



THE ASAM ADVOCATE

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



NATIONAL

HHS Announces \$20 Billion in New Phase 3 Provider Relief Funding

On October 1, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced \$20 billion in new funding for providers on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic, including behavioral health providers.

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ASAM Comments on the Proposed 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule

On October 5, ASAM submitted comments on the proposed 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, which includes new codes for opioid treatment programs and telehealth.

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ASAM Provides Comments on Regulatory Changes to Electronic Prescribing

On October 5, ASAM submitted comments on regulatory changes to electronic prescribing required by the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act of 2018.

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ASAM Endorses the Improving Medicaid Programs' Response to Overdose Victims and Enhancing (IMPROVE) Addiction Care Act

On September 30, the American Society of Addiction Medicine thanked the sponsors of new legislation that would require state Medicaid programs to use their existing drug utilization review (DUR) programs to increase access to addiction treatment and boost safeguards for those on Medicaid who have experienced a non-fatal, opioid-related overdose.

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ASAM Applauds Legislation to Combat Burn Out in Health Care Professionals

On September 22, the Mental Health Liaison Group, of which ASAM is a member, thanked the sponsors of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act (S.4349) for their introduction of the bill.

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STATE

California Governor Signs Groundbreaking Parity Legislation

On September 25, Governor Gavin Newsom signed legislation which would require insurers to follow generally accepted standards of care for mental health and substance use disorder.

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HAPPENINGS ON THE GROUND

World Congress and the Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness to Host Webinar Series on Payers' Behavioral Health Management and Policy

On October 20 and October 21, World Congress and the Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness will host a webinar series to provide insights, experiences, and expertise on the policy, operations, and management of behavioral health.

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ADVOCACY MEMBER VOICES

Americans Over 30 Have Been Drinking More During the Coronavirus Pandemic, Research Shows

ASAM President, Dr. Paul Earley, discusses the rise of substance use disorders due to COVID-19.

Google Added Free, Trusted Addiction Treatment Needs Assessment to Google Recover Together Website This National Recovery Month

ASAM president, Dr. Paul Earley, applauds the development of the Addiction Treatment Needs Assessment, which is based on *The ASAM Criteria*.

ADDICTION POLICY IN THE NEWS



Stopgap Funding Supports Healthcare Providers, Includes Medicare Advance Payment Changes

McGuireWoods, LLP

CMS Reminds States of the SUPPORT Act Medicaid Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Services and Drugs Mandatory Coverage Starting October 1st

Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS)

Bennet Introduces Bill to Mandate Opioid Training for Some Medical Professionals

Michael Karlik, Colorado Spring Gazette

Opioid Epidemic Did Not Pause for Covid; We Must Act to Save Lives

Senator Elizabeth Warren, Dorchester Reporter

Trump's Drug Czar: Permanently Expand Telehealth for Addiction Treatment

Kate Santich, Orland Sentinel



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