Online Newsletter of The American Society of Addiction Medicine

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News from ASAM

ASAM Names New Executive Vice President



ASAM's Board of Directors announced June 4th that it has selected Penny S. Mills, a seasoned executive with extensive association management experience, to succeed Eileen McGrath, J.D., who is retiring as the Society's EVP. Ms. Mills will assume her new duties July 1st. In making the announcement, ASAM President and Board Chair Louis E. Baxter, M.D., FASAM, said

"Ms. Mills has an impressive track record across many areas of health care leadership that are relevant to the work of ASAM. We are fortunate to have her come on board at this time of great promise and challenge in addiction medicine." Ms. Mills has served in leadership positions with a range of health care organizations, including the American

College of Cardiology, where she was a member of the executive team for 13 years. She joins ASAM from

Avalere Health, a leading advisory firm focusing on the intersection of health policy and business strategy, where she served as Vice President since 2007. In that role, Ms. Mills had the opportunity to work with 10 professional societies.

"I am thrilled and honored to join ASAM at this exciting juncture in its history and growth," Ms. Mills said. "This is an exciting time to be in addiction medicine, and I look forward to working with the Board of Directors to provide leadership in the field."

Other News

2010 National Drug Control Strategy Released



In his Administration's inaugural National Drug Control Strategy, released May 11th, President Barack Obama laid out a series of five-year goals for reducing alcohol and drug use and their public health consequences, such as: Reduce the rate of youth drug use by 15 percent;

- Reduce the rate of drug use among young adults by 10 percent;
- Reduce the number of chronic drug users by 15 percent;
- Reduce the incidence of drug-induced deaths by 15 percent; and Reduce the prevalence of drugged driving by 10 percent.
- The priorities conform closely to those outlined by ONDCP Deputy Director A. Thomas McLellan, Ph.D., when he addressed ASAM's

Course on the State of the Art in Addiction Medicine in October 2009. The Strategy also identifies three issues on which the Administration will focus in the coming year: (1) prescription drug abuse, (2)

drugged driving, and (3) preventing drug use. Other elements include an initiative to make recovery accessible through expansion of community-based addiction treatment programs and an emphasis on developing new medications and evidence-based treatments. For a detailed analysis of the 2010 Drug Control Strategy, see the Summer issue of ASAM News. To read a copy of the Strategy document and an interview with National Drug Policy Director Gil Kerlilowski, go to www.WhiteHouseDrugPolicy.gov. An update on implementation of health care reform will appear in the Summer issue of **ASAM News**.

SAMHSA Releases Advice on Applying Confidentiality Regs to Health Information Exchange

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology have released a set of Frequently Asked Questions related to applying Federal confidentiality regulations to electronic health records (EHRs) health information exchanges (HIEs).

As noted in the June 16th release, the confidentiality regulations (42 CFR Part 2) govern use and disclosure of patient records maintained at Federally funded addiction treatment programs. The FAQs provide guidance on the application of 42 CFR Part 2 to EHRs and describe strategies for including addiction treatment records in health information exchanges in ways that are consistent with the Federal confidentiality statute. A meeting is being planned for August 4th from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to allow providers an opportunity to comment on the utility

of the FAQs. For more information on the FAQs and SAMHSA's activities related to privacy and electronic health records, go to www. samhsa.gov/HealthPrivacy/

New Rules Take Effect for Tobacco Industry

A year after Congress gave the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate tobacco products, new rules to implement that authority took effect June 22nd.

Most of the rules are aimed at keeping tobacco products out of the hands of young people. For example, it's now against the law anywhere in the United States to sell cigarettes to anyone under age 18. They also address industry practices that inordinately appeal to young people, as by banning sales of packs of fewer than 20 cigarettes (to keep the costs out

of reach to minors) and prohibiting giveaways of products such as tee shirts of hats with purchases of tobacco products. In addition, the rules ban use of terms such as "light," "ultra-lights," "mild," "smooth" and "low-tar" in describing cigarettes. Danny McGoldrick, vice president for research at the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, told the Associated Press that the FDA already

is exercising one of its most important new powers by requiring tobacco companies to turn over research and documents about products and marketing. See the Summer issue of **ASAM News** for complete details.

President Obama Warns Health Insurers About Rate Increases

At a June 22nd White House meeting, President Obama cautioned health insurers not to increase premium rates before the new health reform law takes effect. The New York Times reported that White House advisors are concerned that health insurers will blame the new law for increases in premiums that are intended to maximize profits rather than to cover claim costs.

Although the States retain the power to regulate rates, the Feds soon will have the ability to shine a "bright spotlight" on insurance costs, according to HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, explaining that the health reform legislation requires insurers to spend as much as 85 percent of premiums collected on medical costs (In the 1970s and 1980s, most Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plans were required to spend 90% of premiums on benefit payments -- Editor). "Our message to them is to work with this law, not against it; don't try and take advantage of it or we will work with state authorities

and gather the authority we have to stop rate gouging," David Axelrod, a senior advisor to President Obama, told the Times in June

New In the Literature

Activation of mGluR7s inhibits cocaine-induced reinstatement of drug-seeking behavior by a nucleus accumbens glutamate-mGluR2/3 mechanism in rats. Li X, Li J, Gardner EL, Xi ZX. J Neurochem. 2010 Jun 8. (PMID: 20534005) Assessment of the effectiveness of sustained release Bupropion and intensive physician advice in smoking cessation. Singh P,

Kumar R. Lung India. 2010 Jan;27(1):11-8.PMID: 20539765 (PubMed — in process) Free PMC Article Computer-delivered interventions for alcohol and tobacco use: A meta-analysis. Rooke S, Thorsteinsson E, Karpin A, Copeland J,

Allsop D. Addiction. 2010 May 28. [Epub ahead of print] (PMID: 20528806) Does low urine creatinine level indicate the presence of urine alcohol in methadone maintenance treatment patients? Varenbut M,

Plater-Zyberk C, Worster A, Daiter J. Am J Drug Alcohol Abuse. 2010 Jun 10. [Epub ahead of print] (PMID: 20536285) Methadone, buprenorphine, and street drug interactions with antiretroviral medications. Gruber VA, McCance-Katz EF. Curr HIV/AIDS Rep. 2010 Jun 8. [Epub ahead of print] (PMID: 20532839)

Opioid detoxification: From controlled clinical trial to clinical practice. Dijkstra BA, De Jong CA, Wensing M, Krabbe PF, van der Staak CP. Am J Addict. 2010 May;19(3):283-90. (PMID: 20525037) Prescription opioid use among patients seeking treatment for opioid dependence. Canfield MC, Keller CE, Frydrych LM, Ashrafioun L,

Purdy CH, Blondell RD. J Addict Med. 2010 Jun 1;4(2):108-113. (PMID: 20543897) Survey of eating disorder symptoms among women in treatment for substance abuse. Cohen LR, Greenfield SF, Gordon S, Killeen T, Jiang H, Zhang Y, Hien D. Am J Addict. 2010 May;19(3):245-51. (PMID: 2052503)

Becker WC, Alford DP, Kapoor A, Williams AR, Turner BJ. Ann Intern Med. 2010 Jun 1;152(11):712-20. Review. (PMID: 20513829) New Resources

Systematic review: Treatment agreements and urine drug testing to reduce opioid misuse in patients with chronic pain. Starrels JL,

NIAAA Online Newsletter: Spectrum

Volume 2, Issue 2 (June 2010) features articles on combining medications for depressive alcoholics, at-risk drinking in older adults,

the relationship between increased alcohol intake and reduced diet quality, adolescents' unmet treatment needs, and the relationship between light-to-moderate drinking and enhanced cardiac health. **NIDA Report: Tobacco Addiction**

Tobacco use kills approximately 440,000 Americans each year, with one in every five U.S. deaths a result of smoking. This 2009

report reviews the neurobiology of tobacco addiction and describes evidence-based approaches to its treatment, including a review of current pharmacologic therapies.

SAMHSA Report: Addiction Treatment Data SAMHSA's 2010 report, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) 1998-2008: National Admissions to Substance Abuse Treatment Services, provides national data on the demographic and substance abuse characteristics of persons admitted to addiction treatment in 2008,

as well as trend data for 1998-2008. Substances that accounted for the greatest portion of the 1.9 million TEDS admissions in 2008

NIDA Releases RFA DA-11-001 (R01): Seek, Test, Treat, and Retain — Addressing HIV Among Vulnerable Populations

Funding News

This announcement solicits R01 applications for both domestic and international studies that test the "seek, test, treat, and retain" paradigm, which predicts that expanding HIV testing and reducing viral load among HIV+ individuals through HAART therapy can

be effective in reducing HIV transmission at a population level. In particular, the announcement focuses on research into expanding HAART therapy coverage to reduce HIV transmission among high-risk, vulnerable populations. Due dates: Letter of intent, October 15, 2010; Proposal submission: November 15, 2010.

were alcohol (41%), opiates (20%), marijuana (17%), cocaine (11%) and methamphetamine (6%).

SAMHSA Awards PCSS-B Grant to American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced June 7th that it has awarded a grant to manage the Physician Clinical Support System for Buprenorphine (PCSS-B) to the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry. The grant is projected to provide up to \$1.5 million in over three years. The PCSS-B provides support and mentoring to physicians who use FDA-

approved products containing buprenorphine to treat patients for addiction to heroin or prescription opioids. ASAM currently holds the

SAMHSA grant to manage the Physician Clinical Support System for Methadone (PCSS-M).

Conference Calendar ASAM's 2010 Review Course in Addiction Medicine, October 14-16, 2010 (Westin O'Hare Hotel, Chicago, Illinois). Approved for up to 23 Category 1 CME credits. The ASAM Review Course provides an up-to-date review of the core content of Addiction Medicine in a three-day program taught by an expert faculty and supported by an extensive print Syllabus and electronic Study Guide. The course is an essential primer for physicians who plan to sit for the ABAM Certification/Recertification Examination in Addiction Medicine. It also is a useful "refresher" for all physicians because of its clinical orientation and focus on recent developments in addiction science

ASAM Comprehensive MRO Course: Toxicology Testing and the Physician's Role in the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse, December 10-12, 2010 (Washington, DC). Approved for up to 21 Category 1 CME credits. The Comprehensive MRO Course has been designed to present the most up-to-date scientific information, guidelines, and practical tips for MROs. Through a highly interactive mix of lectures and panel discussions, participants will have an opportunity to interact with experts in the field.

and practice.

www.aatod.org

Other Events of Note 4th National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery: Thriving in Changing Times, July 26-28, 2010 (Chicago, Illinois). Sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. For more information or to register, visit

http://www.samhsaWomensConference.org or email samhsaWomensConference@ahpnet.com International Society of Addiction Medicine: 12th Annual Meeting – Bridging the Gap Between Science and Practice, October 4-7, 2010 (Milan, Italy). For more information or to register, visit www.ISAM2010.Medicina.Unimib.IT Building Partnerships -Advancing Treatment & Recovery: American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence

Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (AMERSA) 34th Annual National Conference, November 4-6, 2010 (Bethesda, Maryland). For more information or to register, visit www.amersa.org or contact Doreen@amersa.org.

(AATOD) National Conference, October 23-27, 2010 (Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Illinois). For more information or to register, visit

In the Next ASAM News

The Summer 2010 issue of ASAM News (to be delivered by email and in print) features reports on: The President's 2010 National Drug Control Strategy and what it means for addiction practice.

Please share them with the Editor and the ASAM Publications Council by emailing <u>ASAMNews1@aol.com</u>.

- Implementation of the Federal parity legislation. ASAM's upcoming election of officers and Board members, with profiles of the candidates.
- Selected presentations at ASAM's 2010 Med-Sci conference.
- Science news, clinical updates, agency activities and funding opportunities, and more!
- Watch for your copy July 15th!

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Comments? Suggestions?