



ASAM American Society of
Addiction Medicine

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ASAM Statement on the Great American Recovery Initiative

Rockville, MD – In response to the Executive Order titled “[Addressing Addiction through the Great American Recovery Initiative](#),” which establishes a task force to address addiction in America using a chronic disease lens, Stephen M. Taylor, MD, MPH, DFAPA, DFASAM, president of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), issued the following statement:

“ASAM has long [defined addiction](#) as a treatable, chronic medical disease. We are pleased to see this definition embraced at the federal level, accompanied by a commitment to advance prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives for American communities impacted by this deadly disease.

To truly treat addiction as a chronic disease, patients and clinicians need reliable and sustainable funding solutions. Expanding Medicare and Medicaid coverage to encompass the [full continuum of addiction care](#) would significantly strengthen America’s treatment infrastructure and reduce financial barriers to evidence-based care.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services must also ensure that impending Medicaid Expansion work reporting requirements are implemented in a way that protects individuals with substance use disorders and does not interfere with their coverage for lifesaving treatment and recovery services.

As a national medical society representing frontline physicians and other clinicians specializing in addiction prevention and treatment, ASAM looks forward to working with the administration to promote individualized, compassionate, and comprehensive care, with no wrong door to recovery.”

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About the American Society of Addiction Medicine

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), founded in 1954, is a professional medical society representing over 8,000 physicians, clinicians, and associated professionals in the field of addiction medicine. ASAM is dedicated to increasing access and improving the quality of addiction treatment, educating physicians and the public, supporting research and prevention, and promoting the appropriate role of physicians in the care of patients with addiction. For more information, visit www.ASAM.org.