Substance Use Disorder Among Anesthesiology Residents, 1975-2009

Journal of the American Medical Association

Among anesthesiology residents entering primary training from 1975 to 2009, 0.86 percent had a confirmed substance use disorder during training, with the incidence of this disorder increasing over the study period and the risk of relapse high.

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PRODUCT SHOWCASE

Shifting Opioid Epidemic Stances
In late October the FDA approved Zohyrdo, a form of hydrocodone without acetaminophen. The drug was originally rejected by the FDA advisory committee. Yet the FDA had previously announced recommendations for tightening the controls for narcotic prescriptions. With these seemingly conflicting actions, how can we expect progress in preventing prescription abuse?

RESEARCH

Trends and Geographic Patterns in Drug-Poisoning Death Rates in the U.S., 1999-2009

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Drug poisoning mortality has increased substantially in the U.S. over the past three decades. Previous studies have described state-level variation and urban–rural differences in drug-poisoning deaths, but variation at the county level has largely not been explored in part because crude county-level death rates are often highly unstable.
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?9-THC-Caused Synaptic and Memory Impairments Are Mediated Through COX-2 Signaling

Cell
Marijuana has been used for thousands of years as a treatment for medical conditions. However, untoward side effects limit its medical value. Here, we show that synaptic and cognitive impairments following repeated exposure to ?9-tetrahydrocannabinol (?9-THC) are associated with the induction of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2), an inducible enzyme that converts arachidonic acid to prostanoids in the brain.

Avoiding Negative Feelings May Trigger Addictive Behaviors

Psychopharmacology
For years addiction experts have discussed reward and euphoria as the driving factors in drug use. Now a study suggests the cycle of drug use and addiction may have more to do with avoiding negative emotions.

Ecstasy-Related Emergency Department Visits by Young People Increased between 2005 and 2011; Alcohol Involvement Remains a Concern

SAMHSA
Abuse of Ecstasy can produce a variety of undesirable health effects such as anxiety and confusion. These effects can last one week or longer after using the drug. Also, serious health risks such as becoming dangerously overheated, high blood pressure, and kidney and heart failure are associated with Ecstasy abuse. When Ecstasy is mixed with alcohol, the stimulating effects of Ecstasy cause the user to be less aware of alcohol intoxication. This mixture can lead to poor decision making and bodily harm.

Report of Findings in a DSM-5 Field Trial for Hypersexual Disorder

The Journal of Sexual Medicine
The criteria for hypersexual disorder that have been proposed, and now tested, will allow
researchers and clinicians to study, treat, and develop prevention strategies for individuals at
risk for developing hypersexual behavior.

Featuring Companies

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Leaving Buprenorphine Treatment: Patients' Reasons for Cessation of Care
Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment
This study is a planned secondary analysis from a randomized trial of counseling for African-
Americans entering buprenorphine treatment at one of two outpatient programs.

See related:
- Relationship Between Buprenorphine Adherence and Health Service Utilization and Costs Among Opioid Dependent Patients (Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment)

IN THE MEDIA

Alcohol Use Disorders Contribute More Significantly to Disease Burden
The Medical News
Disorders related to the abuse of alcohol contribute significantly to the burden of disease in the U.S., finds a new study in Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research. Researchers estimated that in 2005, about 53,000 men and 12,000 women died from issues related to alcohol use disorders (AUD).

PRODUCT SHOWCASE

New Chronic Pain & Recovery Center
The Chronic Pain and Recovery Center is one of the few programs in the nation designed specifically for people with chemical dependency,
addiction, and/or mental health issues in addition to chronic physical pain. The goal of treatment is for each individual to live a more functional, gratifying life.

**Smoking Cessation: What's Next?**

*Psychiatric Times*

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable morbidity and mortality in the U.S. The majority of smokers want to quit, but only a fraction achieve this annually. New evidence shows it is possible to teach patients to weaken the link between craving and smoking, until they are able to ride out any craving.

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**OneThing Affordable Care Act Can't Fix: Bad Addiction Treatment**

*TIME*

The new rules are comprehensive, but it's impossible to know how they'll be interpreted, monitored, and policed. Treating mental illness isn't easy or cheap, and treating addiction can be even more complex.

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**PUBLIC POLICY & REGULATORY NEWS**

**Naloxone State Laws**

*American Medical Association*

Responding to the rise in opioid overdoses, state legislatures are acting to increase the availability of naloxone, a receptor antagonist that potentially can prevent opioid overdose deaths.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Webinar on Final Regulations under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act: Substance, Legal Implications, and Compliance**

*American Bar Association*

The American Bar Association Health Law Section and Center for Professional Development is sponsoring a webinar on the final rules under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. Their expert panelists will provide an overview of the final rules, discuss the formerly unresolved issues the final rules are intended to address, and provide hypothetical situations...
often faced by insurers, behavioral health organizations, providers, and consumers that will soon be subject to regulatory directives under the final rules. The course also includes a review of how best to ensure compliance under the MHPAEA final rules.

CLINICAL GUIDELINES

Addressing Viral Hepatitis in People With Substance Use Disorders

SAMHSA
This resource offers clinicians information to address viral hepatitis when working with people with substance use disorders. It covers hepatitis prevention, screening, treatment and service coordination, and guides administrators on how to add or improve hepatitis services.

CHAPTER NEWS

ONDCP Director Designates 12 Counties in 9 States as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

The White House
Director Kerlikowske of the Office of National Drug Control Policy announced the designation of 12 additional counties in California, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs). The designation will enable the 12 counties to receive Federal resources to further the coordination and development of drug control efforts among Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers.

EDUCATION AND RESOURCES

Two New NIDAMED Resources Available

National Institute on Drug Abuse
NIDA has added to its portfolio a brief, interactive Drug Use Screening Tool, which can help physicians identify risky substance use in adult patients. NIDA also developed Family Checkup—a resource that physicians can share with patients who have children. It uses video vignettes that demonstrate positive and negative ways for parents to communicate with their teens.

TRENDING ARTICLES

Missed last week’s issue? See which articles your colleagues read most.

AMA Still Against Legalizing Marijuana (American Medical Association)
This Drug Could Make a Huge Dent in Heroin Addiction; So Why Isn't It Used More? (The Washington Post)

The Place of Additional Individual Psychotherapy in the Treatment of Alcoholism: A Randomized Controlled Study In Nonresponders to Anticraving Medication — Results of the Predict Study (Alcoholism)

Healthcare Professionals' Regard Towards Working with Patients with Substance Use Disorders: Comparison of Primary Care, General Psychiatry, and Specialist Addiction Services (NCBI)

### ASAM EVENTS

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<td>ASAM's ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Waltham, MA</td>
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<td>Jan. 15</td>
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<td>Foothills AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
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<td>Feb. 7-8</td>
<td>NYSAM 10th Annual Statewide Conference</td>
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<td>Multiple locations: Columbia, Lancaster, Camden, and Newberry, SC</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
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<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>April 10-13</td>
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<td>Pee-Dee AHEC - ER/LA Opioid REMS</td>
<td>Florence, SC</td>
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