

Bi-Weekly eblast

VA Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Addiction Treatment
National Coordinating Center

A collection of addiction related news, links, and resources compiled by the
**VA Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Addiction Treatment Coordinating
Center**

November 12, 2020

Updates & Resources

Dr. Ellen Edens, co-director of the Addiction Treatment Fellowship's West Haven site, will be co-facilitating a workshop at the [American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium](#) titled "My Brain Seeking Reward: Neuroscience Applications in Clinical Practice" on December 11 at 2:15pm ET.

The VA Pain/Opioid Core is looking for investigators and stakeholders to **join the VA MOUD Workgroup** which will: 1) catalog VA research and operational initiatives to improve access and quality of care for MOUD; 2) identify gaps in the literature; 3) suggest a research and operational strategy for VA moving forward. To participate in this process please contact Dr. Adam Gordon at Adam.Gordon@va.gov by December 1, 2020.

VA Primary Care and Mental Health clinic providers are invited to attend the **VA Addiction Mini-Residency: Interprofessional Training to Help Your Patients Thrive**, a 2-day intensive, interactive and skill-based workshop designed for any VA employee or trainee interested in the foundations of SUD treatment on November 17-18, 2020, January 12-13, 2021, or June 8-9, 2021. VA Connecticut is seeking additional addiction specialists to become facilitators to support wider dissemination of these virtual trainings. For more information on attending or joining as a health profession educator, please contact Ellen.Edens@va.gov or Maria.GarciaVasallo@va.gov.

Addiction Treatment: Clinical Skills for Healthcare Providers is a publicly available [online course](#) developed to provide interprofessional training in evidence-based prevention and treatment of substance use disorders. Through a collaboration between American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP), Yale University and the American College of Academic Addiction Medicine (ACAAM), healthcare learning institutions can become a partner institution and expand the benefits of this course with tailoring,

private discussion forums, and interprofessional expert support. See [this link](#) for more information on becoming a collaborating organization.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) recently launched a [rural community toolbox](#), an online clearinghouse designed to connect rural leaders with funding, data and information to combat drug addiction in rural America.

From the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, VA Stories of Note: [Salt Lake VA Develops New Approach To Curb Opioid Use Among Veterans](#). “The opioid epidemic has taken a terrible toll on American military veterans, as many try to manage pain from battle wounds with the painkillers and get addicted. However, doctors with the Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Healthcare System have developed a different approach and are sharing it with others”.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s (AHRQ) evidence review **Prevention, Diagnosis, and Management of Opioids, Opioid Misuse, and Opioid Use Disorder in Older Adults** can be accessed [here](#). This technical brief lays out a conceptual framework for care of older adults who require or use opioids, outlining possible risk factors and potential points for interventions to improve outcomes, and maps available studies to different parts of the framework.

From The National Academies Press: **Caring for People with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in Primary Care Settings: Proceedings of a Workshop**. [Download a Free PDF](#).

The latest [PCSS Newsletter](#) was posted on November 9.

VA SUD COVID-19 Information Links

- VHA Office of Health Equity has [published new research](#) on Covid-19 by race/ethnicity and perceived racial bias among veterans in VA Mental Health.
- [COVID-19 Management of SUD](#), updated June 12, 2020
- [Guidance for VA Opioid Treatment Programs \(OTP\)](#), updated July 13, 2020
- [SUD Sharepoint COVID Folder](#) *Can only be accessed on a VA computer.*
- [VHA’s official COVID-19 site](#) includes all guidance (clinical, HR, public affairs, etc.) going to the field, links to relevant external sites, and other applicable resources. *Can only be accessed on a VA computer.*
- [COVID-19 Comprehensive Education and Resource Catalog](#), PDF catalog of all approved and available internal and external education and resources with links and other important information
- [COVID training](#): Training by topic area and role available outside VA firewall and does not require a PIV card to access
- [COVID-19 training for Mental Health](#)
 - [Managing Substance Use During the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

- [Smoking and the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) training site](#): comprehensive list of CDC training for health care professionals

Webinars

November 14, 8am ET	Half and Half MAT Waiver Training Includes 4-Hour Live, Interactive Webinar
November 18, 1pm ET	The Opioid Taper: The Clinical Case for Humility in Medical Decision-Making
November 18, 1pm ET	Gambling Among Veterans: Screening, Treatment, and its Association With Homelessness
November 19, 12pm ET	A Feasibility Study of Mindful Self-Compassion for Veterans with Moral Injury and Co-Occurring PTSD and Substance Use Disorders
November 19, 1pm ET	The Veterans Health Administration's Rapid Conversion to Virtual Mental Health Care During COVID-19
November 19, 2pm ET	Knowledge Nook: Clinical Key
November 24, 2pm ET	Minimal Services Methadone Maintenance Treatment
December 2, 1pm ET	Geriatric Scholars Toolkit Webinar Series – Assessing and Treating Pain in Older Adults
December 3, 1pm ET	PDSI: Phase 5: Stimulant Safety Initiative & SUD Transitions of Care – Medication Management
March – May, 2021	Leadership Webinar: Virtual Aspiring Supervisor Program (vASP)
On Demand	Leadership Webinar: Transition from Management to Leadership
On Demand	All PCSS webinars Recent webinars now available
Ongoing	Special COVID-19 Clinical Roundtables

Save the Date:

VISN1 VA Mental Health Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO)

- November 23 – Ketamine
- December 21 – Engaging Families & Support Systems in changing mental health outcomes
- January 25, 2021 – ADHD & Stimulants

Email [Heather Fries](#) for more information

[Practice-Based Implementation \(PBI\) Network](#) monthly CE Lecture Series on VA Mobile Mental Health is held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon ET. See the link for a complete list of future and past calls.

NED Talks are an extension of NOLA U educational opportunities to provide ongoing education that provides reinforcement of analytic, improvements and leadership skills on a variety of topics within the VHA. They are recurring on the 4th Thursday of each month (2-3pm ET). To sign to receive information about upcoming talks, email [Marie Pressley](#).

The monthly VHA STORM and OEND Calls have been combined into one monthly accredited call, VHA Opioid Safety and Risk Mitigation, held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3-4pm ET.

Registration for November and December Calls

- [Opioid Safety and Risk Mitigation Series](#) (November 18)
- [Opioid Safety and Risk Mitigation Series](#) (December 9)

Funding Opportunities

[Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Effects of smoking and vaping on the risk and outcome of COVID-19 infection](#); National Institute on Drug Abuse; January 4, 2021.

[Providing Research Education Experiences to Enhance Diversity in the Next Generation of Substance Use and Addiction Scientists \(R25 Clinical Trials Not Allowed\)](#); National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; March 15, 2021.

[Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Improving Health Disparities in Alcohol Health Services \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#); National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; March 15, 2021.

Job Opportunities

[Psychologist Program Manager \(Chief Domiciliary\)](#) – Lakewood, CO

[Social Worker Program Coordinator \(Domiciliary Chief\)](#) – Lakewood, CO

[Senior Social Worker – Addiction Treatment Center](#) – Seattle, WA

[Psychiatrist \(Substance Use Disorder Treatment\)](#) – New Orleans, LA

VA Interprofessional Advanced Fellowship in Addiction Treatment

This 2-year fellowship provides interdisciplinary research, clinical, and educational training to prepare physician, post-doctoral, and post-masters level fellows as leaders in the field of addiction treatment. Mentors of national stature provide guidance to fellows in rich learning environments at one of seven VA sites (Boston, MA; Madison, WI; Dallas, TX; Pittsburgh, PA; San Antonio, TX; San Diego, CA; West Haven, CT). Visit our websites to learn more.

<https://medicine.utah.edu/internalmedicine/epidemiology/parcka/education-training/iafat.php>

https://www.va.gov/oa/specialfellows/programs/sf_advaddictiontreatment.asp?p=17

[SUD Sharepoint Site](#)