this new study, researchers examined if specific language used by doctors affects parents' decisions. The study included more than 1,500 parents. Their children were between the ages of 11 to 17. The study also included 776 primary care doctors. Parents were asked whether specific messages -- including nine longer ones developed by the CDC and six brief messages developed by the study team -- would persuade them to have their children vaccinated. Seventy percent of parents said they'd support messages that emphasized the effectiveness of the vaccine. About two-thirds of parents said they would support messages about the cancers prevented by the vaccine and the safety of the vaccine. Three of the brief messages and eight of the longer messages were supported by at least half of the parents. Doctors were only asked to review the six brief messages. They were asked whether they would use them in an attempt to persuade parents to get the HPV vaccine for their children. Physicians were most likely to support messages that emphasized the fact that the vaccine can prevent cancer (64 percent), the study found. The message most parents and doctors believed was persuasive for the HPV vaccine was: "I strongly believe in the importance of this cancer-preventing vaccine for [child's name]." The study was published Sept. 30 in the journal *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*.

Healthfinder, September 30, 2016

[Every Income Group Experienced Significant and Similar Drops in Uninsured Rates Under the Affordable Care Act](#)

ACA led to widespread coverage gains across income, age, geography, and race; expanding Medicaid significantly strengthens gains

The new report shows how different provisions of the ACA have worked in concert to reduce uninsured rates. The near-equal percent drops in uninsured rates across groups indicate that the ACA is reducing the uninsured rate most in absolute terms among groups that had the highest uninsured rates before the law. For example, individuals age 26-34 and 35-54 saw similar percentage drops in uninsured rates, but since the younger group had higher pre-ACA uninsured rates, a larger fraction of them have gained coverage since its passage. Today's report looks primarily at data through 2015. In the first quarter of 2016, the national uninsured rate dropped again from 9.1 percent to 8.6 percent.

HHS.gov, September 29, 2016

[Sex guide for teen boys picks up where parents leave off](#)

"Dating and Sex: A Guide for the 21st Century Teen Boy" (Magination Press) is written for 13- to 16-year-old boys who are, as Smiler writes, "possibly, maybe, sort of interested in starting to date or kiss people sometime in the not-too-distant future, as well as for guys who have dated or been sexual with lots of people." "We put a lot of pressure on boys in the United States to look like they're competent and to not show any kind of weakness or deficiency," Smiler told me. "It's even worse with sex. For some reason, we've decided boys should be sexual experts, so they can't publicly admit what they don't know about sex or get any clarification about what they don't know."

Chicago Tribune, September 29, 2016

[Young Males And Problematic Porn Use](#)

A few years ago, Canadian researcher Simon Lajeunesse wanted to study the effects of porn on adolescent boys. To do this, he needed to assemble two groups— young males who were porn users, and young males who were not porn users. His hope was to compare and contrast, looking for differences between the two cohorts. However, no matter how hard he tried, he couldn't locate any adolescent males who'd never looked at porn. Eventually, with no control group, he had to abandon the study. Until recently, it was assumed that most adolescents who experienced negative consequences related to heavy porn use were, except for their age, traditional porn addicts, fully meeting the generally accepted criteria for sexual addiction. Lately, however, treatment specialists have noticed that some heavy users of porn might not be fully addicted. This is most common with young males. These boys may be using porn just as often, with similar consequences, as the boys who are truly addicted. But they are able to walk away from porn relatively easily. Moreover, their porn-driven consequences (especially erectile dysfunction issues) tend to clear up within a month or two of quitting.

Huffington Post, September 28, 2016

Inactive Teens Likely to Become Sluggish Adults

Less than 9% met the 60 minutes/day recommendation

Factors associated with greater moderate-to-vigorous levels into adulthood included being male: $\beta=0.46$ ($P < 0.001$). "This group is unique because they are experiencing big and important changes during this period including mental, psychological, environmental, and contextual changes," he added. "At the same time, this group of young people starts to learn how to handle their lives, behaviors, and lifestyles independently the first time."

MedPage Today, September 27, 2016

Concussion Diagnoses in Teens Hit a Record High

While adolescent males are more likely to be diagnosed than females, rates of concussions among adolescent females is also climbing, increasing by 118% during the last six years compared to a 48% rise among males. The insurance company reports that more than 936,000 claims were filed for diagnosed concussions among its members, and that rates for adolescents between age 10 and 19 surged 71% during that time, while rates for adults increased by 26%. Most of the teen spike is due to sports, especially football, since rates increased sharply during the sport's fall season, according to the claims data. Much of the increased diagnosis can be tied to heightened awareness of concussions and the health effects of brain injury, after states enforced laws requiring athletes who experienced brain injuries to obtain medical clearance before resuming practice or play in a game, the study authors say. Teens were five times more likely to be diagnosed with a concussion than all other age groups combined.

Time, September 27, 2016

Young Men's Journey provides rite of passage for adolescent males

"We leverage community expertise and give exposure to young men of all different kinds of walks of life"

The vision behind Young Men's Journey is to help teenagers successfully transition from adolescence into young adulthood with the guidance and support of adults versus the more prevalent "rites of passage" largely based on peer influence, says Journey co-founder Nick Hodges. A Guelph resident and father of two young kids, Hodges founded the non-profit organization in 2014 with Steve Anderson, a professional coach and past Olympic volleyball coach. The intent was to connect boys with positive male role models and provide a transitional experience. The idea is based on similar groups within North America that Hodges has trained at and collaborated with over the past several years.

Guelph News, September 26, 2016

MSM Syphilis Rates 'Astounding'

100-fold higher than in straight men

Rates of primary and secondary syphilis among men who have sex with men (MSM) are dramatically higher than among men with female partners, according to the first state-level analysis of the incidence of the disease.

Across the 44 states included in the analysis, the 2015 syphilis rate among men who have sex with men was an "astounding" 107 times higher than it was among straight men, according to Alex de Voux, PhD, of the CDC division of STD prevention. The incidence for MSM was as low as 39 times higher than in other men in Minnesota and reached 342.1 times higher in Hawaii, De Voux reported at the 2016 STD Prevention Conference here.

MedPage Today, September 22, 2016

Youth-Driven Digital Platform ADOLESCENT Launches

Online hub kicks off with contest to find the next ADOLESCENT director

Today the new digital platform ADOLESCENT (<http://www.adolescent.net>) launches, unlocking an online hub of exclusive editorial and video content focused on showcasing youth culture from the inside out. ADOLESCENT is a community that celebrates and advances the work of teenage creators, with original content spanning commercials, music videos, web series, documentaries and films. The platform emerges out of Adolescent Content (<http://www.adolescentcontent.com>), a Los Angeles-based production company and think tank helmed by Creative Director Ramaa Mosley and Executive Producer Hope Farley. ADOLESCENT is the first comprehensive media company dedicated to the creation of high-quality advertising and entertainment content FOR youth, MADE BY youth.

PR Newswire, September 15, 2016

WATCH: 13-year-old boy pushes B.C. government to expand HPV vaccine program

The Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine has been approved for girls 26 and younger in British Columbia for a number of years now, but a 13-year-old B.C. boy is advocating for the provincial government to expand the program to all genders. In 2013, the BC Centre for Disease Control has expanded the HPV vaccine program to allow women 26 years old and younger to get the vaccination for free. The provincial catch-up program previously only covered women aged 19 to 21 to provide cost coverage for women who were too old to receive the vaccine in high schools. The program was later expanded to include at-risk boys and young men. But the rest have to pay for it.

Global News, September 12, 2016

Meningococcal B vaccine given to Kiwis also protects some against gonorrhoea

A breakthrough in the battle against gonorrhoea uncovered by Kiwi researchers has lifted hopes of finding a vaccine for the disease that is becoming increasingly resistant to antibiotics. The researchers at Auckland University made the surprising discovery that New Zealanders given the MeNZB vaccine to counter meningococcal B also had improved protection against gonorrhoea. Their study found people who received the MeNZB vaccine about 10 years ago were 30 per cent less likely to be diagnosed with gonorrhoea, compared to those who were unvaccinated.

Stuff Health New Zealand, September 10, 2016

Pharmacists help to combat meningococcal disease

As bacterial meningitis spikes in certain regions of the U.S. and with more schools recommending vaccination, some pharmacy chains are helping to combat the disease. Walgreens-and perhaps other pharmacy chains- is now offering the meningitis B vaccinations at all of its pharmacies, including Duane Reade pharmacies in New York, and its Healthcare Clinics nationwide. Vaccinations are available daily without an appointment and may be covered by insurance.

Drug Topics, September 9, 2016

European region most skeptical in the world on vaccine safety

Public confidence in vaccines varies widely between countries and regions around the world, and the European region is the most sceptical about vaccine safety, according to the largest ever global survey of confidence in vaccines. With recent disease outbreaks triggered by people refusing vaccination, the authors believe the findings provide valuable insights, which could help policymakers identify and address issues.

Science Codex, September 9, 2016

Malawi's Secret Weapon Against HIV: Male Circumcision

The small African country has significantly lowered its rates of HIV/AIDS-in no small part through circumcising men and adolescent boys.

One of Malawi's most recent efforts to combat HIV/AIDS may also be one of its least well known: voluntary medical male circumcision. The reasons why it works remain unclear (tougher and quicker-drying skin may be contributing factors, as well as a reduced surface area for the virus to proliferate in), but three separate studies have shown that male circumcision reduces the risk of sexual transmission from HIV-positive

women by 50 to 60 percent. As the author of one of the studies (conducted in the Orange Farm region outside Johannesburg, South Africa) puts it: "This is equivalent to what a vaccine of high efficacy would have achieved."

Pacific Standard, September 8, 2016

[Why Is Meningitis Still Causing Deaths on U.S. College Campuses?](#)

There's an effective vaccine, but 12 states still don't require it for incoming students

While many states have mandates of vaccination for all incoming college and university freshman, at least 12 states do not require the vaccination, including my own state of Michigan. This needs to change. Most college students physically interact with other students from out-of-state. As such we cannot afford to a situation where divergent vaccination policies further limit the effectiveness of vaccines in states they are required. To optimize herd immunity against meningitis among college students in the U.S, we need to mandate vaccination in all schools in all states.

Scientific American, September 7, 2016

[Academy of Pediatrics' grant recipients develop strategies to increase HPV immunization rates](#)

Training videos, educational webinars and use of electronic health records (EHRs) are among the strategies used by six AAP chapters to improve HPV immunization rates. The Academy awarded grants to six chapters to identify opportunities to increase adolescent immunization rates, with a focus on the HPV vaccine. Each chapter developed a program to fit the needs of pediatricians and families in their state.

AAP Gateway, September 7, 2016

[Meningitis B vaccine, Bexsero, 83 percent effective according to new data](#)

Preliminary data from the world's first national meningitis B immunization program with Bexsero, launched one year ago in the UK, shows the estimated effectiveness of the vaccine at 83 percent against any meningitis B strain and 94 percent against vaccine preventable strains, for all children receiving the first two of three recommended doses. Reported cases of the disease have dropped 50 percent in the vaccine-eligible population in the first ten months of the program, compared to the average number of cases over the last four years.

Outbreak News Today, September 6, 2016

New Book Release:

["Dating and Sex"](#)

by Andrew Smiler, Ph.D.

[Insight into Increasing Teen Immunization Rates](#)

A study published in the July 2016 issue of Health Promotion and Practice presents teachers' perceptions of immunization education and methods of improvement. The randomized, controlled trial compared teacher perceptions of brochure-guided and teacher-provided education to middle and high school students. The researchers conducted focus groups 18 months after the interventions ended. An overview of childhood vaccinations encourages adolescent belief that further vaccinations are a necessary continuation of previous healthful acts. The addition of engaging media (eg, YouTube) and microbiology content would improve vaccine education, as students enjoy "gross" visually disturbing content, such as images of smallpox sores, measles rashes, and tetanized postures. One of the 4 schools excluded HPV vaccination education. The reason was unexplained and curious, since none of the teachers indicated that parents had voiced any opinion about HPV or any other vaccine.

Pharmacy Times, September 2, 2016

[EDITORIAL: Making the most out of crisis: child and adolescent mental health in the emergency department](#)

Mental illness continues to be one of the greatest challenges facing practitioners and health systems around the world. Because mental illness often presents during adolescence and young adulthood, it can have profound implications for a person's wellbeing across their lifespan. As the report notes, those with substance abuse disorders, who are already disproportionately reliant on EDs for care, might actually benefit from rapid ED-based screening and coordination of care. As demand increases and ED use, especially for psychiatric crises, grows, perhaps it is time to rethink what an ED can and should be.

The Lancet, September 2, 2016

[Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing](#)

After three decades of calls for action on adolescent health,

has brought together four of the world's leading Universities to form "The Lancet Youth" a Lancet Commission on the Health and Wellbeing of Young People: The University of Melbourne, Columbia University, University College London and The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to establish a Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing. The Commission has 30 members from 14 countries spanning all parts of the globe. It has brought together experts, including youth advocates, with a range of

disciplines as well as policy and practice perspectives. The aim of the Commission was to produce a coherent narrative and integrated work plan for responding to the shifting determinants of health and health needs of the world's adolescent and young adults.

[AAP issues meningococcal B vaccine guidelines for adolescents](#)

Trumenba and Bexsero have both been approved for the prevention of serogroup B meningococcal disease in individuals aged 10 through 25 years by the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases. Their guidelines on the newly-licensed vaccines align with previous recommendations issued by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Helio, August 31, 2016

[Researchers identify neural factors that predict adolescent alcohol use](#)

A mix of social, psychological and biological mechanisms are believed to contribute to alcohol use during adolescence. Demographic risk factors include being male, having higher levels of psychological problems and associating positive outcomes with alcohol (i.e. drinking is fun). "Underage alcohol consumption is a significant problem in this country," said senior author Susan F. Tapert, PhD, professor of psychiatry. "Being able to identify at-risk children before they begin drinking heavily has immense clinical and public health implications. Our findings provide evidence that it's possible to predict which adolescents are most likely to begin drinking heavily by age 18." The researchers at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine have identified 34 neural factors that predict adolescent alcohol consumption. The list, based upon complex algorithms analyzing data from neuropsychological testing and neuroimaging studies, was significantly more accurate --approximately 74 percent -- than demographic information alone.

Eureka Alert, August 30, 2016

[More teens get needed vaccines in 'blue states'](#)

Parental politics may influence whether teens get recommended vaccinations, according to a U.S. study. Dividing states into red and blue based on how they voted in the 2012 presidential elections, researchers found that in that year, adolescents in blue states were significantly more likely to have received three important vaccines recommended for 11 to 12 year olds. "These associations are important because they demonstrate that there are broader forces associated with political affiliation that may influence acceptance of immunizations for adolescent children," said senior author Linda M. Niccolai of the Yale School of Public Health in New Haven. "The decision to immunize a child does not occur in vacuum and is not as straightforward as simply accepting a preventive medical intervention or not."

Reuters, August 30, 2016

[Ebola May Be Present in Semen for Year or More](#)

Ebola virus stays present in semen longer than previously thought, and is more likely to be found in older men, researchers report. The deadly virus can be transmitted through semen. Preliminary findings from 429 male Ebola survivors taking part in a national screening program in the African nation of Liberia showed that 9 percent (38) had fragments of Ebola in their semen. Of those 38 men, 63 percent tested positive for Ebola in their semen a year after recovering from the disease. One man's semen still had evidence of Ebola at least 565 days after he recovered from the illness, the study found.

Healthfinder, August 30, 2016

[The HPV vaccine has cut infections by up to 90% in the past 10 years](#)

A recent review of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is has found that in the 10 years since its original release, the infection rate of HPV has been lowered by up to 90 percent in countries with high levels of immunisation. The review found that with more than 187 million doses of the vaccine administered in 130 countries around the world, the number of HPV infections fell by up to 90 percent in some areas, with similar decreases in genital warts and cervical abnormalities also being reported. "Reductions in HPV infections as well as reductions in the prevalence of HPV 6/11/16/18-related diseases, as noted by decreases in Pap abnormalities, cervical pre-cancers, and genital warts, were detected within four years after vaccine introduction," said lead researcher Suzanne Garland, from the Royal Woman's Hospital in Australia.

Science Alert, August 29, 2016

[AAP: Patient Dismissal Is Last Resort for Vaccine Refusal](#)

In a change of course, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) now says pediatricians can dismiss families for vaccine refusal, but only as a last resort. The [new clinical report, published online August 29 in Pediatrics](#), provides clinicians with multiple approaches for dealing with vaccine-hesitant families and stresses the role of pediatrician as educator in these situations. However, if no approach works and pediatricians need to dismiss a family, they must do so in a thoughtful and professional manner, the authors emphasize. And they must ensure that the family has other options for medical care.

Medscape, August 29, 2016

[More Parents Believe Vaccines Are Unnecessary](#)

Reasons for refusing shots have changed in recent years, U.S. pediatricians' group finds.

Pediatricians are encountering more parents who refuse to have their children vaccinated, mainly because they don't see the point of vaccines, a U.S. survey found. In the survey, conducted in 2013, about 87 percent of pediatricians said they had encountered vaccine refusals, an increase from the 75 percent who reported refusals during the last survey from 2006. The most common reason, provided by three out of every four parents:

Vaccines are unnecessary because the diseases they prevent have been wiped out in the United States.

Healthfinder, August 29, 2016

[Is Anti-Vax Movement Growing Pediatricians say more parents are refusing to immunize kids](#)

To counteract this trend, AAP issued a clinical report in which it urged open and honest communication by a trusted pediatrician with vaccine-hesitant parents. Adding some muscle to that advice, the AAP said all non-medical vaccine exemptions should be eliminated. That recommendation came in a separate policy statement. In 2013, 87% of pediatricians reported experiencing a vaccine refusal -- a significant increase compared to 2006 (74.5%, $P < 0.001$), reported Catherine Hough-Telford, MD, of University of Alabama at Birmingham, and colleagues.

Medpage Today, August 29, 2016

[Medical Marijuana's Pain Relief May Work Better for Men](#)

Study found male users reporting bigger benefits compared to women

Smoking a joint provides greater pain relief to men than to women, a new study indicates. Researchers asked 42 recreational marijuana smokers to place one hand in extremely cold water until they could no longer tolerate the pain. They did this twice: Once after smoking marijuana and once after puffing on a placebo. After smoking marijuana, men reported they were significantly less sensitive to pain. They were also more able to tolerate pain. While women reported they were somewhat more able to tolerate pain after smoking marijuana, it brought them no significant pain relief.

Medline Plus, August 24, 2016

[UK: Soaring number of boys are being born with genital disorders - and experts say gender-bending chemicals and fatty diets are to blame](#)

- *Male sperm counts have been plummeting for decades*
- *More boys are born with genital disorders - such as their testes don't fall*
- *Others are born with a condition called hypospadias, where the opening of the penis is lower down, towards the base of the penis*

Some experts blame gender-bending chemicals in the environment, commonly found in the plastic used in containers and our homes. It is said they inhibit male sex hormones in the womb, which can lead to defects in a developing male foetus. Others say the problem is linked to lifestyle factors - that eating more fat means we produce more of the female hormone oestrogen - which again, will affect how a baby in the womb grows.

Daily Mail, August 26, 2016

[CDC: Male adolescent HPV vaccinations lag behind meningococcal, Tdap](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Friday released a new report examining vaccination trends among adolescents aged 13-17 years in 2015 and found that, despite rising numbers of tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (Tdap) and meningococcal conjugate vaccinations (MenACWY), the number of HPV vaccines - particularly among adolescent boys - is lagging.

"Since 2007, among females, HPV vaccination coverage has lagged behind Tdap and MenACWY coverage, with gaps of 28 and 17 percentage points, respectively, in 2014. HPV vaccination coverage among males has increased annually since 2011, but remains lower than coverage among females," the report says. In 2015, among males coverage with one or more HPV vaccine doses was 49.8% and 28.1% had three or more doses. Among females, 62.8% had one or more doses and 41.9% had three or more doses. "[These findings] suggests that HPV vaccine is not being routinely administered at visits when other recommended vaccines are given, and demonstrates ongoing missed opportunities for the prevention of HPV-associated outcomes, including cancers," the report says. "Routine age-appropriate administration of all recommended vaccines to adolescents aged 11-12 years, and strong, consistent recommendations by clinicians are important to maintaining high vaccination coverage for Tdap and MenACWY vaccines and improving HPV vaccination coverage."

Drug Store News, August 26, 2016

[Teen boys' HPV-vaccination rate hits almost 50 percent, CDC says](#)

The rate of HPV vaccination among teen boys in the United States surged in 2015, suggesting that more parents and physicians are embracing the message that it's as important for boys to be vaccinated against the human papillomavirus as it is for girls. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday that 49.8 percent of boys ages 13 to 17 had gotten at least one of the recommended three doses as of 2015, up 8 percentage points from 2014. The rate for teen girls rose more slowly: Almost 63 percent had gotten at least one dose, compared to 60 percent in 2014. Vaccine proponents were cheered by the sharp rise in vaccinations among boys, who as adults could be at greater risk of certain cancers. "The rate is increasing faster for them than it ever has for girls," said Erich Sturgis, a head and neck cancer surgeon at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Washington Post, August 25, 2016

[Synthetic Fentanyl Fueling Surge in Overdose Deaths: CDC](#)

Most of the victims of these overdoses were men and those aged 15 to 44, the researchers reported

Deaths from overdoses of the synthetic narcotic fentanyl have surged in recent years, U.S. health officials say in a troubling new report. As more fentanyl was sold illegally on the streets, the number of fatal overdoses jumped 79 percent in 27 states from 2013 to 2014, the government report found, while law enforcement seizures of the drug increased 426 percent in eight of those 27 states. The fentanyl crisis is being driven by products made illegally, not by the diversion of prescription fentanyl. Recently, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration reported that synthetic fentanyl was showing up mixed with prescription narcotic painkillers, and "this is a new and emerging threat," said report author R. Matthew Gladden.

Health Day, August 25, 2016

[GlaxoSmithKline Unveils Take 5 for Meningitis](#)

GlaxoSmithKline has introduced Take 5 for Meningitis, an educational campaign that seeks to promote meningitis awareness. The launch took place earlier this month. Jamie Schanbaum, a meningitis survivor; Anne Geddes, a recognized photographer; and Leonard Friedland, M.D., Vice President, Director Scientific Affairs and Public Health, Vaccines North America for GSK, spearheaded the launch of the campaign at BlogHer2016 in California. Take 5 for Meningitis aims to address the growing number of young adults who have not yet been vaccinated for five groups of meningitis. The campaign will take advantage of digital media platforms and launch educational events as a means of educating young adults and their parents. More importantly, Take 5 for Meningitis will encourage them to get the necessary immunizations, increasing the vaccination rates.

Market Exclusive, August 25, 2016

[Teen males in therapeutic boarding school adopt feminine qualities to reassert dominance](#)

Adolescent males attending therapeutic boarding school for troubled young men often adopted feminine qualities, displaying a type of "hybrid masculinity," according to research presented at the 2016 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. However, researcher Jessica A. Pfaffendorf, a PhD candidate at the University of Arizona School of Sociology, noted that the teenaged men did not fully embrace their new feminine demeanors, which included speaking openly and at length about their emotions and admitting past wrongs. Instead, they combined masculine and feminine styles for their own personal benefit, namely to assert that they were in control of their emotions and, therefore, were more mature than their peers.

Helio, August 25, 2016

[AUSTRALIA: Editorial: Society's rules failing men and their health](#)

WHY do we have to resort to hanging a banner depicting a giant pair of jocks from a prominent landmark in order to get Bendigo men thinking about their health?

Bendigo Advertiser, August 25, 2016

[AUSTRALIA: Why guys are getting personal online - the social media campaign driven by the boys](#)

FORGET the ice bucket challenge, this is the new campaign flooding social media and men are taking the lead. Social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are filling up with selfies from men saying 'it's OK to talk'. The picture is accompanied with the words along the lines of; "The single biggest killer of men aged under 45 is suicide. In 2014, 4623 took their own life in Australia. That's 12 men every day, 1 man every two hours! 41% of men who contemplated suicide felt they could not talk about their feelings. Only 20% of people know that suicide is the most likely cause of death for men age under 45. Let's show men across the world that #IT'SOKAYTOTALK take a selfie tag your friends and let's get the message out."

News AU, August 24, 2016

[Giving children antibiotics increases their risk of diabetes - with boys 'particularly vulnerable'](#)

- Young mice given antibiotics twice as likely to develop type 1 diabetes
- Condition may develop in kids if good gut bugs are killed by antibiotics
- Type 1 diabetes occurs when the immune system turns on the body
- Experts believe certain bacteria teach the immune system not to attack

Researchers from New York University compared the health of mice given several 'courses' of antibiotics when young with creatures not given any drugs. Those given three antibiotic treatments by the age of six weeks - roughly two and a half years old in human terms - were twice as likely to develop diabetes as those not given antibiotics. Males may be particularly vulnerable, the journal *Nature Microbiology* reports.

Daily Mail, August 22, 2016

[Breadwinner Men May Have More Money, But Poorer Health](#)

Researchers analyzed surveys from 9,000 young married men and women in the United States taken annually over a 15-year period, and evaluated each participant's response on income, health and psychological wellness. They found that the more economic responsibility a man had in his marriage, the more his psychological well-being and health declined. The findings suggest that men who are primary breadwinners - and who, in essence, fulfill the culturally held expectation that husbands should bring home more

money than their wives - are actually worse off than men who earn salaries that are more equal to those of their wives.

Live Science, August 22, 2016

New Zealand: Wave of transgender young people will swamp treatment services

A tsunami of transgender young people is poised to swamp New Zealand's ad hoc transgender health services, experts say. Increasing social acceptance of gender diversity, combined with the availability of puberty-blocking drugs, means more young people are coming out as transgender, and at an earlier age. New figures obtained by Stuff show the number of 10 to 14-year-olds taking puberty-delaying Leuprorelin has soared from 27 in 2005 to 95 last year. Counsellor Mani Mitchell said the surge was reminiscent of growth in the gay community in the 1950s and 60s.

Stuff New Zealand, August 20, 2016

Interview: Violent Deaths Disproportionately Affect Young, Minority Males

Bridget H. Lyons, MPH

*Division of Violence Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Atlanta*

Main findings:

1. Violent deaths resulting from suicide or interpersonal violence disproportionately affected persons less than 65 years of age, males, and certain minority populations.
2. Primary circumstances for homicide and suicide included intimate partner problems, interpersonal conflicts, mental health problems and recent crises.

Medical Research, August 19, 2016

Parents Feel Better About HPV Shots For Preteens If They Can Opt Out

The human papillomavirus vaccine is the only vaccine invented explicitly for the purpose of preventing cancer. Yet a decade after its approval, the vaccine continues to struggle from a PR problem, as shown in a study that finds just one in five parents would support making the HPV vaccine a requirement for school. But this first national study of parents' attitudes found that those attitudes shifted if the requirement allowed parents an opportunity to opt out. "It's interesting; if you had opt-out provisions, it tripled their support, but we know from previous research that if you add the opt-out provisions, you will make the law less effective," says the study's lead author, William Calo, a postdoctoral research associate at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

NPR, August 19, 2016

[NYC health officials: Black male youth suicide rate growing](#)

New York City's suicide prevention services say suicide rates of black adolescent males are the highest growing statistic. Although black suicide rates are the lowest in the country, more black boys ages 5 to 11 committed suicide between 1993 to 1997 and 2008 to 2012, according to Jama Pediatrics.

Brooklyn News 12, August 19, 2016

[Concussion rates rising significantly in adolescents](#)

The number of Americans diagnosed with concussions is growing, most significantly in adolescents, according to researchers at UC San Francisco. They recommend that adolescents be prioritized for ongoing work in concussion education, diagnosis, treatment and prevention. The findings appear online August 16, 2016, in the Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine. Overall, 43,884 patients were diagnosed with a concussion, with 55 percent being male. The highest incidence was in the 15-19 age group at 16.5 concussions per 1,000 patients, followed by ages 10-14 at 10.5, 20-24 at 5.2 and 5-9 at 3.5. A 60 percent increase in concussions occurred from 2007 to 2014 (3,529 to 8,217), with the largest growth in ages 10-14 at 143 percent and 15-19 at 87 percent. Based on classification, 29 percent of concussions were associated with some loss of consciousness.

Science Daily, August 18, 2016

[The Media's False Narrative About Teen Athletes, Prescription Pain Pills, and Heroin Use](#)

Is misuse of prescription painkillers among youth athletes leading to heroin use? The short answer is "no."

Over the past several years, the sports media have presented several stories of youth athletes who have become addicted to prescription painkillers and eventually turned to heroin. The narratives in these reports typically revolved around a young male athlete who sustained an injury, was prescribed painkillers to manage pain after surgery and eventually developed a dependence on these medications. This dependence then subsequently escalated into a heroin addiction, as heroin is a cheaper and more available alternative to prescription painkillers. These stories resonate among many Americans, given the attention on both the rise of prescription painkiller misuse and the uptick in heroin overdoses over the past several years. While these trends suggest some dangerous overlap between prescription painkiller and heroin use, very little research has been done to see if this is an emerging pattern among youth athletes in the United States. In particular, young athletes who play one sport are at greater risk for injuries that may require some form of opioid pain management.

Alternet, August 18, 2016

CDC urges college students to get 'Meningitis B' vaccine

There are new immunization recommendations just put out by the Centers for Disease Control for all students attending an Arizona state university. The CDC is urging all incoming freshmen to get the "Meningitis B" vaccine before they start class. The goal is to protect students from getting the disease.

Tucson News Now, August 18, 2016

Minority of Surgical Studies Include Men, Women Equally

Few surgical studies include men and women equally, and only about one-third perform data analysis by sex, according to research published online Aug. 17 in JAMA Surgery.

The researchers found that 1.3 and 3.1 percent of articles included males only and females only, respectively, 78.3 percent included males and females, and 17.3 percent did not document participant sex. Considerable variability existed in the number of male, female, and unspecified participants among the journals, between U.S. domestic and international studies, and for single versus multicenter studies, although female participants represented more than 50 percent of the total number of participants. Overall, 38.1, 33.2, and 22.9 percent of articles reported the data by sex, analyzed the data by sex, and included a discussion of sex-based results, respectively.

Doctor's Lounge, August 17, 2016

The Data-Poor Lives of Adolescents

Data can save lives. Without it, we wouldn't know that smoking causes lung cancer and coronary disease, that helmets reduce death rates for motorcycle accidents, and that better education for women improves child survival - and much else. Given the importance of reliable data, collecting it must be a high priority. One area where data collection is particularly inadequate is adolescent health. People aged ten to 24 receive far less attention than other age groups. More broadly, as the new Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing highlights, global health and social policy largely tends to ignore adolescent health.

Project Syndicate, August 17, 2016

Teenagers Have High Suicide Risks When They Misuse Prescription Drugs

Suicide is the third leading cause of death in children aged 10 to 14, and the second for people aged 15 to 24. Also, 90 percent of suicidal teenagers have a substance abuse problem not just with drugs, but also with alcohol. Adolescent males complete suicide at four times the rate of adolescent females. Teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide when they abuse prescription drugs. A new study published in JAMA Pediatrics found that

teenagers are three times more likely to commit suicide after using prescription drugs for non-medical reasons for a year, Dr. Lan Guo, the study's lead author from Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China, said misusing opioids, sedatives, and prescription drugs is associated with "later suicidal ideation." Opiates, primarily used to ease pain and suppress extreme coughing fits, are one of the most abused drugs in the United States. The drug is easy to obtain, is readily prescribed, and are highly addictive. Teenagers using prescription painkillers or opioids like codeine, hydrocodone, and oxycodone for non-medical purposes are more likely to develop a substance abuse disorder by the time they turn 35 years old, according to a study published in the journal *Pain* .

Parent Herald, August 17, 2016

[Gay Sex Should Be A Part Of Sexual Education](#)

Our sexual education system is lacking in many areas. Many schools still teach "abstinence only" education to its students, despite the risks that are associated with it. Other programs passively shame students surrounding their sexuality, without realizing that they're doing so. However, even for most of these students, masturbation and sexual pleasure are rarely included in their sex ed. Instead, the focus is heavily on reproductive health and teen pregnancy. Such a heavy focus on reproductive health is often guilty of leaving gay boys behind. For them, it can feel like there is nowhere to turn for sexual education that they need. Even for those who are out, there can be shame in talking with their parents about sex. Because relationship, romance, and sexuality role models continue to be based in heteronormativity, it's difficult to know what gay sex should look like. Many young, gay men don't know how to improve sexual pleasure. Instead, they rely on myths surrounding sex. They can develop beliefs that there is a caste system surrounding sexual positioning. They risk learning that pain with anal sex is normal and just has to be dealt with. They also risk learning that there is only one way for gay men to have sex.

Huffington Post, August 17, 2016

[New Zealand - "Porn: Turning teenage boys into old men"](#)

Online pornography is damaging the sexual health of young men, a senior psychosexual therapist has warned. Men in their late teens and early 20s are increasingly likely to suffer erectile dysfunction, with experts blaming the problem on the spread of online porn. In June a UK report found children as young as 11 were being "stripped of their childhoods" and warped by online porn. A survey of more than 1,000 children by the NSPCC and the Children's Commissioner for England found 94 per cent of 14-year-olds had seen X-rated films or photographs. Half of parents do not realise children who take nude selfies are breaking the law, according to an NSPCC survey. It also found two in five parents fear their children will be involved in sexting but most have not spoken to them about the risks.

New Zealand Herald, August 16, 2016

Students Of Color Less Likely To Receive Mental Health Treatment Than Whites, Study Suggests

The study published in the International Journal of Health Services said that based on the information they have taken covering all 50 states in 2006 to 2012, black and Latino children make 37 and 49 percent fewer visits to psychiatrists compared to white children. The problem is not only with the race. Gender also plays a factor, with females receiving less mental health care than male children, however the rate is reversed for young adults - more females visit mental health care professionals as teens and young adults compared to males.

Science World Report, August 16, 2016

MANY MEN DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THEIR HEALTH

Physicians often bemoan how challenging it can be to get male patients thinking about the health of their colon, heart and prostate-and then do something to avoid a health crisis later in life. Most young, healthy guys rarely stress out over ED or the Big C, and when it comes to medical issues, especially preventive medicine, men would rather remain avoidant than face a colonoscopy head-no, bottom-on. According to a new survey of 500 men conducted by the Cleveland Clinic, way too many male patients have no idea when or how frequently to undergo routine life-saving tests. This includes even the easy ones, like having your blood pressure taken at a doctor's office or getting your cholesterol checked. More than half didn't know the recommended age to start routine heart disease screening. (For the record, the American Heart Association says a man should get their ticker checked beginning the third decade of life.)

According to the survey:

- Only 7 percent of men discuss health issues with their male friends.
- About one-fifth (22 percent) do not discuss private topics such as health or relationships with anyone.
- When they do bring up health, 48 percent of men reach out to their spouse or significant other.
- Topics guys prefer more than health include current events (36 percent), sports (32 percent) and their job (32 percent).

Newsweek, August 16, 2016

Sexual Identity, Sex of Sexual Contacts, and Health-Related Behaviors Among Students in Grades 9-12 - United States and Selected Sites, 2015

MMWR, August 12, 2016

[PrEP Education for Youth-Serving Primary Care Providers Toolkit](#)

In March 2016, the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS), supported by funding from Gilead Sciences, Inc., convened an Expert Work Group to address issues surrounding pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) delivery and contribute to the development of an online resource to support primary care providers in offering PrEP to adolescents and young adults under age 25. Expert stakeholders from diverse disciplines convened to identify key concerns as well as barriers to greater primary care provider (PCP) engagement with PrEP. These robust discussions led to the development of the PrEP Education for Youth-Serving Primary Care Providers Toolkit. The PrEP Education for Youth-Serving Primary Care Providers Toolkit is the only toolkit to date focused on supporting PCPs in providing PrEP to youth.

SIECUS, August 2016

[Male Health Information for Young Men](#)

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation has released a comprehensive health guide for young males that contains useful information on a range of diseases and disorders.

[Young Men, Help-Seeking, and Mental Health Services: Exploring Barriers and Solutions](#)

Am J Mens Health first published on June 29, 2016

Abstract: International research has identified young men as reluctant to seek help for mental health problems. This research explored barriers and solutions to professional help seeking for mental health problems among young men living in the North West of Ireland. A qualitative approach, using two focus groups with six participants each and five face-to-face interviews, was conducted with men aged 18 to 24 years (total N = 17). Data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Seven key themes of barriers to professional help seeking were identified: "acceptance from peers," "personal challenges," "cultural and environmental influences," "self-medicating with alcohol," "perspectives around seeking professional help," "fear of homophobic responses," and "traditional masculine ideals." Five key themes of solutions to these barriers included "tailored mental health advertising," "integrating mental health into formal education," "education through semiformal support services," "accessible mental health care," and "making new meaning." Interesting findings on barriers include fear of psychiatric medication, fear of homophobic responses from professionals, the legacy of Catholic attitudes, and the genuine need for care. This study offers an in-depth exploration of how young men experience barriers and uniquely offers solutions identified by participants themselves. Youth work settings were identified as a resource for engaging young men in mental health work. Young men can be encouraged to seek help if services and professionals actively address barriers, combining advertising, services, and education, with particular

attention and respect to how and when young men seek help and with whom they want to share their problems.

[Male Eating Disorder Symptom Patterns and Health Correlates From 13 to 26 Years of Age.](#)

J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2016 Aug;55(8):693-700.e2. doi: 10.1016/j.jaac.2016.05.011. Epub 2016 May 27.

Abstract:

OBJECTIVE:

Research on the manifestations and health correlates of eating disorder symptoms among males is lacking. This study identified patterns of appearance concerns and eating disorder behaviors from adolescence through young adulthood and their health correlates.

CONCLUSION:

Results underscore the importance of measuring concerns about leanness, muscularity, and use of muscle-building products when assessing eating disorder presentations among males in research and clinical settings.

[2015 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System \(YRBSS\)](#)

MMWR, August 2016

[10 Top Health Risks for Men](#)

A lack of awareness, weak health education, and unhealthy work and personal lifestyles have caused a steady deterioration of the well-being of American men. Common conditions facing men are cancer, depression, heart disease, and respiratory diseases.

Healthline, June 20, 2016

[Banking sperm to fight male biological clock](#)

Offspring of men older than 40 might face an increased risk of autism, study says

According to the Mayo Clinic, studies show that the offspring of men older than 40 might face an increased risk of autism and schizophrenia as well as birth defects, such as the bone growth disorder achondroplasia. One explanation is that as sperm age, they develop more genetic mutations. Researchers in Iceland looking at 78 families found that 20-year-old fathers passed on an average of 25 mutations, but 40-year-old fathers passed on 65 mutations, an increase of two new mutations per year. The Mayo Clinic also points out that older men have a slightly more difficult time conceiving a child. That finding is not

surprising given that semen volume, sperm motility -- how well the sperm swim -- and morphology -- the percentage of sperm that are normal -- decrease with age, according to researchers at the Institute of Reproductive Medicine in Germany at the University of Münster.

CNN, August 12, 2016

[Watch the trailer for 'Moonlight' a compelling tale of black masculinity and sexuality](#)

Moonlight is a film based on the classic play In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue. The plot follows a young boy named Chiron in 1980's Miami, chronicling him through three major stages in his life. This movie is half coming of age and half love story, as he explores his sexuality. The first Moonlight trailer, which you can check out above, tells a compelling story about black masculinity.

Blavity, August 11, 2016

[Gay, Lesbian Teens More Likely to Suffer Rapes, Attacks: CDC](#)

Lesbian, gay, and bisexual high school students are much more likely to be victims of physical and sexual violence and bullying, and more needs to be done to protect them, a new U.S. government study says. "These tragic disparities call for accelerated action by public health and education agencies, communities, and families to protect the lives of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth," said Dr. Jonathan Mermin. He is director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Healthfinder, August 12, 2016

[Rise in HPV-associated cancers among men reflects low vaccination rates](#)

A federal report released in July showed HPV-associated head and neck cancers are on the rise among men in the United States. An average of 15,738 cases of HPV-associated oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma were diagnosed in the country each year between 2008 and 2012. Of these, approximately 80% were diagnosed in men, according to CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. "The cause is unclear, but it is believed to be related to sexual activity - more oral sex and partners with increased prevalence of HPV. According to the data, approximately 5% to 10% of adults have HPV detectable in their saliva at any one time. In addition, close to 80% of people are exposed to HPV at some point in their lives, and between 20% and 30% of young people have HPV at any one time", Lois Ramondetta, MD, professor of gynecologic oncology in the department of gynecologic oncology and reproductive medicine at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, told HemOnc Today

Helio, August 11, 2016

[Vaccination confidence linked with early childhood vaccination behavior](#)

Vaccination confidence was closely associated with early childhood vaccination behavior across multiple vaccine types, according to study findings published in PLoS One. "We originally created our [Vaccination Confidence Scale] to assess parental beliefs related to adolescent vaccination, and in a prior validation study, we found that parents' mean Vaccination Confidence Scale scores were consistently associated with vaccine refusal and vaccination status for vaccines in the adolescent platform, including meningococcal and HPV vaccines," Melissa B. Gilkey, PhD, assistant professor of population medicine at Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, and colleagues wrote. "This success raises the possibility that a modified version of our scale could be useful for assessing vaccination beliefs related to early childhood vaccines, including measles-mumps-rubella vaccine."

Helio, August 10, 2016

[Two-Dose HPV Vaccine Looks Likely](#)

This evidence is currently being reviewed by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation according to Associate Professor Julia Brotherton, who is medical director of the National HPV Vaccination Program Register. Around 65% of countries are already shifting their HPV vaccine schedule from three- to two-dose regimens based on the evidence, A/Prof Brotherton told MJA InSight this week. For example, [new research published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases](#) this month found a two-dose regimen of the HPV 16/18 AS04-adjuvanted (bivalent) vaccine in girls aged 9-14 years was non-inferior to a three-dose regimen in women aged 15-25 years.

Australian Journal of Pediatrics, August 10, 2016

[Meningococcal Vaccines 2016: The Anticipated Launch of GlaxoSmithKline's Pentavalent MenABCW-135Y Vaccine from 2021 Set to Boost Growth - Research and Markets](#)

The recent inclusion of premium-priced meningococcal B (MenB) vaccines into the routine immunization schedules of the US, Italy, and the UK is set to drive strong market growth, which will be further boosted by the anticipated launch of GlaxoSmithKline's pentavalent MenABCW-135Y vaccine from 2021.

Business Wire, August 10, 2016

[CANADA: Self-testing kit for sexually transmitted infections may be coming this fall](#)

A Toronto company is set to make a new self-testing kit available for purchase online

This fall, Canadian women may be able to self-administer tests for sexually transmitted infections from the comfort of their own homes, for less than \$100. Produced by Toronto company Eve Medical, the kit will be available for order online. It will arrive in a unmarked envelope for privacy, and include a self-testing kit and a pre-addressed envelope destined

for a Toronto-area lab that is partnering in the initiative. The self-testing kit is designed to test for gonorrhea, chlamydia and human papillomavirus (HPV), the latter of which is a risk factor for cervical cancer. Eve Medical promises its results via mobile app within a few days. Currently, Ontario women have to attend a clinic and pay for HPV tests, which cost around \$90 according to Cancer Care Ontario.

CBC News, August 9, 2016

[Merck ad for HPV vaccine aimed at parents \(video\)](#)

A new commercial for the HPV vaccine by Merck has child actors asking parents why they didn't get their children vaccinated.

Washington Post, August 9, 2016

[Study Finds Large Number of Young People Experience Sexual Health Problems](#)

Over 2000 young people took part in the study, both male and females between the ages of 16-21. They were asked about their sexual experiences, what they thought about their sex education and about any problems or concerns that they had about sex. The study featured a variety of participants from many different backgrounds, with around 500 of those having not yet taken part in sexual activity. When the results came back from this study, it showed concerning patterns in what young people think about sex. The difference in opinions about sex were obvious between males and females, with 9.8% of females showing a lack of interest in sex in comparison to 5.4% of males. One of the main concerns to come from the results surrounded how lots of participants showed fears about their own sexual performance. Many said that they didn't feel that they had been equipped well enough with the right information from sex education lessons at school. Lots also said that they were too embarrassed to seek help about problems, with only 4% of males and 8% of females having visited a doctor about their worries.

St. Augustine Record, August 8, 2016

[Body image 'a problem for boys', says advertising think tank](#)

Eating disorders, dieting and extreme exercising are as much of a problem for UK secondary school boys as for girls, suggests [a survey](#).

Most of the boys polled saw eating disorders (56%) as an issue for both boys and girls. And almost as many felt dieting (55%) and extreme exercising (48%) were gender neutral issues. But despite this pressure, the boys polled found it hard to discuss their concerns:

- 56% struggled to talk to teachers\
- 29% struggled to talk to parents.

"The relatively low awareness of boys' body image issues amongst parents and teachers, coupled with a culture of boys not discussing their worries, makes it a tough environment for boys to seek support," said Credos director Ms Fraser.

BBC, August 8, 2016

Journal of Adolescent Health

Adolescent and Young Adult Male Health

Special Call for Papers

The Journal of Adolescent Health is seeking manuscripts to be featured in a sponsored supplement focused on Adolescent and Young Adult Male Health. The goal of this supplement is to highlight and promote rigorous research on current issues of broad interest to health professionals who are focused on clinical care, public health, health policy, and preventive interventions in adolescent and young adult males.

Topics of special interest may include but are not limited to:

- *Epidemiology: Morbidity & Mortality*
- *Adolescent Male Development*
- *Male Health Clinical Care & Unique Delivery Systems*
- *Violence and Injuries*
- *Transnational Issues (such as war and migration)*
- *Sexual and Reproductive Health*
- *Health Issues among Sexual Minority Youth*
- *Gender Roles and Sex Role Socialization*
- *Mental Health*
- *Substance Abuse*
- *Positive Youth Development*
- *Chronic Health Conditions*

Manuscripts must be submitted to the guest editor via email by September 15, 2016. More information can be found [here](#).

NORTHERN IRELAND: HPV anti-cancer jab to be offered to gay men under the age of 45

Gay men under the age of 45 are to be offered a cancer vaccine on the NHS, the health minister has announced. Michelle O'Neill, the health minister, said ahead of a visit to the Belfast Pride festival : "This will be a targeted vaccination programme for men who have sex with men aged up to 45 who attend genito-urinary medicine (GUM) and HIV clinics. Investment in this programme will help to provide protection against HPV, which can cause a range of cancers. My department is now working closely with the Public Health Agency to ensure the HPV vaccine can be offered to eligible men attending GUM clinics in the near future," she said. In June, just days after Sinn Fein assumed the health

ministry following the Assembly election, Ms O'Neill also lifted the lifetime ban on gay men donating blood. The bar had been retained by successive DUP ministers, who cited blood safety concerns, despite a campaign by gay rights activists to have it overturned. Ms O'Neill said she had taken the decision, which brought Northern Ireland into line with the rest of the UK, based on medical guidance.

Belfast Live, August 6, 2016

UK: Free Condoms Should Be Given To Young People And Gay Men To Curb STIs, Says Health Watchdog

Syphilis cases have risen by 76% in the past four years

Free condoms should be given to young people and gay men in order to reduce the number of sexually transmitted infections being passed around, England's health watchdog has said. In draft guidelines issued by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), experts argued that local authorities should issue free condoms, as well as sexual health advice, to people at high risk of catching infections. NICE said all councils should offer free condoms to young people aged between 13 and 25. Currently, there are a number of authorities who do this, however the watchdog said that every single council should follow suit.

Huffington Post UK, August 5, 2016

GSK unveils campaign to help prevent meningitis

Parents, young adults urged to educate themselves about meningitis B, responsible for one-third of U.S. cases

GlaxoSmithKline today launched an educational campaign to help raise awareness of meningitis, a rare but potentially deadly disease. Most teens and young adults have not received the vaccines needed to help protect against all five vaccine-preventable groups of meningitis. The campaign, Take 5 for Meningitis, will use news media, social media and educational events to help educate parents and young adults about meningitis and urge them to talk to their healthcare provider about vaccination to help prevent it.

PR Newswire, August 5, 2016

HPV-vaccinated women protect men from infection

A Melbourne study has found the first evidence of 'herd protection' from vaccinations against the cervical cancer-causing human papillomavirus (HPV). Eric Chow from Alfred Health has found that women who vaccinate against HPV not only protect themselves, they also protect their male partners from the virus.

Medical Express, August 4, 2016

[For Some Rural Teens, Psychiatric Help Is Now Just a TV Screen Away](#)

As technology has become cheaper and more reliable, telepsychiatry has emerged as a practical approach to reaching more young people.

"We need three times as many psychiatrists as we have," says Dr. Gregory Fritz, Rhode Island-based child and adolescent psychiatrist and president of the AACAP. It's estimated that there are more than 15 million children who could need-and are not getting-treatment for mental health disorders. Experts agree that as more young people emerge in need of psychiatric or psychological care, there is an ever-urgent race to find ways to deliver them the help that they require.

Time, August 4, 2016

[GSK Victory a Shot in the Arm for HPV Vaccine](#)

Years of clinical testing to fit strict regulations preceded the opening of China's huge market for vaccines that can prevent a deadly virus

For the first time, China's drug regulators have given a green light to the commercial sale of a vaccine designed to protect women and men against the human papillomavirus (HPV). The decision opened a door for multinational and Chinese pharmaceutical manufacturers that are now preparing for a market potentially worth billions of U.S. dollars. Britain's GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) said July 18 that its HPV vaccine Cervarix had been approved for sale on the mainland by the China Food and Drug Administration, and that the product would likely be available across the country early next year. The announcement came a decade after U.S.-based Merck & Co. introduced the first HPV vaccine in the United States.

Caixin Online, August 2, 2016

[NEW STUDY FROM THE UK: 'I Never Spoke About It'.....Supporting sexually exploited boys and young men in Wales](#)

Boys who become the victims of sexual exploitation often miss out on help and support because they are reluctant to admit their abuse, new research from Barnardo's Cymru has revealed. The children's charity says that while professionals are often skilled at spotting the symptoms of abuse among girls, sexual stereotyping means that boys can slip through the net. Negative behaviour among boys tends to be taken at face value, while in girls it is more likely to be explored as a potential response to trauma. In addition to better training and awareness raising, Barnardo's Cymru has called for a more gender balanced and inclusive approach to addressing CSE in services. It also wants to see improved healthy relationship education in schools where sexuality can be discussed openly and non-judgmentally and the development of more targeted practice approaches to address the needs of sexually exploited boys and young men. Barnardo's Cymru has called for more awareness raising and training for professionals working with high risk

groups of boys and young men, and more information and awareness raising for the boys themselves.

Barnardo's Cymru, July 2016

[Gay, bisexual adolescent males face greater risk for HIV](#)

New research presented at AIDS 2016 indicated no significant differences in several HIV-related risk behaviors among heterosexual, gay and bisexual adolescent males in the United States. Young gay and bisexual men, however, were found to be more susceptible to contracting HIV largely because their partners are more likely to be infected with HIV, according to a press release from the recent conference in Durban, South Africa. The data, presented by CDC researchers, is the first nationally representative look at HIV-related risk behaviors among gay, bisexual and heterosexual male students in ninth through 12th grades. Proportions were similar among all groups who answered questions about several behaviors, including ever had sexual intercourse, currently sexually active, had sexual intercourse with four or more partners, and used a condom the last time they had sex. The gay and bisexual male study population had a 57-fold increased risk for contracting HIV compared with heterosexual young men due to the prevalence of infection in their male sex partners.

Helio, July 27, 2016

[Medscape Vaccine Acceptance Report 2016: Health Care Professionals](#) Report *Increased Vaccine Acceptance, but Hesitancy & Refusal Remain Significant Issues*

Despite the fact that 1 in 3 clinicians have seen no change in parental acceptance of childhood vaccinations in the past year, a new report from Medscape suggests an increase in parents' agreeing to have their children immunized. The 2016 Medscape Vaccine Acceptance Report surveyed more than 1,500 pediatricians, family medicine physicians, public health physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to gain insights into clinician perceptions about the current levels of vaccine acceptance, refusal, and requests to delay the vaccine schedule from parents.

PR Newswire, July 27, 2016

[Data Indicates Young Men Represent the Face of Opioid Addiction](#) MAP Health *Management Releases New Data, Aggregate Findings from 2,281 In-Patient Encounters & Infographic*

MAP Health Management, LLC, recently released addiction treatment outcomes data that indicates the majority of adults who enter in-patient treatment for opioid dependency are young males. MAP reviewed patient data from 30 addiction treatment facilities, including a total of 2,281 individuals who sought in-patient treatment for opioid dependence, during a 12-month period from 2015 to 2016. The data set consists of individuals who, upon

completing treatment, participated in extended, post-recovery support delivered by professionals using telehealth practices.

PR Newswire, July 27, 2016

[Parents, Educators Can Support Pediatricians in Providing Comprehensive Sexuality Education](#)

Last week, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released a [clinical report](#) outlining guidance for pediatricians on providing sexuality education to the children and adolescents in their care. As one of the most influential medical associations in the country, AAP brings, with this report, added weight to longstanding calls for comprehensive sex education. The report offers guidance for clinicians on incorporating conversations about sexual and reproductive health into routine medical visits and summarizes the research supporting comprehensive sexuality education. It acknowledges the crucial role pediatricians play in supporting their patients' healthy development, making them key stakeholders in the promotion of young people's sexual health. Ultimately, the report could bolster efforts by parents and educators to increase access to comprehensive sexuality education and better equip young people to grow into sexually healthy adults.

Rewire, July 26, 2016

[Participation in sports and exercise linked to lower opioid use](#)

Study Rundown: Opioids, including hydrocodone (e.g., Vicodin), codeine, and morphine, are effective pain-relievers; however, they also carry a risk of dependency. Adolescent athletes, particularly those involved in high-injury sports such as football and wrestling, may be prescribed such medications more commonly than their non-athletic peers to treat sports-related injuries. In some cases, such exposure could lead to addiction and nonmedical prescription opioid use (NPOU) with serious consequences. To investigate whether sports participation in adolescence was associated with an increased risk for NPOU (and, in particular, heroin use), authors analyzed 18 years of cross-sectional data on 8th and 10th grade participants in the Monitoring the Future (MTF) study. Contrary to what may have been expected, results suggested that adolescents who engaged in sports or exercise had lower odds of both NPOU and heroin use. Further, among those who reported ever taking heroin, results argued against drug use beginning with sports-related injury and progressing to NPOU and heroin use. A significant limitation of this study was its broad consideration of sports and exercise, as this design could fail to identify a subpopulation of high-risk adolescent athletes. Type of athletic involvement, ever obtaining a sports-related injury, and other possible "initiators" such as opioid prescription for wisdom teeth removal could all be confounders. Thus, while [the study's](#) findings are consistent with a benefit from sports/exercise participation for opioid avoidance, judicious prescribing practice is still of critical importance.

2 Minute Medicine, July 25, 2016

UK: Girls gang up on boys in new cyberbullying craze called 'roasting', expert warns

Girls are ganging up on boys in a new cyberbullying craze called "roasting", a digital safety expert has warned. The new bullying takes place via mobile apps such as WhatsApp, Instagram or Facebook, where girls pick on a boy and vent the most offensive abuse until the victim "completely cracks".

Telegraph, July 25, 2016

Boys don't cry? Sure they do, and we need to embrace it

Recent clinical research and a 2015 documentary are exploring the dangers and ramifications of telling our boys to stifle their feelings, bottle up emotions and embrace the stereotype of the "stoic male." At the same time, experts in psychology, gender and child psychiatry are beginning to understand that by not allowing boys to express and understand their feelings, we are allowing them to fall behind in life - and even putting their physical health at risk. "It's as if we are telling our boys to hit the brake and gas pedal at the same time," said Judith V. Jordan, Ph.D., director of the Jean Baker Miller Training Institute at the Wellesley University Center for Women. Jordan, a pioneer in gender studies, has devoted a great deal of her research to the emotional and physical health of men and boys.

Orange County Register, July 25, 2016

Serving and Engaging Males and Young Fathers

The Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF), managed by the HHS Office of Adolescent Health, serves expectant and parenting teens, women, fathers, and their families through grants to states and tribes. Efforts are underway to build the capacity of PAF grantees to recruit, retain, and engage young fathers. All PAF materials for grantees are available free for other programs serving young people to use. Traditionally, programs serving expectant and parenting teens target their outreach and services toward young mothers. However, research shows that supporting young fathers can have significant and positive effects on both young fathers and their children. PAF provides funds to grantees to implement programs that support expectant and parenting young mothers and fathers, thus providing an important opportunity to improve the well-being of families.

Office of Adolescent Health, June 16, 2016

Prevalence of Diabetes, Prediabetes Increased Among US Adolescents

The prevalence of diabetes among adolescents, the percentage of those with prediabetes, and the percentage of those who are unaware of their diabetes may be higher than previously reported, according to a research letter published in the Journal of

the American Medical Association. The researchers also found that prediabetes was more common among adolescent males than females (22.0% vs 13.2%).

Endocrinology Advisor, July 22, 2016

[The American Cancer Society Agrees With CDC: Young Boys Need The HPV Vaccine, Too](#)

The American Cancer Society has officially updated its 2007 guideline for HPV vaccinations to also include young boys in line with new recommendations from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) - a move that could usher in a new age in sexual health. According to a recent statement, the complicated process for updating the ACS guidelines for the vaccine included a "methodologic assessment of the ACIP recommendations, a supplemental evidence review, a content review of the ACIP recommendations, approval of recommendations and endorsement statements by the ACS Guideline Development Group, review of the evidence report and endorsement manuscript by expert advisors, and finally approval... by the ACS National Board of Directors." The guidelines now suggest that routine HPV vaccination of all children should be initiated at age 11 or 12, although the vaccination series can be started beginning as early as age 9. Vaccination is also recommended for females ages 13 to 26 and for males aged 13 to 21 who have not been vaccinated previously or who have not completed the 3-dose series. The vaccine is given in three shots, with the second shot given one or two months after the first shot. A third shot is then given 6 months after the first.

Medical Daily, July 21, 2016

[HIV prevention drug PrEP being tested on high-risk adolescents](#)

A preventative HIV drug being used by thousands of gay men in Australia is being tested on teenagers at high risk of the virus. Studies have shown that PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) offers near complete protection against HIV if taken properly every day. Researchers are now testing it on young people in South Africa and the US.

The Age, July 21, 2016

[Study finds HPV vaccine protects children with vulnerable immune systems](#)

While the protective benefits of the HPV vaccine in the general population are well known, new research shows it may also benefit children with weakened immune systems who are at higher risk of HPV-related cancers. The research, led by UNSW, suggests children with conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease and juvenile arthritis or those requiring organ or bone marrow transplants, received a boost in immune response after receiving the vaccine.

Medical Express, July 20, 2016

[High rates of injection drug use increases gay teen's HIV risk](#)

Gay and bisexual male teens in the United States don't engage in riskier sexual behaviors than straight males, but are more likely to use injection drugs - which could contribute to an already elevated risk for contracting HIV, a new study reports. Men with male sexual partners are 57 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than men with female partners, and this number rises for gay men of color. Hoping to understand HIV risk behaviors in teens, the CDC added questions about students' sexual identity and the sex of their sexual partners to the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey last year. The questionnaire is administered to high school students nationwide. Researchers found no significant differences in the number of sexually active teens, condom use, or partner number between males of different sexual orientations. However, gay and bisexual male teenagers were over five times more likely to use injected drugs. Because this is the first time those questions were asked, there's no way to know the way sexual activity and drug use have been changing over time.

Stat, July 20, 2016

[UK: Report warns boys are missing out on help to escape sexual exploitation](#)

Boys who become the victims of sexual exploitation often miss out on help and support because they are more reluctant than girls to admit their abuse, a charity is warning.

Barnardos Cymru says while professionals are skilled at spotting the symptoms of abuse among girls, sexual stereotyping means that boys can slip through the net. Research found negative behaviour among boys tends to be taken at face value, while in girls it is more likely to be explored as a potential response to trauma. Barnardo's Cymru is calling for more awareness raising and training for professionals working with high risk groups of boys and young men, and more information and awareness raising for the boys themselves. Menna Thomas, Senior Policy Research Officer with Barnardos Cymru says the research found that, as with girls, boys who have negative experience of care and family life and those who become isolated from their peers are more vulnerable to sexual exploitation. "However, for boys there are a number of additional barriers which prevent them from being identified and, more importantly, from being able to speak up about their abuse."

ITV News, July 15, 2016

[Do ADHD Medicines Boost Substance Abuse Risk?](#)

Parents often worry that their children who take stimulants to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may be at higher risk for substance abuse later. Males are diagnosed with ADHD at twice the rate of females. Now, a surprising new study finds that risk was actually lower when medicines such as Ritalin and Adderall were started earlier and taken longer. "Most notably, the risk of substance use in adolescents who had been treated at an earlier age and for a longer duration with stimulant ADHD medications was

the same as for the general population of children," said study leader Sean Esteban McCabe. He is research faculty chair at the University of Michigan Institute for Research on Women and Gender. "The study found that the odds of reporting any substance use were over two times more likely among individuals who reported later onset [age 15 or older] and shorter duration [two years or less] of prescription stimulant medication therapy for ADHD as compared to those who initiated early [age 9 or younger] and for longer duration [six years or more]," McCabe said.

Health Day, July 15, 2016

California Department of Public Health reports more than 50 cases of meningococcal disease since January, mostly sporadic.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation clinics are yet to be supplied meningitis vaccines by Los Angeles County. The California Department of Public Health, which analyzed test results, has determined that the infection, like the majority others currently involved in the Southern California outbreak, is from the Serogroup C category. This case brings the total number of gay men infected in all of Los Angeles county, including Long Beach, to 12. A thirteenth case, a gay man who was diagnosed at the end of June, is also being explored. Most alarming is that of the 13 gay men infected, 12 have been infected since May. In a separate development, the California Department of Public Health (CDHP) is reporting that statewide there have been more than 50 cases of meningococcal disease since January.

The Pride LA, July 13, 2016

Allegheny Co. Board Of Health Rejects Mandating HPV Vaccine

It's an issue that has been on the table for some time now. Should the HPV vaccine become mandatory for seventh graders in Allegheny County? "It's nothing communicable. It's sexually transmitted and should be the parent's decision," parent Jennifer Manns said. "With a lot of new vaccines, kids are getting sick," parent Christian Yates said. However, a panel of doctors at UPMC say the vaccine should become mandatory. On Wednesday, the Allegheny County Board of Health voted not to have the vaccine be required for both boys and girls around the age of 11 or 12. "This vaccine is safe and effective. The problem is people aren't using it," Chairman of the Department of Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Dr. Jonas Johnson said.

CBS Pittsburgh, July 12, 2016

AUSTRALIA: Boy babies at greater risk of pregnancy complications

New research led by the University of Adelaide has confirmed that boy babies are much more likely to experience potentially life-threatening outcomes at birth than girls.

The research, which investigated data of more than 574,000 South Australian births over a 30-year period (1981-2011), is the first population-based study of its kind in Australia to confirm the presence of differences in birth outcomes based on the sex of the baby. The research team -involving the University of Adelaide's Robinson Research Institute , the University of Groningen in The Netherlands, and the Pregnancy Outcome Unit of SA Health - evaluated the relationship between the babies' sex and adverse outcomes, such as pre-term birth, pregnancy-induced high blood pressure disorders, and gestational diabetes mellitus. The results were published online in the journal PLOS ONE.

Health Canal, July 11, 2016

Differences exist in type 1 diabetes illness perception among adolescent boys, girls

Adolescent girls with type 1 diabetes may have more negative perceptions about their illness compared with adolescent boys with type 1 diabetes, study data show. "The consistent findings of gender differences across the psychological measures implies that a tailored treatment approach for males and females with [type 1 diabetes] may be warranted," the researchers wrote.

Helio, July 11, 2016

UK: Call to give boys anti-cancer jab given to girls to protect them against throat, head and neck forms of the disease after rise in the number of cases

Boys should be given the HPV jab alongside girls to prevent cancer and not doing so is 'discriminatory', scientists claim. It is already offered to 12 and 13 year old schoolgirls and is estimated to protect against 70 per cent of cervical cancers but the Government is reluctant to roll it out to males. The Department of Health is currently overseeing a pilot which launched last month to test the cost and effectiveness at offering the jab in some clinics. But growing numbers of academics say it should be given to adolescent boys at the same time as girls to prevent cancers of the throat, head and neck. Research has shown that the numbers of head and neck cancers alone related to HPV has quadrupled since the 1990s and there are now nearly 2,000 a year.

Daily Mail, July 10, 2016

UK: Give HPV vaccine to boys to protect against cancers, experts say

With rates of human papilloma virus on the rise, it is vital to immunise males as well as females, researchers believe

Millions of young British men are being denied a vaccine that could protect them from throat cancers in later life. Scientists say the problem is becoming increasingly worrying as rates of human papilloma virus (HPV) - a common sexually transmitted infection and the prime cause of these cancers - are now rising exponentially. Researchers want the government to include adolescent boys in the current vaccine programme that immunises girls aged 12 and 13 against HPV before they become sexually active. HPV in women is

known to lead to cervical cancers. The vaccine, if extended to boys, would protect them in later life against HPV-related head and neck cancers. "If we want to eradicate male throat cancers - which are soaring in numbers - we need to act speedily and that means giving them the HPV vaccine we now give to girls," said Professor Mark Lawler of Queen's University Belfast.

The Guardian, July 9, 2016

[JAPAN: Government bows to pressure from anti vaccine forces, withdraws endorsement of HPV vaccine](#)

A group of Japanese scientists says the number of girls with HPV is directly related to the lack of vaccination. The team led by Dr. Yusuke Tanaka discovered that a massive reduce in the usage of HPV vaccinations was raising the diagnosis among the female population in Japan. In the past, the government promoted the shots as the main way of prevention, but since the local media started to report adverse effects associated with the medicine, the authorities have suspended their endorsement. As a consequence, many girls stopped getting the vaccine and hence, the spread of the STI. Dr. Yusuke Tanaka and his colleagues carried out a study on a group of girls and found out, the cases of HPV significantly raised since local authorities stopped promoting the vaccination. They used the results of the study to urge the Japanese officials to endorse the shots again. They say the number of cases will be similar to the ones reported before the vaccination was implemented if the government does change its statement. But in spite of the proofs, the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare has not taken up vaccination programs.

Pulse Headlines, July 10, 2016

[UK: Give HPV vaccine to boys to protect against cancers, experts say](#)

With rates of human papilloma virus on the rise, it is vital to immunise males as well as females, researchers believe

Millions of young British men are being denied a vaccine that could protect them from throat cancers in later life. Scientists say the problem is becoming increasingly worrying as rates of human papilloma virus (HPV) - a common sexually transmitted infection and the prime cause of these cancers - are now rising exponentially. Researchers want the government to include adolescent boys in the current vaccine programme that immunises girls aged 12 and 13 against HPV before they become sexually active. HPV in women is known to lead to cervical cancers. The vaccine, if extended to boys, would protect them in later life against HPV-related head and neck cancers.

The Guardian, July 9, 2016

[Here's Why HPV-Related Cancers Are Rising Among American Men](#)

A new CDC report points to some disturbing lapses.

A variety of cancers stemming from the human papillomavirus (HPV) are on the rise thanks to Americans' low vaccination rates-particularly among men. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on Thursday released new data that shows there was a spike in cancers associated with the sexually-transmitted HPV virus such as cervical, head, neck, throat, and tongue cancer between 2008 and 2012 versus the previous five-year period. Each year from 2008 through 2012, an average of 38,793 HPV-associated cancers were diagnosed, including 23,000 among females and 15,793 among males; 79% of these cases were attributable to HPV, the CDC wrote. That's compared to the average annual 33,369 HPV-associated cancers diagnosed between 2004 and 2008, an increase of about 16%. The agency said that 30,800 of these new annual cases (including 19,200 women and 11,600 men) were directly attributable to HPV infection, and that a staggering 29,000 of these could have been prevented via vaccination. Lackluster vaccination rates, especially for teenage boys, are the main culprit for the concerning trend, according to the CDC. While previous research has shown that HPV vaccines like Merck's widely-used Gardasil have helped cut transmission of the virus, the new data highlight just how hard it is to keep related cancers in check when just 40% of girls and 22% of boys receive the recommended doses of the vaccine. *The statistics for males are particularly troubling since they can't even get cervical cancer, meaning that other types of HPV-related cancers that form after contracting the virus (possibly through oral sex) are spiking.*

Fortune, July 8, 2016

HPV-Related Cancers an 'Epidemic' in Men, Report Finds

"In the past, people always felt that the boys needed to be vaccinated to protect the girls but, truthfully, they need to be vaccinated to protect themselves", says Dr. Lois Ramondetta, professor of gynecologic oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center who has made it a personal mission to educate both parents and pediatricians about HPV and the vaccine that can help stop cancer before it starts. "There is an epidemic of HPV related cancers in men, specifically those of the tonsil and the back of the tongue," says Ramondetta. "What's really important to know about those is that there is no screening test for those." A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that HPV infection raises the chances of throat, mouth or tongue cancer by at least sevenfold. *Experts predict that throat cancer will beat out cervical cancer as the most common HPV-related cancer by 2020. The most effective way to prevent that: Early vaccination.*

NWA, July 8, 2016

HPV Cancers Rise, Vaccine Use Lags A 17% increase in cancer incidence over 4 years

The CDC data leave little doubt that "this is an emerging epidemic that we are just seeing the start of," said Theodoros Teknos, MD, a head and neck cancer specialist at Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center in Columbus. "This is true for all HPV-related cancers, but particularly for raising awareness about the non-cervical cancers.

The data show just how rapidly this is accelerating." HPV-related cancer of the oropharynx has increased by 300% since the 1980s, whereas throat cancers related to smoking have actually declined, he added. A key to better adherence to the CDC recommendation for HPV vaccination is to emphasize cancer prevention, not prevention of an STD. "If the data are 'packaged' to tell parents that they can prevent cancers in their sons and daughters by vaccinating them against HPV, there isn't a mother or father alive who wouldn't vaccinate their children," he said.

Medpage Today, July 8, 2016