

VASAM Political Advisory Committee update 2019

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And the New Chairman is??

After years AND YEARS of stagnation, denial and discrimination, THINGS
ARE FINALLY CHANGING!!!!!!!

And they are changing RAPIDLY.

Teach It! (Addiction Medicine)

- Opioid Workforce Act of 2019
 - Increase residency positions
 - Addiction psychiatry
 - Addiction Medicine
 - Pain Medicine (!)
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Workforce Loan Repayment Program
 - Part of SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act
 - Loan repayment for addiction treatment professionals working in underserved or high-risk communities
- Mental and Substance Use Disorders Workforce Training Demonstration Program

Teach It! Areas of concern for VASAM

- Opioid Workforce Act of 2019
 - Threat that much of the money will be diverted to interventional pain management (\$)
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Workforce Loan Repayment Program and Mental and Substance Use Disorders Workforce Training Demonstration Program
 - Concerns that non-Addiction Medicine boarded physicians and health care providers will siphon off funds
 - WE ARE THE EXPERTS!!!!!!
- This is also a concern on the state level. Who is teaching the 2 hours of CME which fulfills the State of Virginia Board of Medicine requirement for controlled substance prescribing??????

Standardize It!

- Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act
 - Require DEA controlled substance prescribers to receive one-time training on treating and managing patients with SUD
 - This training may be included in health care provider curriculum
 - Eventually, this will replace the DATA 2000 X-waiver training
 - Currently, the waiver course is the ONLY Addiction Medicine training most providers can access!!!

Standardize It! Areas of concern for VASAM

- Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act
 - Once again, the concern that non-Addiction Medicine boarded physicians and health care providers will siphon off funds
 - WE ARE THE EXPERTS!!!!!!
- This is also a concern on the state level

Cover It!

- Humane Correctional Health Care Act
 - Redirection of some Medicaid funding to inmates ensuring EBM Tx of inmates with the disease of Addiction
- Community Re-entry through Addiction Treatment to Enhance (CREATE)
 - Monies other than Medicaid to fund EBM Tx of inmates

Cover it! Areas of concern for VASAM

There is a tremendous amount of grant money coming into Virginia for the “Opioid Crisis”. If it is diverted away from Evidence Based Treatment, and if non-Board Certified providers gain control over this money, we’re going to lose it. **WE ARE BEING WATCHED** for cost-effectiveness.

CARES Act

- Dead in the water due to the death of Senator Cummings?????

Finally.....

- Further reduction in Board Certified Addiction Medicine Physicians due to restrictive and onerous MOC requirements
 - Maintenance of primary board and THEN subspecialty board
 - We lose qualified providers
 - It opens to door to non-EBM care
 - Lack of oversight
 - Virginia Coalition on MOC Reform, #VAMOCReform
 - <https://vamocinfo.com/>

Advice “I am from the Virginia (American) Society of Addiction Medicine.”

- SHOW UP, but don't devalue yourself or Addiction Medicine
- SHUT UP!!!!!!
 - Listen first
 - Choose your words carefully
 - Simple language (but DO NOT condescend!)
 - As FEW words as possible
 - As little time as possible
 - Pick your battles, DO NOT THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER!!!!!!!
 - Don't take sides. Avoid turf battles. You represent Addiction Medicine, NOTHING else.
 - Make friends (for both the fun AND the information)!
- Then, STAND YOUR GROUND
 - ASK FOR HELP when needed: ASAM, your fellow VASAM members
- FOLLOW THE DOLLARS!!!!!!!

WE ARE THE EXPERTS!!!!