

Adolescent Resource Newsletter

Happy New Year!

January 2005

To support professionals involved in the care of young people by signposting useful resources and highlighting opportunities for professional development .

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Disclaimer

Resources detailed here have been identified as potentially useful and whilst every care has been taken to ensure that they are appropriate and/or relevant for adolescents with chronic illness and/or their healthcare providers, the author accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or suitability of their content.

Adolescent Webwatch

FOR PROFESSIONALS

Mental Health



Mental health of children and adolescents update

A conference part hosted by the European Commission on the mental health of children and adolescents held in September 2004, has published conclusions achieved through a consultative process with the conference participants. One of the conclusions is to ensure that children's and young adolescents' mental health is a priority within national action plans. The action plans need to promote good mental health as well as preventing mental disorders and providing high-quality mental health services. These results will feed into the World Health Organization's Ministerial conference on mental health taking place in January 2005. For full information on the conclusions and workshops go to:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_determinants/life_style/mental/ev_20040921_en.htm

Sexual Health



Managing the fertility of male cancer patients: RCN guidance for oncology and haematology nurses

Guidance to provide information for those oncology and haematology nurses who may be asked questions by patients about the preservation of gametes prior to starting cancer treatment.

http://www.rcn.org.uk/publications/pdf/managing_fertility_male_cancer_patients.pdf

Genetics and heredity

 <http://www.hhs.gov/familyhistory>.

an easy-to-use, downloadable, web-based family history tool, "My Family Health Portrait,"

Several offices and agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as well as other organizations are coordinating efforts to increase America's awareness of the importance of family health history. They aim is to provide accessible methods for easily obtaining an accurate family health history and to increase use of the family health history in disease prevention and health promotion. In a few years, sophisticated genetic testing and other related advances will dramatically change how health care is practiced. However, genetic information can already be used today to improve health. Most diseases are due to the interactions of multiple genes and environmental factors. Many individuals are unaware of their relatives' medical histories. The U.S. Surgeon General's Family History Initiative encourages family discussion of health history

Needs assessment

 <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/chscn>

Prevalence of special healthcare needs among children and young people in the US

A chartbook is now available on-line of the results of the first ever national survey (2001) to determine the prevalence of special health care needs (SHCNs) among children and adolescents ages 17 and younger in the US. The chartbook provides both national- and state-level data on the size and characteristics of children and adolescents with SHCNs. The chartbook includes information on prevalence, health and functional status, insurance coverage, health care needs and access to care, care coordination, family-centered care, and impact on families.

 <http://www.unicef.org/voy/news>

Voices of Youth

Every second month, Voices of Youth, UNICEF's interactive website for young people, distributes a newsletter to bring attention to the thoughts, reflections and suggestions for action on a particular issue for priority development as put forth by young people on Voices of Youth's discussion boards. Since 1995, Voices of Youth has provided young people around the globe with an opportunity to explore, discuss and take action on complex human rights and development issues. Through its numerous discussion boards and live web-based chats, Voices of Youth has provided an opportunity to thousands of young people from every region to educate themselves and partner with their peers to make changes in their own lives and in their communities.

For more information, contact:

UNICEF

H-9, 3 United Nations, Plaza

New York, NY 10017, US

Tel: + 1 212 326 7050

Email: voy@unicef.org

Website: <http://www.unicef.org/voy/news>

Parenting

 www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk

A first in a series of information packs for parents to encourage involvement in their children's school has been launched. As part of the initiative, the Parentzone website - www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk - has also been improved to provide more detailed information on how parents can support their children's learning.

Training issues

 <http://www.acponline.org/journals/news/dec04/adolescents.htm?hp>

"Internists wanted for complex adolescent care"

December, 2004 issue of the monthly newsletter of the American College of Physicians. This article describes the population of youth and young adults with childhood onset conditions, and discusses how internists/adult physicians can help address the complex health care needs of this growing number of individuals.

 **Services for children and young people: preparing nurses for future roles.**

A role framework that specifies the core and additional competencies required for the nursing roles which deliver modern health services to children and young people.

http://www.rcn.org.uk/publications/pdf/services_children_and_young_people.pdf

Miscellaneous

 **Children are Service Users Too:**

A guide to consulting children and young people from Save the Children's Fund.

<http://www.childpolicy.org.uk/consultations/index.cfm?ccs=519&cs=12660>

 **Young people speaking on health priorities**

Children and students describe the effects on their health caused by the environment from the UK, Russia, and Belgium in a seven-minute video. They talk about urban environment and mental health; water, chemicals and air quality; racism; drugs and violence. This project was co-funded by the European Commission and the UK Health Protection Agency. If you would like a free copy of this DVD and more details please go to:

<http://www.env-health.org/a/1419>

Adolescent Bookshelf

For Professionals

Substance Use

 **Young People and Substance Abuse**

Eds Ilana Crome, H Ghaodse, E Gilvarry, P McArdle.
Gaskell (Royal College of Psychiatrists), £15, pp240
ISBN 1 904671 01 2

Sexual Health

“Protect Yourself!”

A new package of lessons produced by Brook (£25 plus P&P) for PSHE teachers, youth and community workers and health professionals working with Key Stage 3-4 young people. It is a 180 page A4, wire bound resource consisting of 8 ready-made teaching packages complete with teachers notes lessons plans, photocopyable handouts and evaluation sheets.

Email brook@adc-uk.com asking for Protect Yourself (order code: A50), stating the number of copies you require and giving you name, organisation, address for delivery and address for invoice (if different) OR fax 0870 760 3083 OR write to

Brook Publications
PO Box 1239
Coventry CV2 2WT.

Forthcoming Dates and Meetings for your diary!

Teenage Suicide and Self-Harm: an introduction to a training pack for professionals

One day workshop to introduce the 5-session training pack for professionals on the topic of teenage suicide and self-harm recently produced by the Trust for the Study of Adolescence (www.tsa.uk.com)

Wednesday 26th January 2005

Lady Anne Middleton’s Hotel, York

Costs £156 with reductions for voluntary organizations and students.

For further information, contact the Trust for the Study of Adolescence, 23 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1WZ Tel; 01273 771249 Fax: 01273 729098

7 April 2005 World Health Day “Make every mother and child count”

<http://www.env-health.org/a/1427>

Bridging the Gaps: Health Care for Adolescents

Dates: 6, 13, 27 April & 11 May 2005 A series of 4 study days in Adolescent Health are planned at Birmingham Childrens Hospital, Spring 2005 as part of the University of Birmingham multidisciplinary MSc in Child Health but each day will also be open to any interested health professional. The series aims to follow the curriculum as proposed by the Euteach model (www.euteach.com) and the Bridging the Gaps document [www.rcpch.ac.uk 2003]. For further information contact: D.reay@bham.ac.uk Tel: 0121 333 8710

***Do you know of any other useful resources or opportunities for professional development? If you do, please let us know by email to:
j.e.mcdonagh@bham.ac.uk***