



# NEWSLETTER

Volume II, No. 2

January 1987

Published Bi-Monthly

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President's Message

Are you one of the many physicians who are "tired of hearing about AIDS?" Newspapers and medical journals are AIDS-ful.

Chemical dependency and AIDS have a lot in common. Most folks don't want to talk about 'em. Denial crops up with both. And, of course, both are "behavioral problems."

CD and AIDS are intimately related. Treatment centers and addictionologists must scientifically, humanely, and adroitly integrate care for HIV seropositive patients, and must appropriately educate all CD patients regarding AIDS.

If there is any physician who must be knowledgeable--yes, even expert in AIDS--it is the doc taking care of chemically dependent patients. Appropriate care for AIDS patients has become a major responsibility of the addictionologist. We must become astute and expert in meeting the needs of HIV patients.

We must lead the way in accepting and helping these patients. We must become skillful in dealing with the attitudes of treatment teams.

This obligation of ours prompts me to urge you to attend the AMSAODD Forum on AIDS & Chemical Dependency, Feb. 20-21, at the brand-new, delightful Royce Resort at Rolling Hills, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. A continuing medical education offering, this conference meets the criteria for 13 credit hours in category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the AMA; 13 Prescribed Hours by the AAFP; 13 hours in category 2-D of the AOA. Certificates of attendance will also be issued to non-physicians.

Why not stay on for the AMSAODD Board meeting on Sunday, Feb. 22? All AMSAODD members are welcome to attend.

Conference registration, hotel and airline reservations--all can be conveniently handled by: ARDEL TRAVEL, 1250 Broadway, New York, NY 10001. Phone: (800)822-6543 or (212)563-1001. Cut-off date for AMSAODD MEMBERS is Jan. 31.

Happy New Year,

Max A. Schneider, MD, President  
2110 East First St, Ste 118, Santa Ana, CA 92705-4097  
Phone: (714)835-7665

Executive Director Opens Chicago Office

On January 2, Emanuel M. Steindler, first executive director of AMSAODD, opened a Chicago-area AMSAODD office at 6525 W. North Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302.

Phone: (312) 848-6050.

A computer will link Chicago to the New York office, where administrative director Claire Osman will continue to conduct AMSAODD's day-to-day operations.

In a recent interview with AMSAODD Newsletter, Manny Steindler discussed his new position. "I want to work very closely with the board and its committees to help implement AMSAODD policy," he said. "An ongoing executive director can translate policy into practical applications." Examples are AMSAODD positions on third party payments, its relationships with government agencies, and liaison with other organizations in the fields of alcoholism and of other drugs.

Steindler hopes that his contacts from 24 years at the American Medical Association "will help to bring AMSAODD closer to organized medicine and keep it there." He believes that the AMA and AMSAODD could cooperate on various projects, such as impaired physicians programs, and "therapeutic approaches to drinking drivers." He said that the two organizations might cooperate on "joint publication of material for physicians on diagnosis and treatment; and on research projects, such as homeless populations, fetal alcohol syndrome, etc. If AMSAODD supplied the clinical expertise, and the AMA the technical expertise to develop scientific protocols, perhaps a partnership could be worked out."

He is enthusiastic about AMSAODD certification. "It's important for people who are skilled and experienced in substance abuse treatment to be credentialled as having requisite knowledge and ability. This has been going on for years with alcoholism counselors, and it is certainly as important for physicians, considering their major role in treatment and recovery."

However, Steindler believes that "we should not see certification as the be-all and end-all of AMSAODD. We should not overlook AMSAODD's other major commitments, especially in public affairs, and in educating physicians who are not specialists in alcoholism and addictions. In certifying the knowledge of doctors who are expert in chemical dependency, we don't want to preclude or exclude other doctors from the field. All primary care physicians should realize that their patients may have alcoholism and other drug problems, and should be knowledgeable about diagnosis, emergency care, treatment, and referral of patients to doctors who are skilled in longer-term care and treatment."

Manny Steindler says that he definitely wants to hear from AMSAODD members. "What do physicians hope to gain from joining AMSAODD? How do current members expect to benefit from the society? How do they see AMSAODD's role in representing them in public affairs, in medical education, in medical care? Due to certification, there are a large number of new members; we want to know if AMSAODD is serving their needs."

"I'll welcome letters or phone calls," Steindler added emphatically. "It's important for me and for the board to know about members' concerns and questions, and to get their suggestions on how AMSAODD can be more effective for them. I really want to be in touch, for I believe that I can be a conduit to the board and to its various committees."

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New AMSAODD State Chairs

Colorado: Dan Obrecht, MD; Iowa: Stanley Haughland, MD; Kansas: David L. Trudeau, MD; Louisiana: Tamer Acikalin, MD; Montana: Richard Irons, MD; North Dakota: Keith G. Foster, MD; Ohio: Allen L. Straus, MD; Puerto Rico: Rosa Barbosa, MD.

AMSAODD Certification Update

Eighty-five percent of the physicians who took the 1986 AMSAODD certification exam passed. Actual count: 562 out of 662.

"Congratulations are in order for those who passed," declared Margaret Bean-Bayog, MD, president-elect of AMSAODD and chair of the certification committee, to AMSAODD Newsletter. "AMSAODD should feel proud that we have developed standards for the field, and have offered an examination which tests a body of knowledge. I'm delighted that so many physicians demonstrated their mastery of this knowledge by passing the exam."

All examinees will be notified by mail in January as to whether or not they passed. Those who passed will be awarded certificates on April 25 in a ceremony at the AMSAODD annual meeting in Cleveland. The 1987 directory of AMSAODD members (currently nearly 2400) will identify physicians who have been certified by the society.

Dr. Bean-Bayog wants to encourage those who did not pass to "study hard and try again this year." The 1987 exam will be Saturday, Dec. 5.

The deadline for receipt of 1987 exam applications is March 15, 1987.  
Applications will be mailed to all AMSAODD members in late January.

Physicians must meet the following criteria in order to sit for the 1987 exam:

- AMSAODD membership.
- The equivalent of one year fulltime involvement in the field of chemical dependency.
- The equivalent of five years fulltime clinical practice in any specialty, or board certification by a board recognized by ABMS, or completion of an approved residency training program in any specialty.
- Letters demonstrating good standing in the local professional community.
- Current MD or DO license, in good standing.

Requirements for the 1988 exam will be somewhat more stringent, according to AMSAODD president Max Schneider, MD. In particular, 1987 is the final year that physicians can qualify to take the exam with five years of clinical medical practice in lieu of completion of an approved residency training program or board certification. According to Dr. Schneider, that allowance enables physicians who have worked in the field for many years to take the 1987 exam.

The five-hour exam covers alcohol and all other drugs of abuse. Questions are equally divided between clinical issues and basic science.

Recertification will be required after seven years.

Information about the certification program can be obtained by writing AMSAODD, 12 West 21st Street, New York, NY 10010.

For AAFP Members

To verify eligibility for AAFP CME credit for taking the AMSAODD 1986 certification exam on October 18th, please contact the Secretary to the Commission on CME at the AAFP Headquarters, phone (800) 821-2512.....

PSYCHIATRIST

St. Luke Institute, a Washington, D.C. inpatient Psychiatric/Chemical Dependency Treatment Facility for clergy, seeks a fulltime Board Certified or eligible psychiatrist. Duties include clinical consultation, supervision, and some direct therapy services. Send C.V. or call: Mr. Christopher Bowlan, St. Luke Institute, 2420 Brooks Dr., Suitland, MD 10746. Phone: (301)967-3700

Dear Editor:

I did not sign up to take the AMSAODD Certification Exam in 1986 because of anxiety that I would fail, and the \$425 application fee, which I did not want to spend foolishly. I did attend the review course in New York Sept. 18-20, in order to become familiar with the type of information that would be on the exam. Dr. Geller et al should be complimented on presenting the most comprehensive and informative overview for physicians that I have ever experienced. I did extremely well on the pre-test and post-test there, and now sincerely regret that I did not apply to take the 1986 exam.

I will be one of the first with a completed application for the 1987 exam.

Melody A. Stancil, MD; LaGrange, GA

Dear Editor:

The announcement of the first AMSAODD Certification Examination came just after I had entered the full time practice of addictionology. I felt this was a tremendous opportunity. I felt tremendous fear and pressure. Here was a shot at getting this important credential, but only one-shot in 1986, since I had not done a residency. (That requirement has since been amended, but boy, I had that old feeling; "jackpotting" again.)

The Atlanta review course in September reinforced by well targeted readings thoroughly relieved my anxiety. (The Third Step also helped.) When I sat for the exam in New York, I had a tremendous sense of affirmation; that I am a professional in this field - that I am an addictionologist. Thank you, AMSAODD.

Richard Tyson, MD; Miami, FL

Dear Editor:

I think everybody should take the certification exam. Physicians in the chemical dependency field need a common certification or credential, otherwise they tend to feel that just because they

are physicians, they are experts in alcoholism and drug abuse. I plan to take the 1987 exam.

Merritt R. Hait, MD; New York

Dear Editor:

The content of the examination in 1986 was generally good, except for the case management problems: a substantial portion concerned methadone maintenance. Since this particular technique of management is, to say the least, controversial, and is illegal in some states, I do not think it appropriate to give it this degree of emphasis. Perhaps this could be debated in the AMSAODD Newsletter?....

I am concerned about the issue raised by Sandra Jo Counts in the November issue of the Newsletter [Vol. 2, #1, p. 7], regarding the duty of the physician to report drug or alcohol abuse cases where the public safety is at stake. I am currently debating this with our State Board of Medical Practice, which holds that the interveners for the State Medical Society Program on Impaired Physicians must report any case of impairment to the Board. Conversely, I have been consulted on a case where a man is being treated for alcoholism and was discovered to have been sexually assaulting his daughter. The attorney for the program where he was treated held that the Federal confidentiality statutes for alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs over-rode the State law mandating reporting of sexual abuse of children. I have further been advised that these Federal statutes would cover all physicians and programs treating alcohol and drug abuse, not simply those programs receiving Federal funds.

I think that it would be very useful for AMSAODD to seek further legal opinions on this problem and then, after full debate, to issue a position paper on the subject.

James M. Todd, PhD, CAC, MD  
Brattleboro, VT

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AMSAODD Members: As the size of your medical society and its involvement in various issues expands, we want to hear from you. This 'Letters to Editor' column is your forum for AMSAODD-related matters: issues, policies, controversies.

Send your letter to: Letters to Editor, AMSAODD Newsletter, 15 Ridge Rd, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724. Please keep it short (under 100 words); we may have to abbreviate it further. Unsigned letters cannot be considered for publication.

Dear Editor:

I am constantly amazed about the conflict over the journal ALCOHOLISM: Clinical and Experimental Research. I feel that AMSAODD should discontinue our participation in the journal, which has long been a research organ--certainly not our major thrust of purpose. Instead, our energies and funds should be directed more toward our purposes, which are clinically directed.

Elizabeth H. Gordon, MD  
Pittsburgh, PA

Dear Editor:

The tribulations over the recent change in our relationship with ALCOHOLISM: Clinical and Experimental Research have not been in vain. From now on, AMSAODD members can personally select the scientific journals to which we subscribe--conveniently, and at substantive savings in subscriptions.

Your publications committee achieved these subscription price reductions solely as a result of the potential attractiveness of the AMSAODD membership (over 2,000 physicians closely involved with the chemical dependency field) to participating publishers. Some subscription rates are "at cost" or less. It is clear, however, that participating publishers will sustain their offers only if we have a major response from our membership. [See list p. 6]

AMSAODD is now involved with the medical education of its membership, and with the certification of that expertness. The proffered journals offer a mechanism to accomplish both aims, and will also broaden the scientific acumen of those of us who have heretofore been interested only in limited areas of the chemical dependency field.

Very few journals failed to participate in this effort. Our vigorous response to the journals that joined us should convince the few remaining to do so in 1988.

Stanley E. Gitlow, MD,  
Chairman, Publications Committee

# Newport in May

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Details about the following fellowships in chemical dependency are available from the New York AMSAODD office. Please let us know about other CD fellowships.

California: San Francisco VA Medical Center

Florida: Fair Oaks at Boca/Delray (2)

Georgia: Ridgeview Institute, Smyrna (3)

Willingway Hospital, Statesboro (3)

Massachusetts: Brockton VA Hospital

Minnesota: University of Minn, psychiatry residency credit avail. (3)

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Mississippi: Pine Grove Recovery Center, Hattiesburg

New Jersey: Fair Oaks Hospital, Summit (2)

New York: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx

Ohio: Central Psychiatric, Cincinnati

Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland

Shepherd Hill Hospital, Newark (2)

Pennsylvania: Coatesville VA Hospital

Rhode Island: Brown University

South Carolina: Medical University, Charleston

Wisconsin: DePaul Rehabilitation Hospital w. Medical College of WI, Glendale

Medical College of WI/Milwaukee Psychiatric Hospital, Wauwatosa....

Journal subscriptions available to AMSAODD members at 25%-50% discount, if ordered when paying 1987 dues and before Feb. 28, 1987:

<u>Addiction Letter, The</u> (monthly).....	\$52.00
<u>Advances in Alcohol &amp; Substance Abuse</u> (quarterly).....	33.75
<u>Alcohol and Alcoholism</u> (quarterly).....	35.00
<u>Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research</u> (bi-monthly)(blue journal)...	50.00
<u>Alcoholism Report, The</u> (semi-monthly).....	67.00
<u>American Journal of Drug &amp; Alcohol Abuse</u> (quarterly).....	25.00
<u>Digest of Addiction Theory &amp; Application (DATA)</u> (quarterly).....	27.75
<u>Drug Abuse Report, The</u> (monthly).....	54.00
<u>Drug and Alcohol Dependence</u> (2 volumes/8 issues).....	55.00
<u>Journal of Psychoactive Drugs</u> (quarterly).....	35.00
<u>Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment</u> (quarterly).....	25.00

Books available to AMSAODD members at discount from Plenum Publishing:

"Recent Developments in Alcoholism" (AMSAODD/RSA, edited by Marc Galanter, MD)

Vol.5: \$48.75; Vol.4: \$44.65; Vol.3: \$33.75; Vol.2: \$48.75, Vol.1: \$52.10. ....

#### AMSAODD Clean Air Policy:

The AMSAODD board voted to prohibit smoking during all scientific sessions and business meetings. This internal policy stemmed from AMSAODD's recognition that:

- chronic tobacco use is a form of drug dependence
- tobacco frequently causes serious morbidity and mortality among those who use the substance
- many people experience tissue irritation or are otherwise made ill by tobacco smoke
- there may be serious, long-term health consequences from exposure to ambient tobacco smoke
- many people find tobacco smoke unpleasant
- most people who use tobacco would like to quit but feel they cannot
- smoke-free environments may provide people who would like to quit an opportunity to practice not smoking.....

For the first time this year, the J. M. Foundation will offer scholarships for summer schools of alcohol studies to interns, residents and house officers, as well as to medical students. Two hundred "J.M. Scholars in Alcohol and Other Drug Dependencies" will receive tuition, room, board and transportation, to various one- to three-week summer schools all over the U.S.

Contact: J. M. Foundation, 60 East 42 St, Ste 1651, New York, NY 10165. Phone: (212)687-7735 .....

AMSAODD's Annual Medical-Scientific Conference in Cleveland Apr. 23-26 will include sessions on: Federal perspectives, with the Directors of NIAAA and NIDA; urine testing; adolescent CD; moderate drinking; tobacco dependence; relapse; needs of women in co-ed treatment; neuroscience for the clinician; internal medicine--alcohol and the G.I.tract; dual-disordered patients; the impaired nurse.

The concurrent NCA Forum's theme will be "Alcohol and Sports." .....

The California Medical Association recently endorsed AMSAODD's "Position on the Treatment of Patients with Alcoholism or Other Drug Dependencies Who Have or Are at Risk for Aids."

FREEDOM '87

The Geisinger National Conference on Addiction

Conway Hunter, Jr., MD, Chmn.  
Geraldine O. Delaney, Co-Chmn.

Oct. 28 - Nov. 1, 1987

The Adams Mark Hotel

Philadelphia

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Call for additional info:  
1(800)451-4442 - nat'l  
1(800)622-8926 - Penn.

CME Category I credits applied for

## Second Western Conference on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies

April 1-4, 1987

ROBSON SQUARE MEDIA CENTRE

800 Robson Street, Vancouver, British Columbia

### SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Spirituality and the 12 Steps of AA as applied to the treatment of addictive diseases.</li> <li>2. AIDS: Its relationship to alcoholism and other drug dependencies</li> <li>3. Myths and misconceptions about AA</li> <li>4. Understanding adult children of alcoholics -- an overview</li> <li>5. Cocaine: the thin white line between use and addiction</li> <li>6. Review and update of brain biochemistry and physiology as applied to alcoholism (2 sessions)</li> <li>7. Lapses and relapses and how to deal with them</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Ethics in counseling</li> <li>9. Guidelines for intervention</li> </ol> |
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### WORKSHOPS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "The Basics and Techniques of Psychotherapy in the Treatment of Patients with Alcoholism and Chemical Dependencies."</li> <li>2. "Practical Aspects of Defining and Treating Co-Dependent Family Members."</li> <li>3. "Overview-What Everyone in the Chemical Dependency Field Needs to Know About AIDS."</li> <li>4. "Office Management of the Patient with Alcoholism."</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. "Practical Approach to Treatment of Cocaine and other CNS Stimulants." (Bring your case problems)</li> <li>6. "Special Treatment Issues related to Women with Alcoholism and other Drug Dependencies."</li> <li>7. "Practical Hands On Intervention Techniques."</li> <li>8. "Techniques of Treatment for Patients with Alcoholism and/or Polydrug Dependencies: Hands On, How To Do It."</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

### FACULTY

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Registration fee \$250.00; workshops \$25.00. Payable in Canadian funds.

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For information, contact:  
Elmer H. Ratzlaff, M.D.  
3075 Point Grey Road  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Canada, V6K1A7  
(604) 734-5333

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sponsored or Co-Sponsored  
by AMSAODD

Identifying and Treating  
Marijuana-Related Problems:  
Miami, Feb. 7. Council on  
Marijuana and Health.

Mary Lynn Matchre, 1002 S  
Street NW, Ste 640,  
Washington, DC, 20009.  
Phone: (804)924-0105.

8th Annual Training  
Institute on Addictions:  
Clearwater Beach, FL, Feb.  
6-10.

Adult Children of  
Dysfunctional Families,  
Santa Fe, NM, Mar. 5-7.

Institute for Integral  
Development, PO Box 2172,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901.  
Phone: (303)634-7943.

National Forum on AIDS and  
Chemical Dependency: Ft.  
Lauderdale, FL, Feb. 20-21.

AMSAODD Board Meeting: Ft.  
Lauderdale, Feb. 22.  
AMSAODD, 12 West 21 St, New  
York, NY 10010.  
Phone: (212)206-6770.

Western Conference on  
Addiction, Salt Lake City,  
Apr. 1-3.

Cocaine Workshop: Apr. 4.  
Charter Medical Corp.,

11050 Crabapple Rd, Ste  
D-120, Roswell, GA 30075.  
Phone: (800)845-1567

WESCAD 2: Western  
Conference on Alcoholism &  
Drug Dependence, Vancouver,  
BC Apr. 1-4.

Elmer H. Ratzlaff, MD,  
3075 Point Gray Rd,  
Vancouver, BC, V6K 1A7  
Phone: (604)734-5333

2nd Annual Southeast  
Conference on Addictions:  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL,  
Apr. 9-12.

JFK Ctr for Recovery and  
US Journal, 1721 Blount Rd,  
Pompano Beach, FL 33069  
Phone: (800)851-9100

AMSAODD Medical Scientific  
Conference: Cleveland, April  
23-26.

AMSAODD Board Meeting:  
Apr. 22.

Ruth Fox Course for  
Physicians: April 23.

AMSAODD Luncheon: April  
25. (Awarding of  
certificates for those who  
passed the Certification  
Exam.)

Registration forms to  
AMSAODD members late Jan.  
Conf. Coordinator,  
AMSAODD, 12 West 21st St,  
New York, NY 10010.

Conf. Manager phone:  
(203)227-7084.

Soviet Union Tour: May  
6-22. Drs. Max Weisman and  
Anne Geller. Clinical,  
research, cultural.

Myra Abrams, Agency  
International, 22 Lenox  
Pointe, Atlanta GA 30324.  
Phone: (800)445-0616.

NEW BOOKS

Marc Galanter, MD,  
editor; AMSAODD/RSA: "Recent  
Developments in Alcoholism,  
Volume 5"; (Plenum  
Publishing) (List price  
\$65.00, AMSAODD members  
\$48.75)

Timmen L. Cermak, MD,  
"Diagnosing and Treating  
Co-Dependence"; (Johnson  
Institute)

BOOK BY NON-MEMBER

Penny B. Page--"Alcohol  
Use and Alcoholism: A Guide  
to the Literature" (Garland  
Publishing, New York)

Over 400 annotations of  
books, government documents,  
pamphlets and leaflets which  
are hard to locate through  
traditional indexes or  
on-line sources. Page is  
librarian at Rutgers Center  
of Alcohol Studies.



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