The Development and Maintenance of Drug Addiction

Neuropsychopharmacology (free abstract)

What is the defining property of addiction? Take a look at the several-decades-long debate about the relative importance of two forms of reinforcement — positive reinforcement, subjectively linked to drug-induced euphoria, and negative reinforcement, subjectively linked to the alleviation of pain — both of which figure importantly in addiction theory; each of these forms has dominated addiction theory in its time.

Merry Christmas

Wishing you a happy holiday from Stratus EMR!

A Message from ASAM

AS AM Weekly is pleased to wish its readers a safe and festive holiday season. We are grateful for the continuing loyalty from AS AM members and nonmembers alike. If you would like to see our mission continue to grow and drive advancements in the field of addiction medicine, we encourage you to make a tax-deductible donation here. AS AM offices will be closed the week of December 23, and reopen December 30.
Medical and Nonmedical Use Of Prescription Stimulants: Results from a National Multicohort Study

Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (free abstract)

This study looks at the lifetime prevalence of medical and nonmedical use of prescription stimulants (e.g., Adderall, Concerta, Ritalin, Dexedrine) among high school seniors in the United States, and assesses substance use behaviors (i.e., cigarette smoking, binge drinking, marijuana, and other drug use) based on lifetime histories of medical and nonmedical use of prescription stimulants.

NIDA Releases 2013 Monitoring the Future Results

Monitoring the Future

The most recent findings of the National Institute on Drug Abuse's MTF study show significant decreases in cigarette smoking and drinking among our nation's adolescents. The study also reflects a decline in past year nonmedical use of prescription drugs and in synthetic marijuana use (a.k.a., "K2" or "spice"). Unfortunately, the study also reflects the continued increase in adolescent use of marijuana; results that parallel the continued decline in perceptions of harm related to marijuana use among all adolescent age groups.

Attentional Bias for Prescription Opioid Cues Among Opioid Dependent Chronic Pain Patients

Journal of Behavioral Medicine

Recurrent use of prescription opioid analgesics by chronic pain patients may result in opioid dependence, which involves implicit neurocognitive operations that organize and impel craving states and compulsive drug taking behavior.

Methadone and Levomethadone — Dosage and Side Effects

Psychiatrische Praxis

The aim of this survey was to assess the dosage and the frequency of side effects in patients with opioid dependency receiving opioid maintenance therapy.

Looking for more research on PEth?

We’ve got it. Click to view the annotated bibliography
**Study: Gabapentin May Be Used to Combat Alcoholism**

*JAMA Internal Medicine*

Gabapentin may substantially benefit people with long-term alcoholism who are trying to quit drinking. The data indicated that patients receiving the highest dose of gabapentin were found most likely to avoid heavy drinking, or to quit completely.

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**Early Intervention May Ward Off Need for Substance Abuse Treatment**

*Psychiatric News*

Reducing substance use among adolescents takes a multitude of strategies, from interventions in the first grade to treatment in jail. Nicholas Ialongo, Ph.D., a professor of mental health at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and director of the Center for the Prevention of Youth Violence, has been working on the prevention side.

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**Study: Drug Treatment Should Focus on Trauma Addicts Have Faced**

*STV*

A review of trauma services to ensure they are able to intervene as early as possible to help troubled people. High quality, effective psychological therapies should also be more widely and easily available.

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**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.
ONDCP Hosts 1st-Ever Drug Policy Reform Conference
The White House
On Monday, December 9, Director Kerlikowske and Deputy Director Botticelli kicked off an unprecedented discussion at the White House on the future of drug policy. Approximately 140 people attended to engage in a conversation on drug policy reform and hundreds more watched online. Limited video on demand is available here.

NASADAD Research Department Releases Brief Reviewing State Actions to Address Opioid Overdose
NASADAD
On December 4, the NASADAD Research and Program Applications Department released a brief titled "Overview of State Legislation to Increase Access to Treatment for Opioid Overdose."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jack Fishman Dies at 83; Saved Many from Overdose
The New York Times
Dr. Jack Fishman, who helped develop naloxone, a powerful medication that has saved countless people from fatal overdoses of heroin and other narcotics, died on Dec. 7 at his home in Remsenburg, N.Y. He was 83.

3 NIH Institutes Highlight Collaboration for Addiction Research
Collaborative Research on Addiction at NIH
The website for the Collaborative Research on Addiction at NIH initiative recently launched. Comprised of representatives from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the Tobacco Control Research Branch of the National Cancer Institute, this partnership will integrate resources and expertise to advance the science and treatment of substance abuse and addiction. The new site will allow interested researchers, clinicians, and the public to follow the collaboration's initiatives.

CHAPTER NEWS

A Pilot Study of Addiction Professionals’ Views of Certification
Addictive Disorders & Their Treatment
A survey was conducted on the perceived value of certification with 157 certified addiction professionals in the state of Pennsylvania.

Bipartisan Effort Takes on Opioid and Heroin Abuse
The Columbus Dispatch
A sweeping bipartisan package of drug legislation that would, among other things, infuse $180
A sweeping bipartisan package of drug legislation that would, among other things, infuse $180 million into "recovery housing" for people working to kick an addiction was recently unveiled by Ohio House lawmakers.

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**CLINICAL GUIDELINES**

**Lifespan Adopts New Guidelines for Emergency-Room Opioids**

The Providence Journal

Emergency departments unwittingly have helped fuel an epidemic of prescription drug abuse and overdose deaths. It's estimated that nationwide 45 percent of the narcotics diverted for illegal use originated with emergency-department prescriptions. Now, the Providence-based Lifespan hospital group in Rhode Island has developed and adopted a set of prescribing guidelines that aim to tackle the problem.

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**EDUCATION AND RESOURCES**

**Opioid REMS Update 2013**

PainEDU.org

FDA mandated as part of the REMS, all manufacturers of ER/LA opioid analgesics must provide: 1) education for prescribers of these medications; and 2) information that prescribers can use when counseling patients about the risks and benefits of ER/LA opioid analgesic use.

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**Addressing Viral Hepatitis in People with Substance Use Disorders**

SAMHSA

This manual equips clinicians with a quick reference guide to addressing viral hepatitis in those with substance use disorders. It covers patient screening and evaluation of hepatitis, treatment, managing adverse effects, and potential interactions between medications.

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**TRENDING ARTICLES**

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

- [Prescription Drug Abuse: A Policy Position Paper from the American College of Physicians](Annals of Internal Medicine)
- [White Paper on Drug Testing](ASAM)
- [COMT Inhibitors Increase Adherence to Opioid Maintenance Treatment](Medscape — free registration)
- [The Immune System's Role in Addiction](The Conversation via Medical Xpress)
- [Pharmacotherapeutics for Substance-Use Disorders: A Focus on Dopaminergic Medications](Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs)

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**ASAM EVENTS**

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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td>Northeast South Dakota AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Aberdeen, SD</td>
<td>ASAM</td>
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<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>ISAM - ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Winfield, IL</td>
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<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Foothills AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Gainesville, GA</td>
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<td>Feb. 7-8</td>
<td>NYSAM 10th Annual Statewide Conference</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Upstate AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Greenville, SC</td>
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<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>Lowcountry AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>North Charleston, NC</td>
<td>ASAM</td>
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<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Mid-Carolina AHEC — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Multiple locations: Columbia, Lancaster, Camden, and Newberry, SC</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>FSAM — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>ISAM — ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Peoria, IL</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td>AzSAM 2014 Spring Conference</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>AzSAM</td>
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<td>April 10-13</td>
<td>45th Annual Med-Sci Conference</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>April 10-13</td>
<td>Pain &amp; Addiction Course: Common Threads XV</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>April 10-13</td>
<td>The ASAM Fundamentals of Addiction Medicine: A Live Course</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>April 10-13</td>
<td>The New ASAM Criteria and ASAM Criteria Software — What's New and How to Use the Criteria</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>ASAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Pee-Dee AHEC - ER/LA Opioid REMS Course</td>
<td>Florence, SC</td>
<td>ASAM</td>
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