

Practice Management Insight

A Report on Events Affecting Oklahoma Mental Health and Substance Abuse Providers

July 2018

ThinkHealth version 4.23 Successfully Deployed

The evening of Friday, July 6th, saw the deployment of ThinkHealth version 4.23. This update included new features and functions, including:

- New Options Screen features
- Several new checkboxes in the Assessment Module to better assess clients
- Increased Progress Notes functions
- New Schedule Module alerts for appointments
- Additional Reports Module optional columns
- Enhanced Billing Module EDI processing
- Many, Many Health Home additional billable services

[More Information](#)

The Thai soccer team is out of the cave. But the road to recovery is just beginning.

For the countless people around the world captivated by the rescue of a young Thai soccer team from a flooded cave, attention will likely shift to the next riveting news story.

But for the 12 boys and their coach, their ordeal is far from over – and the recovery process is only beginning.

All of the boys, the last of whom were pulled out by an international team of divers Tuesday after being trapped since June 23, have been quarantined while they are tested for infections. At least two were diagnosed with lung infections while another had an irregular heartbeat. Though several of the players were in "high spirits" as they were rescued, they will likely remain in the hospital for several days, officials say.

"They were in a very stressful situation and their immune systems were stressed," said Liz Wineandy, a registered dietitian at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

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Treatment for youths must adjust to social disconnection

By all means, the most effective way to treat any chronic illness is to work on preventing it in the first place. Rehab programs such as Ashley exist precisely because of the difficulty other social programs are having in predicting and intervening with addiction. Five million youths, from the ages of 12 to 20, have admitted to binge drinking in the past few months. Although we as a nation have exercised tremendous resources into preventative programs for youths, the effectiveness of these programs has been questionable at best, and trends in usage are growing. We're now facing an unprecedented addiction epidemic where children and teens, in their most vulnerable years, are at highest risk. Our job is to identify the youths who could not be prevented from addiction, diagnose them, and develop treatment techniques that take into consideration their unique circumstances.

There is no question that we should be doing everything we can to prevent minors from abusing drugs and alcohol, but under current circumstances we need to be putting substantial resources into caring for those who are already afflicted. One of the most crucial aspects of this is distinguishing treatment modalities between adults and youths (under the age of 25).

[More Information](#)

Unlocked and loaded: Families confront dementia and guns

With a bullet in her gut, her voice choked with pain, Dee Hill pleaded with the 911 dispatcher for help.

"My husband accidentally shot me," Hill, 75, of The Dalles, Oregon, groaned during the call May 16, 2015. "In the stomach, and he can't talk, please ..."

Less than 4 feet away, Hill's husband, Darrell, a former police chief and two-term county sheriff, sat in his wheelchair with a discharged Glock handgun on the table in front of him, unaware that he'd nearly killed his wife of almost 57 years.

The 76-year-old lawman had been diagnosed two years earlier with a form of rapidly progressive dementia, a disease that quickly stripped him of reasoning and memory.

"He didn't understand," said Dee, who needed 30 pints of blood, three surgeries and seven weeks in the hospital to survive her injuries.

[More Information](#)

How Suicide Quietly Morphed Into a Public Health Crisis

The deaths of the designer Kate Spade and the chef Anthony Bourdain, both of whom committed suicide this week, were not simply pop culture tragedies. They were the latest markers of an intractable public health crisis that has been unfolding in slow motion for a generation.

Treatment for chronic depression and anxiety — often the precursors to suicide — has never been more available and more widespread. Yet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this week reported a [steady, stubborn rise in the national suicide rate](#), up 25 percent since 1999.

[More Information](#)

How to take a mental health day

We're heading into summer — time to kick back and relax, right? Not for a lot of us. More than half of U.S. workers don't use all of their vacation days, even though taking time to rest and rejuvenate is key to productivity.

People recognize that they need this time for themselves — in a survey of full-time workers in the U.S. 45 percent say that paid time off for mental health days would help them beat burnout. But they struggle to break away from the incessant demands of the office. Even a single day off can feel like a break, and summer is an ideal time to get a day to yourself on the calendar.

[More Information](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 1-31
National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month
[More Information](#)

National Grilling Month

July 4th
Independence Day
[More Information](#)

July 11
Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting
OHCA

July 19
Medical Advisory Meeting
OHCA

July 22
Parents Day

July 23
Addiction Severity Index ODMHSAS

July 27
National System Administrator Appreciation Day



CareSource scrutinized over late payments as new Medicaid work arrives

COLUMBUS — Ohio is flipping a switch July 1 to use CareSource and other private insurers to handle Medicaid behavioral health services, such as drug rehab and mental health care, for the state.

The move is expected to take millions of dollars now directly paid out by Ohio Medicaid and shift that spending to managed care organizations like Dayton-based CareSource, which are private insurance companies paid a set fee per patient to provide services.

The managed care system has cut costs for Ohio and the insurers are given flexibility to build their own payment models and programs to better coordinate care. These changes have allowed CareSource, headquartered in downtown Dayton, to grow into a giant in Ohio's managed care system with a local staff of 2,800, making it one of the largest local employers.

[More Information](#)

JULY is...

Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month

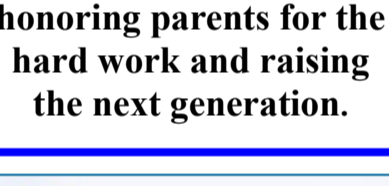
Nations Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month

Parents Day

Eye Injury Prevention Month



Happy Parents Day July 22nd, 2018 honoring parents for the hard work and raising the next generation.



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