



VIP PRESENTATION

X-waiver Advocacy Summary – For and Against

On March 24, 2021, Dr. Adam Gordon, MD MPH and Spencer Calder, MPH gave a presentation explaining what the “X-waiver” is and provided a summary of the advocacy to either keep or remove this waiver process. Because physicians and advanced practice providers must complete trainings before prescribing buprenorphine for opioid use disorder (OUD), there have been many calls to eliminate this process and allow providers to immediately prescribe buprenorphine. However, supporters feel that the X-waiver helps build a workforce that can adequately address OUD and fills in gaps in medical training. This presentation summarized arguments given in the literature to provide clarity and insight on this topic.” The recording of this presentation is available at our VIP SharePoint at <https://tinyurl.com/VIP-VISN19>

VISN 19 BUPRENORPHINE BOOTCAMP

The Rocky Mountain Network (VOSN19) is excited to offer high-impact learning on Buprenorphine. Expert recommendations. Veterans’ perspectives. Every First Monday of the Month:

- May 3rd @ 12pm MT - Diagnosing OUD
  - June 7th @ 12pm MT - Initiating Buprenorphine
  - July 12th @ 12pm MT - Buprenorphine for Chronic Pain
  - 12-12:30pm MT - Interactive buprenorphine training
  - 12:30-1pm MT - Case-based mentoring & discussion
- Questions? Email [Mary.Nunnery@va.gov](mailto:Mary.Nunnery@va.gov)

A collaboration on the VA Salt Lake City Vulnerable Veteran Innovative Pact, VA Easter Colorado Chronic Pain and Wellness Center, & The Consortium to Disseminate & Understand Implementation of Opioid Use Disorder Treatment (CONDUIT).

PUBLICATION

Saloner B, Andraka Christou B, Gordon AJ, Stein BD. It will end in tiers: A strategy to include "dabblers" in the buprenorphine workforce after the X-waiver. Subst Abus. 2021 Apr 2:1-5. doi: 10.1080/08897077.2021.1903659. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33798034.

SCOUTT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

We are pleased to announce that registration is open for the upcoming virtual SCOUTT Regional Conferences. For the VISN 19 the conferences is scheduled for the dates: **Stepped Care for Opioid Use Disorder (SCOUTT) Phase II Conference – Session 3 (VISNs 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22)- All Times MST.**

**VA TMS 4406  
April 28, 2021-April 29, 2021**

This application-based virtual conference will use a train-the-trainer model to develop interdisciplinary teams of VHA clinicians who will implement a stepped care model for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) at their site following the conference. We will provide demonstrations of coached performance to disseminate key concepts and share best practices from current SCOUTT pilot sites. Breakout sessions will be hosted with guided discussion to facilitate development of procedures to support a continuum of OUD care at each VA facility and throughout each VISN. Interdisciplinary teams will serve as champions within their VISNs to implement this model at their site and to disseminate this model within their VISN. This program aligns to Dr. Stone’s priority for VHA to “Create a Learning Organization.” In addition, this program will support the VHA modernization efforts outlined through 10 Lanes of Effort. In particular, this program will address the following specific Lanes of Effort: Develop Clinical Shared Services; Reduce Unwarranted Variation Across Integrated Clinical and Operational Service Lines; and, Engaging Veterans in Lifelong Health, Well-Being, and Resilience. In addition, this program also is expected to directly align with suicide prevention efforts and specifically to address the high risk for adverse outcomes including suicide and overdose that is present for those Veterans diagnosed with an opioid use disorder.

WE ARE HIRING!!

The Division of Epidemiology at the University of Utah is seeking a faculty member to carry out addiction related research and to promote and facilitate collaborative studies in epidemiology, pharmacoepidemiology, and/or addiction health services research. Candidates with experience in large scale, health system focused, prospective research studies are also encouraged to apply. This position will specifically work to continue to build the behavioral health and addiction sciences research portfolio and acumen of the University of Utah School of Medicine. To be considered applicants must possess an MD or PhD or PharmD in related discipline, currently have secured independent funding, demonstrate authorship, have 3 years of experience or training in a related discipline and possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

Apply online at <http://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/112537>

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