Welcome to PSMG's Spring Jan-Feb 2021 Virtual Grand Rounds! We are excited to interact with our PSMG community, collaborators and new members. We look forward to thought-provoking and cutting-edge presentations to stimulate engaging dialogue. See you on Tuesdays!

**01/12/2021**

**KIMBERLY JOHNSON, PH.D.**

*University of South Florida*

**Treatment for opioid use disorder in the Florida Medicaid population: A cascade of care approach to assessing quality.**

Despite increased funding, opioid overdose rates remain high. Understanding at what stage of the process and for whom the system is failing is critical to improving care. A cascade of care (CoC) model may improve understanding of gaps in addiction treatment availability and quality over current single measure methods. Using a CoC framework, we assessed treatment quality and outcomes for opioid use disorder for the Florida Medicaid population in 2017/2018 by demographics.

**Methods:** Data from Florida Medicaid claims for 2017 and 2018 were used to calculate the number of enrollees who were diagnosed, began medication, were retained on medication for a minimum of 180 days, and who died.

**Results:** Only 28% of those newly diagnosed with OUD in 2017 began treatment with an FDA approved medication. Once on medication, 38% of newly diagnosed enrollees were retained in treatment for at least 180 days. Those who remained in treatment for 180 days had a hazard ratio of death of 0.226 (95% CI = 0.174 to 0.294) compared to those that did not initiate treatment, a reduction in mortality from 10% without care to 2% with care.

**Conclusions:** Initiating medication after diagnosis is the process most in need of improvement, though there is much room for improvement in treatment retention as well. The CoC is an appropriate method of measuring the quality of the functioning of the treatment system at the state level.
Looking Over the Wall—The Professionalization of the Field of Prevention

The field of prevention science and practice has matured over the past 50 years and is increasingly being recognized as a profession. The sociology of professions provides parameters as to what constitutes a profession: having a systematic body of theory; an established knowledge-base; the authority to define problems and their treatment; community sanctions to admit and train its members; ethical codes that stress an ideal of service to others; and a culture that includes the institutions necessary to carry out all of its functions. Another component is achieving international recognition and acceptance and acknowledgement. The status and maturation of the prevention as a profession is reviewed. Recommendations for moving forward are presented including developing a structure to ‘internationalize’ the field of prevention to fully professionalize it that would include such groups as the U.S. and EU Societies for Prevention Research and the International Consortium of Universities for Demand Reduction.

Can understanding vitamin D deficiency and supplementation inform efforts to reduce the incidence and burden of COVID-19 and future pandemics?

Vitamin D is a hormone that has well known roles in bone health and lesser appreciated and well understood roles in the immune system. This talk will review existing evidence on the role of vitamin D in affecting the immune system with a focus on its role in viral respiratory infections and COVID-19 in particular. The talk will review new findings from several observational analyses examining the association of vitamin D with COVID-19 risk and influenza risk. It will also describe early findings and rationale for 3 clinical studies of vitamin D and COVID-19 risk that are now in progress.
LEONARD BICKMAN, PHD

Vanderbilt University

Improving Mental Health Services: A 50-Year Journey from Randomized Experiments to Artificial Intelligence and Precision Mental Health

This presentation describes the current state of mental health services, identifies critical problems, and suggests how to solve them. I focus on the potential contributions of artificial intelligence and precision mental health to improving mental health services. Toward that end, I draw upon my own research, which has changed over the last half century, to highlight the need to transform the way we conduct mental health services research and program development. I identify exemplars from the emerging literature on artificial intelligence and precision approaches to treatment in which there is an attempt to personalize or fit the treatment to the client in order to produce more effective interventions.

PETER WYMAN, PHD, ANTHONY PISANI, PHD, BRYAN YATES, BA, C. HENDRICKS BROWN, PHD

University of Rochester School of Medicine
Northwestern University

Wingman-Connect Program: A Network-Health Suicide and Depression Prevention Program for Air Force Trainees

Suicide has been a leading manner of death for military members in recent years. In this talk, we will describe a Dept of Defense-funded initiative to develop and test a universal prevention program for Airmen in training. The Wingman-Connect Program applies a network health approach to enhance protective group processes in natural organizational units including cohesion and diffusion of healthy norms among members. We report results from a cluster-randomized clinical trial testing impact on airmen through a 6-month follow-up period.
02/16/2021
DEREK GRIFFITH, PHD, LISA BOWLEG, PHD, MA
Vanderbilt University
The George Washington University

02/23/2021
SYSTEMIC RACISM & PREVENTION SCIENCE: EMBRACING SOCIAL JUSTICE TO ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY