



American Medical Society on Alcoholism & Other Drug Dependencies, inc.

NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

The AMSAODD certification exam date is Saturday, Oct. 18, 1986, a project which has perked interest throughout our field. There have been multiple interpretations. AMSAODD's position is that this exam is to test those members of our society who have met certain qualifications to take the exam for a mastery of a body of knowledge in chemical dependency. It is not a "Board Exam." It cannot test for competency but does test for knowledge.

The review courses promise to be outstanding educational experiences. Whether or not you are taking the exam, it would be worth your while to attend one of the courses in September.

Negotiations continue with the RSA (Research Society on Alcoholism) regarding whether the Journal will continue to be AMSAODD's official publication. Drs. Jean Forrest and William Hawthorne are working with RSA's representatives to settle on the conditions under which AMSAODD and RSA are each working to support the Journal, and will report soon.

The Executive Committee will "retreat" in July to ponder plans projecting AMSAODD's future. You do have a hard-working board. Please let its members know of your concerns, feelings and ideas. What do you want AMSAODD to be doing in the next two years? Five years?

It is time to schedule the 1987 Annual Meeting, Scientific Forum and Ruth Fox Course, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, April 22-27. Thanks to Drs. Marc Galanter, Maxwell Weisman, Charles Whitfield and others, and to our staff, Claire Osman, Ian and Louisa Macpherson, for making the 1986 event so successful.

Max A. Schneider, MD, President
2110 East First St, Ste 118, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Phone: (714) 835-7665

AMSAODD Board Meeting

Thirty-five physicians attended the April 17, 1986, meeting in San Francisco. The meeting was dedicated to former board member Kenneth H. Williams, MD, who died April 15.

Certification: (Margaret Bean-Bayog, MD)

Credentialing: (Marc Galanter, MD)

When examinees sign in for the exam on Oct. 18, each will be required to show identification with a photograph on it, and to sign a statement certifying that he/she currently meets all AMSAODD requirements, including a license in good standing.

The Subcommittee reviewed 869 certification applications; 169 were from AMSAODD members who had taken the California Society certification exam and who would therefore not be taking AMSAODD's 1986 exam.

Amended requirement for 1987 exam: either successful completion of an approved residency training program or certification by a specialty organization recognized by the ABMS. (This in addition to one year's involvement in the field.)

Subcommittee reviewing requirements for re-certification. Possible inclusion of

continuing medical education such as Physician's Recognition Award related to alcohol and drug abuse, couched within the total AMA standard requirements for CME credits; possible board certification in an accepted medical specialty.

California Society and University of Nevada proposal for administering 1987 exam summarized by Gail Jara. The 1987 exam will be more expensive than the 1986 exam, due to: building a new question pool; the University of Nevada's handling the question pool in a data base management computer program instead of in a word processing program. Board voted to accept the California Society's proposal to administer the 1987 certification project, total budget: \$185,000.

Discussion about enlarging exam question pool; bringing entire certification process in-house to AMSAODD, rather than continuing to contract it out. AMSAODD would then deal directly with the University of Nevada or other reputable university. This would be a long term project, to be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting (July), with a possible goal of 1988.

Review Course: (Anne Geller, MD) Educational objectives: to assist in the preparation for the certification exam, by providing a basic overview of the field of alcoholism and other drug dependencies.

Expert Subcommittee name changed to Examination Subcommittee (Anthony Radcliffe, MD)

According to Dr. Bean-Bayog, revenues from certification were large this year. However, future expenses will remain the same, while actual income will decrease--at least until the re-certification cycle begins.

Fellowship Subcommittee: (Drs. James Halikas, Charles L. Whitfield) Six responses to fellowship survey.

Proposed substance abuse fellowship timetable: program to have medical school affiliation, and director faculty status, by Jan. 1, 1988. Certification examinees after July 1990 to have completed a fellowship in substance abuse.

Onsite inspection by Subcommittee representatives to be required for program accreditation, followed by recommendations to the AMSAODD board; accreditation would last up to four years.

Medical Education: (James Halikas, MD) Everyone taking the 1986 certification exam will receive six CME credit hours, whether or not they pass.

AMSAODD sponsored/co-sponsored 18 programs in first six months of 1986. AMSAODD to require site visits, and a member on program planning committee, for any educational programs to which we give CME credits.

ACCME complimented AMSAODD for educational efforts in substance abuse.

Membership: (LeClair Bissell, MD) Growth indicates that soon some states will become Regions, entitled to a Board member.

Board voted that any two AMSAODD members, regardless of marital status or sexual preference, who live at any one address and regard themselves as a couple, be allowed a couple's rate. Subscription cost of one Journal will be subtracted from one membership fee.

Updated membership directory, budgeted at \$10,000, to be prepared as soon as possible.

Nominating and Awards: (Sheila B. Blume, MD) Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies scholarships: Pan American Medical Association's to Dr. Fernando Cortinas of Uruguay; Caron Foundation's to Dr. Colette L. Cunningham of Newport, RI.

The Board thanked them, and also the J.M. Foundation for its many scholarships to medical students for alcohol summer schools. Scholarships for house officers needed.

Program: (Marc Galanter, MD) Advance registration for 1986 Medical-Scientific Meeting (San Francisco April 18-22) was larger than for 1985. Courses and workshops oversubscribed; more good courses are needed for next year (Cleveland April 24-27, 1987).

Ruth Fox Course for Physicians (Maxwell N. Weisman, MD) was also oversubscribed. Due to space limitations, cutoff at 220, plus faculty.

AIDS Chemical Dependency: (Larry Siegel, MD) AMSAODD to sponsor a National Forum on AIDS & Chemical Dependency in Fort Lauderdale Feb. 20-21, coincident with AMSAODD's winter

board meeting Feb. 22. [Announcement sent to AMSAODD membership beginning of June.]

Gay & Lesbian Alcohol/Drug Problems: (Jean L. Forest, MD) Committee agenda: educational effort; guidelines for gay/lesbian issues in treatment; exploration of problems for gay/lesbian patients in treatment facilities.

Budget & Finance: AMSAODD's accounting to be automated.

President's Report: (Max A. Schneider, MD) The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) invited AMSAODD to meet and discuss possible sub-specialty in alcoholism. AMSAODD will cooperate.

Publications: (Stanley E. Gitlow, MD) Committee met previous evening and voted unanimously to recommend a separation between AMSAODD and RSA (Research Society on Alcoholism) in their joint publication of the Journal (Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research).

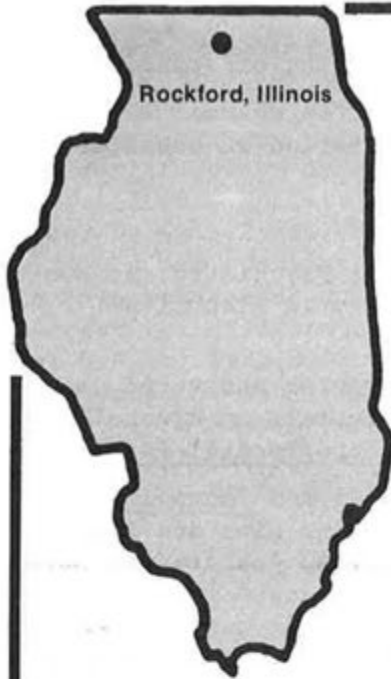
According to Dr. Gitlow, the Publications Committee believes that the Journal does not properly represent AMSAODD membership, as RSA and AMSAODD have different aims and interests, and that the two societies should thus have two separate journals. Publisher Williams & Wilkins wants to negotiate a new contract with AMSAODD and RSA in the next few months. If RSA no longer wants to run the Journal, AMSAODD could take it over. If RSA wants to continue running the Journal, Publications Committee believes that AMSAODD should reduce and eventually discontinue the present financial subsidy. [The present subsidy amounts to approximately 60% of AMSAODD's entire dues structure, about \$70,000 per year in the recent past.] Temporarily, AMSAODD members could be offered a choice of certain other journals, in addition to the present Journal, in order to ascertain what content the membership wants in a journal sponsored by its society. Respondents to last winter's membership survey indicated that the quality of the Journal was high, but that it did not fulfill members' prerequisites or desires.

Comments from people present: Marcus Rothschild, MD, Journal editor, gave a summary of the past year's work and showed a computer printout of articles in-house. He reported that publisher Williams & Wilkins has made a potential offer that includes decreased subscription rates to society members and increased rates to institutions; instigating page charges; support of the Journal so that no money [other than subscription funds] would have to come from either AMSAODD or RSA to support it. Dr. Rothschild also suggested incorporating the AMSAODD Newsletter into the Journal, or at least having Williams & Wilkins print and mail it with the Journal. [The Publications Committee with the AMSAODD president in attendance had rejected the wisdom of incorporating the AMSAODD Newsletter into the Journal because of the inevitable loss of timeliness.]

Enoch Gordis, MD, said that the mix of clinical and scientific material in the Journal is characteristic of all journals of other subspecialties, such as endocrinology. Marc Galanter, MD, said that specific deficiencies should be specifically spelled out, and that AMSAODD representatives should keep trying to work out a resolution with RSA. James Halikas, MD, said that AMSAODD's representatives on the Journal editorial board have not been effective in achieving the goals set by the AMSAODD Board over the last two years, and that neither the alcohol vs. drug issue, nor the economic issue of proportion between AMSAODD and RSA, have as yet surfaced. [AMSAODD has about ten times as many members as has RSA, and hence contributes a much greater sum to the Journal's upkeep.] Sheldon Zimberg, MD, feels there is no adequate book review section. Al Mooney, III, MD, thinks the real issue is "control" and that if AMSAODD does not control its journal, membership should have a choice of where it wants to go. Anne Geller, MD, was concerned that because the journal is exclusively limited to alcoholism, it does not accurately reflect AMSAODD.

Dr. Gitlow said that the Publication Committee's view is that two organizations are trying to determine publication issues--such as content, cost, pagination, frequency of publication, etc., and that the aims of RSA, as outlined in its letter to AMSAODD, and perhaps the aims of the Journal's editorial board, were substantively different than the aims of AMSAODD. Its editor is trying to serve two masters whose aims overlap but are not the same.

Dr. Schneider said that he was informed that RSA is not interested in including material about drugs in the Journal; that AMSAODD's suggestion to change the journal name



Medical Director Addictive Services

Rockford, Illinois

A progressive 442 bed tertiary care center is seeking a Medical Director for their private 28-bed chemical dependency unit. This is an established program which until now has had its Medical Director needs filled on a part-time basis.

The hospital has made a strong commitment to expanding this program and is seeking a full-time Medical Director.

The preferred candidate must be board certified in either psychiatry, internal medicine, or family practice with extensive documented experience in the treatment of adult chemical dependency. They should be of the behavioral medicine school, an enthusiastic educator, and a hands-on team player in their treatment approach. This position provides a competitive income guarantee with a comprehensive benefit package. Rockford is the second largest community in Illinois, with over 250,000 residents, and is located 80 miles west of Chicago. There is a medical school, two colleges, and both private and parochial schools. The economic base is composed of 600 diversified major manufacturers.

If you are interested in pursuing this dynamic opportunity, please forward your curriculum vitae in confidence to:

Robin Chase Edwardsen
Physician Placement Manager
VHA Physician Placement Services
1600 Embassy Square Blvd., Suite 1605
Louisville, KY 40299
Call Toll Free 1-800-626-1857
(in Kentucky) 1-800-292-1856



VHA

Physician Placement Services

The future of America's health care

Voluntary Hospitals of America, Inc. (VHA)

The JCAH (Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals) is revising its standards for alcoholism and other drug dependency treatment facilities for the first time since 1981. For nearly a year, a task force of clinicians and clinical researchers has been trying to determine the "key elements of high quality patient care" with the JCAH.

"We knew that we needed to look at the standards for alcoholism and substance abuse, so we solicited names of people now involved clinically and who had published clinical research," Dr. James Roberts, vice-president of accreditation at JCAH, told AMSAODD Newsletter. From "50 or 60" suggested names came the eight-member task force that met seven times, five of them members of AMSAODD: Drs. LeClair Bissell, Robert M. Morse, Donald J. Ottenberg, Sidney H. Scholl, and Joseph Westermeyer. "The first meetings determined the characteristics of high quality programs," said Dr. Roberts. "We wanted to know what was supported by good literature, and from that, to set principles and standards."

Currently, the JCAH standards for "alcoholism/substance abuse treatment" are different for hospital-based programs (Hospital Standards manual) and for free-standing facilities (Consolidated Standards manual). Chemical dependency treatment programs are accredited by the JCAH through either the Hospital or Consolidated Standards manual, or through both.

Last year the JCAH announced that as of April 1987, hospital-based facilities could seek accreditation under the Hospital Standards only. According to Harold Swift, new president of Hazelden and a member of the task force, that decision "separated our field into hospital-based programs and free-standing programs. It really weakens our initial goal-- [which is] to develop a single set of standards for all [chemical dependency] treatment programs. As a profession, we could lose our sense of identity," he said in the May issue of Hazelden's newsletter Professional Update. "Nonhospital programs would risk losing third-party reimbursement, since those payers have a greater tendency to reimburse hospitals. And it is not beneficial to the patient, because while the Consolidated Standards seem more driven by patient care, the Hospital Accreditation Manual is apparently more oriented to institutional needs. What we want now, as in the past, is a single set of standards for the entire field."

The task force not only recommended that standards for alcoholism/substance abuse treatment be the same in both manuals, but also that they be placed in a separate alcoholism/substance abuse chapter in each. The task force's recommended standards have been approved by a JCAH committee, and will go out for "field review" this summer. Two to three thousand copies of the 10-page report, along with a "structured questionnaire," will be mailed to professionals in the alcoholism field. About the mailing list, Dr. Roberts said that "in the case of treatment programs, it usually goes to the CEO."

"Any AMSAODD member who wants to be sure he or she receives the report should write to me directly and ask for a copy of 'Accreditation Standards for Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Programs,'" said Dr. Roberts. "I'll need names as soon as possible, for we plan to mail the reports in early or mid-August, and we want comments within six to eight weeks after that." AMSAODD members can also make comments, complaints, and suggestions directly to task force members, if they prefer.

"The task force was a remarkably amicable group," said Dr. Roberts. "Members had unanimous opinions on all of the basics. We need substantive standards for JCAH accreditation in this field, and now I believe that we will have them."

"This is an excellent time for AMSAODD members to make themselves heard," Dr. Bissell told AMSAODD Newsletter. "The standards, while not perfect, strike a good balance between what we'd like to have for all of our patients, and what it is reasonable to require, given the realities of available staff time and budget. I am convinced that JCAH will pay attention to our response, but obviously it can't do so unless it gets response."

Contact Dr. James Roberts at: JCAH, 875 North Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60611.

If you have not received your Review Course Registration please contact the AMSAODD office. Family Medicine Curriculum Guide to Substance Abuse will be distributed at each review course.....Anne Geller, MD

PHYSICIAN

for medical triage, consultation, supervision at 6 CD treatment facilities in Chicago area. Contact: John Bailey, Interventions, 1234 S. Michigan Chicago, IL 60605

ADDICTIONOLOGIST

Our 5-man addictionology group seeks a 6th addictionologist. Experience is required. Unique private practice opportunity: inpatient units, non-hospital residential, recovery home, and outpatient programs. Excellent salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications. Contact: Roland E. Herrington, MD, Addictive Disease Medical Consultants, SC, 1220 Dewey Ave, Wauwatosa, WI 53213. Phone (414)258-2600.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA KAISER

Internist, FP or Psychiatrist Board Certified Group looking for a fulltime partner to work in outpatient clinic and detox. Experience working with chemically dependent patients required.

Tony Radcliffe, MD
c/o ADDC
17046 Marygold
Fontana, CA 92376
Phone: (714)829-5128

METRO CHICAGO - ADOLESCENT CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY

Medical Director for 24-bed adolescent CD program in 260-bed hospital, downtown area. Good income potential with salary for approx. 20/hrs/week. Background in adolescent & chemical dependency preferred. Contact: Pat Kassel, Psychiatric Placement Specialist, VHA, Physician Placement Services, 1600 Embassy Square Blvd, Ste 1605, Louisville, KY 40299. Call toll-free: 1(800)626-1857; in KY 1(800)292-1856.

TWO-YEAR FELLOWSHIP IN ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE

for national leadership role. Treatment alcoholic/family; acute/longterm care; inpatient/outpatient; research; education; administration. Starts July 1, 1987; \$25,000 annually. Requirements: MD, and psychiatric residency. Contact: George H. Orvin, MD, Chairman, Alcohol and Drug Fellowship Committee, Medical University of South Carolina, 171 Ashley Ave, Charleston, SC 29425-0742.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
NORCAP CENTER

Fulltime (BC:INT-Medicine) to provide general oversight clinical practice, direct patient care, participate in longterm planning, research, program development. Comprehensive alcoholism/CD program: 36-bed detox & acute rehab, 43-bed extended rehab, 2 satellite outpatient programs, pilot day treatment program. Send c.v. to: John Dalton, Southwood Community Hospital, 1111 Dedham Norfolk, MA 02056

MEDICAL DIRECTORS/STAFF PSYCHIATRISTS/PRIMARY CARE PHYS:

Medical Recruiters of America has attractive opportunities for psychiatrists, primary care physicians in chemical dependency/psychiatric facilities, as well as private practices throughout the US. Send c.v. or call toll-free: 1(800)237-5021. [Florida collect (813)872-0202.]

Attn: Joyce L. Adams, Physician Recruitment
MRA, 3421 W. Cypress, Tampa, FL 33607-5093

INDIANA - ADOLESCENT CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY

Attractive Lake Michigan community seeks Medical Director for 20-bed adol. CD unit in salaried position with incentives. Opportunity to associate with pediatricians in area for private practice. Interested candidates forward c.v. in confidence to: Pat Kassel, VHA Physician Placement Services, 1600 Embassy Square Blvd, Ste 1605, Louisville, KY 40299. Call toll-free: 1(800)626-1857; in KY 1(800)292-1856.

STAFF PSYCHIATRIST

Private progressive 195-bed CD hospital in Albany area. Contact Bick Wanck, MD, Dir. of Psychiatry, Conifer Park, 150 Glenridge Rd, Scotia, NY 12302
Phone: (518)399-6446

CLINICAL DIRECTOR/PHYSICIAN

Needed immediat. for addictions/co-dependency program of an expanding psychiatric facility. Required: MD with 4 years medical practice. Prefer recovering alcoholic/co-dependent; psychiatric residency favorable. Competitive salary. Send resume to: Personnel Manager, Oaklawn Center 2600 Oakland Ave, Elkhart, IN 46517
Phone: (219)294-3551. EOE

to include drugs was turned down by RSA. He praised Dr. Rothschild's efforts on the journal, but said it would appear that RSA has not seemed sensitive to the AMSAODD constituency's needs with regard to the journal.

Board asked the Publications Committee to spell out specific recommendations for what AMSAODD would like done with the Journal, to be submitted to RSA for negotiation. RSA's response to be reviewed by the AMSAODD Board before a decision is made about AMSAODD's continued affiliation with the journal.

At 5:35 PM the meeting was adjourned to a private room and continued in closed session, as no large room was available.

Standards & Economics of Care: (Sheldon Zimberg, MD) Positions statements: 1) mandatory insurance, 2) the role of the physician in alcoholism treatment programs; both referred back to committee for additional study.

Publications: The earlier motion regarding the Journal was reconsidered. A long and thorough discussion followed. Board agreed that as a research journal, our publication is excellent, but that it does not reflect the needs of AMSAODD's constituency, which is mostly clinical. A review of attempts to alter policy and direction of the Journal was followed by agreement to begin the procedure of orderly withdrawal from association with the publication, to be completed by the end of the contract year.*

[*Subsequent meetings were held with the presidents and presidents-elect of AMSAODD and RSA on multiple subjects including: joint meetings; joint meetings with CPDD (Committee for the Problems of Drug Dependency) including one with CPDD's president, Mary Jeanne Kreek, MD; and the Journal.....Max A. Schneider, MD]

Other: Discussion about the need for an executive director/CEO referred to the Executive Committee's longterm planning meeting in July.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 PM. Next Board Meeting: July meeting to be limited to Executive Committee. September Board Meeting Sunday, Sept. 21, Marriott Hotel, LaGuardia Airport, New York City.

Soviet Union Tour

Drs. Maxwell N. Weisman and Anne Geller will lead a group of physicians to the Soviet Union May 6-22, 1987, to explore that country's efforts to cope with its admitted problems of alcoholism and other drug dependency. Scheduled interviews with leading researchers and clinicians. CME credits available. Itinerary will include ballet, art museums, circus, children's nurseries, collective farms, contact with ordinary Soviet families and individual citizens.

Further information: Ms. Myra Abrams, Agency International, 22 Lenox Pointe, Atlanta, GA 30324. Phone toll-free: 1(800)445-0616.

Research Query

Wanted for research project: veterinarians, pharmacists, women dentists, men nurses. Also gay men, either attorneys or with doctoral degrees in a health care field. All must be: 1) members of AA, NA, or DA, 2) abstinent for a minimum of one year, 3) willing to be interviewed in person for about an hour by a person also in recovery. Anonymity/confidentiality strictly observed.

Contact: LeClair Bissell, MD, 130 W. 16th St, New York, NY 10011.

IN MEMORIAM

We will all miss the talents, enthusiasm, gentleness and spirit of Kenneth H. Williams, MD. He was a long-standing AMSAODD member and had been on the Board of Directors. Those of us who knew and loved him mourn his untimely death in April 1986. We sincerely offer our condolences to his family.....Charles L. Whitfield, MD.

AMSAODD also mourns long-time member J. Donald Scherbart, MD, of Pomona, Cal.

FUTURE MEETINGS
Sponsored by AMSAODD

AMSAODD Review Courses: Chicago, Sept. 4-6; Los Angeles, Sept. 11-13; New York, Sept. 18-20; Atlanta, Sept. 25-27.

National Forum on AIDS & Chemical Dependency: Fort Lauderdale, FL, Feb. 20-21, 1987.

Ruth Fox Course for Physicians: Cleveland, April 23, 1987.

Medical Scientific Conference: Cleveland, April 24-27, 1987.

Conference Coordinator, AMSAODD,
12 W. 21 St, New York, NY 10010.

Co-Sponsored by AMSAODD
(July-Oct.)

Clinical Problems in Addictions--Licit & Illicit Drugs: Seattle, July 24-25.

Sandra Jo Counts, MD, Saint Cabrini Hospital, Terry & Madison, Seattle, WA 98104.

10th Annual Summer Institute on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence: Colorado Springs, Aug. 4-8. Institute for Integral Development, PO Box 2172, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Phone:(303)634-7943.

Diploma in Addiction Behavior: London, Oct. 6. One-year, fulltime, Institute of Psychiatry, Univ. of London. Course Secretary, Addiction Research Unit, Institute of Psychiatry, 101 Denmark Hill, London, England SE 5 8AF.

The World Conference on Alcoholism: Vienna, Oct. 18-25. Charter Medical Corp., 11050 Crabapple Rd, Roswell, GA 30075. Phone:1(800)845-1567. In GA:(404)641-9268.



AMSAODD
12 West 21st Street
7th floor
New York, NY 10010

NEW FILM BY A MEMBER

p. 8

Max A. Schneider, MD--Medical Aspects of Co-Dependency (Max. A. Schneider, MD, Educational Division)

SCHOLARSHIP

AMSAODD thanks the Stepping Stones Foundation for funding travel from Uruguay for Dr. Fernando Cortinas to attend the Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies.

GRANTS

Prevention, identification, treatment, rehabilitation of homeless people with alcohol-related problems. Request for Application (RFA) No. AA 86-05, National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information, Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20852.

Phone: (301)468-2600.

OTHER MEETING

IDAA (International Doctors in AA); San Diego, Aug. 7-10. Luke Reed, Secy, IDAA, 1950 Volney Rd, Youngstown, OH 44511. Phone: (216)782-6216.

(Membership in IDAA is open to all doctoral-level health professionals who are in recovery.)

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