FDA Advisory Committee Votes for Tighter Controls on Hydrocodone

**MedPage Today**

The FDA Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee voted 19-10 to recommend to the FDA that hydrocodone combination products be re-scheduled from Schedule III to Schedule II of the Controlled Substances Act. During the discussion, many members noted the need for primary prevention, physician and patient education, and increased access to addiction treatment. Member Dr. Brad Hall testified on behalf of ASAM to provide the unique perspective in this debate that only an addiction specialist could.

**MORE**

**Looking For The Right EMR?**

Check out the Top Ten Ways Stratus EMR boosts efficiency and adds to patient care.

**MORE**

**Support National Drug Facts Week**

Jan. 28-Feb. 3 marks National Drug Facts Week, a national health observance that offers teens the opportunity to interact with scientists and other experts about drug abuse. Register with the National Institute on Drug Abuse to receive guidance and free resources to help plan an event.

**MORE**

**ASAM NEWS**

**Trauma/PTSD**

**Substance Abuse**

**Process Addictions**

**12 Step Based**

**Holistic Approach**

**Experiential Therapy**

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352.288.3333
ASAM Partners on Extended Release and Long Acting Opioid REMS Education

ASAM is a partner of the Collaboration for REMS Education (CO*RE). CO*RE recently received approval from the REMS Program Committee for its national initiative to support educational activities addressing the public health crisis surrounding the use, abuse, diversion, and overdose associated with Extended Release/Long Acting opioids. MORE

New Chronic Pain & Recovery Center

Silver Hill Hospital’s Chronic Pain and Recovery Center is designed to help each patient reduce distress related to chronic pain and associated conditions, improve function in valued life activities, and engage in a life full of meaning and purpose. MORE

When Will There Be Definitions and Terminology in Addiction Medicine?

ASAM President’s Blog

ASAM needs to lead the standardization of terms and definitions in addiction medicine, writes ASAM Acting President Dr. Stuart Gitlow in this week’s President’s Blog. MORE

2 Powerful Plenary Sessions Highlight 2013 Med-Sci in Chicago

ASAM

The plenary sessions for ASAM’s 44th Annual Medical-Scientific Conference April 25-28, in Chicago, have been announced. The R. Brinkley Smithers lecture will be given by Joseph Westermeyer on "Symmetry and Asymmetry in Addiction Medicine: The Balance Between You, Your Patient, and Your Setting" and the Policy Plenary will focus on "The U.S. Drug Crisis—The Addiction Treatment Gap." Plan to attend the conference and hear insightful and informative plenary sessions that will explore today's critical issues in the field of addiction medicine and stimulate thoughtful discussion of policy and practice. MORE

Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Middle-aged Versus Younger Adults Enrolled in a Clinical Trial of a Web-delivered Psychosocial Treatment for Substance Use Disorders

Evidence suggests that substance abuse is becoming more prevalent in middle-aged adults. The objective of this secondary analysis was to add to the growing empirical literature on the unique features of middle-aged substance abuse populations. MORE

Urge-Specific and Lifestyle Coping Strategies of Alcoholics: Relationships of Specific Strategies to Treatment Outcome

The present study examined the efficacy of various specific lifestyle and situation-specific coping skills by determining the relationship of each of these strategies to drinking outcomes. Because some strategies taught in treatment are more effective in preventing relapse than others, treatment may be improved by focusing on these specific strategies. MORE

It’s National Drug Facts Week!

Help inform teenagers about the risks of drug use!

Click to watch the US Navy’s latest PSA on Baths Salts - USDTL.com
Quitting Smoking by Age 40 Erases Most of the Risk of an Early Death

Smokers who quit by around age 40 can stave off an early death, according to a landmark study that fills key gaps in knowledge of smoking-related health ills. While smokers who never stop lose about a decade of life expectancy, those who quit between ages 35 and 44 gained back nine of those years, the study found. Quitting young, before age 35, erased the entire decade of lost life expectancy. MORE

Deep TMS Device Sharply Reduces Smoking Addiction

Brainsway Ltd. recently announced that a trial of its Deep TMS (transcranial magnetic stimulation) enabled smokers to give up cigarettes. Of the participants in the study who received frequent treatments, 84 percent gave up smoking at the end of the six-month course of treatment and 36 percent of the people were still not smoking after the six-month post treatment monitoring period. MORE

Interacting Effects of Naltrexone and OPRM1 and DAT1 Variation on the

PRODUCT SHOWCASE

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We are an independent, nonprofit organization focused on advancing the quality of services you use to meet your needs for the best possible outcomes. CARF provides accreditation services worldwide at the request of health and human service providers. MORE
Neural Response to Alcohol Cues

Variation at a single nucleotide polymorphism in the µ-opioid receptor gene (OPRM1), A118G (Asn40Asp), may moderate naltrexone effects in alcohol dependence. 

The Scary Trend Of Boomer Addiction

In the psychedelic '60s, it seemed everyone was "turning on." No one worried about using marijuana or other drugs, as it seemed everyone was doing it. Now, many of those who came of age in that era are facing a real and rising problem of substance abuse. The National Institutes of Health became so concerned about the increasing numbers of boomer addicts that it issued a consumer alert this year on prescription and illicit drug abuse signs and dangers on its website NIHSeniorHealth.gov.

No Impact of DSM-5 Criteria on Alcohol Prevalence

Although criteria used to assess serious alcohol problems will be revised in the upcoming fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, these changes will not likely affect the prevalence of these disorders, new research suggests.

Deaths Linked to Prescription Drugs Plunge in Spokane County, Wash.

The number of prescription drug overdose deaths in Spokane County, Wash., has plummeted over the past three years. The number of such deaths in the county has dropped 40 percent, comparing three-year time spans from 2006 to 2008 and 2009 to 2011. Prescription overdose deaths statewide have also declined. Dr. Joel McCullough, health officer for the Spokane Regional Health District, said the lower numbers in Spokane County are indicative of increased focus on the dangers of prescription drugs.

Female Smoking Death Risk 'Has Soared'

Women smoking nowadays are far more likely to die as a result of their habit than they were in the 1960s, according to a new study. Changing habits such as starting earlier and smoking more cigarettes have been blamed for the dramatically increased risks of lung cancer. The trends, reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, show death rates in women have caught up with men.

Reason for Substance Use Predicts Treatment Outcome in Adolescents

The majority of substance use disorder treatment approaches aimed at adolescents are outpatient treatment programs, primarily delivered in group settings. They usually focus on skill building, and for adolescents who are unmotivated to adopt the new skills, these types of interventions can be ineffective. Sarah J. Dow of the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital at the Harvard Center for Addiction Medicine theorized that the reasons motivating young people to use substances could be the key for preventing that use.

Sharp Rise in Emergency Department Visits Involving ADHD Medications

A new report shows that the number of emergency department visits involving attention
deficit/hyperactivity disorder stimulant medications more than doubled from 13,379 visits in 2005 to 31,244 in 2010. The study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration finds that the greatest rates of increase in emergency department visits involving ADHD stimulant medications occurred among those aged 18 and older, while the level among those under 18 remained largely unchanged during this period. MORE

PUBLIC POLICY & REGULATORY NEWS

Addiction Treatment System Implementation Moving Forward in Vermont

VT Digger  Share  facebook  twitter  linkedin
The Vermont Legislature and Gov. Peter Shumlin approved legislation last year to create a regional system for opioid addiction treatment. Deputy Health Commissioner Barbara Cimaglio, who oversees the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, recently provided the House Human Services Committee with an update on how that system is progressing. MORE

CLINICAL GUIDELINES

NASADAD Releases Statement on the Use of Medication for Substance Use Disorders

NASADAD (pdf)  Share  facebook  twitter  linkedin
The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors' Board of Directors approved a consensus statement regarding the benefits of using medications as part of a comprehensive and individualized substance use disorder treatment plan. NASADAD concludes that public and private health insurance plans should cover medications for the treatment of opioid, alcohol, and nicotine dependence. MORE

EDUCATION AND RESOURCES

Chronic Pain and Addiction: Does Everyone Taking Opioids Eventually Become an Addict?

Pain Care Live  Share  facebook  twitter  linkedin
This program is intended for pain management specialists, psychiatrists, primary care physicians, family and internal medicine practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals involved in caring for patients suffering from acute and chronic pain. MORE

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Plan to Attend the 2013 National Rx Drug Abuse Summit

The 2013 National Rx Drug Abuse Summit will focus on ways to make an impact in the fight against prescription drug abuse. The Summit is the only national collaboration of professionals from local, state, and federal agencies, business, academia, clinicians, treatment providers, counselors, educators, state and national leaders, and advocates impacted by Rx drug abuse. ASAM members are eligible for a $100 registration discount for the conference. (Note your membership on the registration form.)

**ASAM EVENTS**

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<td>New York Society of Addiction Medicine’s 9th Annual Medical-Scientific</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conference</td>
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<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>MNSAM Journal Club</td>
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<td>Apr. 12-13</td>
<td>Rural Buprenorphine Training at Addiction Medicine 2013 Conference</td>
<td>Asheville, NC</td>
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<td>Apr. 25-28</td>
<td>44th Annual Medical-Scientific Conference</td>
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<td>ASAM</td>
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<td>Apr. 25</td>
<td>Ruth Fox Course for Physicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 25</td>
<td>Pain and Addiction: Common Threads XIV</td>
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**CALENDAR**

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<td>Jan. 28-Feb. 3</td>
<td>National Drug Facts Week</td>
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<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td>The Addiction Professional’s Mini Guide to Screening, Brief</td>
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<td>NAADAC</td>
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<td>Intervention and Referral to Treatment</td>
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<td>International Conference on Treatment Modalities for Eating</td>
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<td>ISAS International Seminars</td>
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<td>Disorders: Consensus &amp; Jerusalem, Israel Controversy</td>
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<td>Feb. 4-7</td>
<td>Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America’s National Leadership</td>
<td>National Harbor, MD</td>
<td>CADCA</td>
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<td>Forum/SAMHSA’s 9th</td>
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<td>Feb. 7-9</td>
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<td>National AIA Resource Center</td>
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<td>Feb. 27-March 2</td>
<td>The 5th International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder</td>
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<td>CMH</td>
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<td>AAPNY</td>
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**ASAM Weekly**

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