

WELCOME TO VASAM

Quarterly Bulletin

we're so glad you're here!

President's Message



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It is my extreme pleasure to be writing my very first President's Message for our very first VaSAM Bulletin! I hope that you find this bulletin to be informative and useful. In it, you will find information on all the latest educational opportunities, updates on legislative issues, as well as networking and job opportunities.

VaSAM has many exciting plans for this year. We will be offering four sessions in our WHAM! (What's Hot in Addiction Medicine) series, for which we will be offering CME. These sessions are free for members and at a nominal cost for non-members. If you have a topic that you would like to see discussed at a WHAM! Session, please let us know.

VaSAM is planning on having a reception and chapter meeting at the national ASAM Annual Conference, which will be right in our backyard at National Harbor, April 13- 16. I hope to see a lot of you there. It is a great opportunity for education, networking, and fun!

And finally, save the date for our own Annual Conference, the first weekend of November.

Debra O'Beirne, MD, FASAM
President, Virginia Society of Addiction Medicine

Quarterly Bulletin Contents

VaSAM 2023 Annual Conference.....2	Legislative Committee Update..5
WHAM 2023 Series.....3	Removal of X-Waiver.....5
ASAM Corner.....4	Meet the Member.....6
Flagship Sponsor.....4	Stay Connected.....6



VaSAM 2023 Annual Conference

November 3-4, 2023

Marriott Resort Virginia Beach Oceanfront, VA



VaSAM 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

November 3-4, 2023
Virginia Beach Marriott Oceanfront Resort

Event Sponsor: \$2,700

- Sponsor's logo or name shared on the homepage and conference page of website, social media, emails, onsite program and signage;
- Additional sponsorship signage at meal functions;
- Two (2) registrations for the full VaSAM Annual Conference;
- Two (2) invitations to the VaSAM Board/Special Guest Dinner on Friday evening;
- A dedicated 10' x 10' exhibit space at the Annual Conference which includes a 6' draped table, shared wifi & access to standard electricity;
- A quarter-page advertisement in one (1) VaSAM quarterly member bulletin.

Exhibitor: \$1,500

- A dedicated tabletop exhibit which includes a 6' draped table, chair, shared wifi & access to standard electricity;
- One (1) registration for the full VaSAM Annual Conference;
- Sponsor's logo or name shared on the conference page of website, social media, emails, onsite program and signage.

The primary purpose of the Exhibition is to facilitate lead generation. The Exhibit Hall will be located adjacent to the plenary session ballroom and open during meal functions & breaks. Please contact molly.poisant@vasam.net (804) 836-7125 or alicia.standridge@vasam.net (804) 878-3871 to secure your sponsorship today!



Thank you for your interest in Event Sponsorship or Exhibition! Book Today!

Plans are underway for the VASAM 2023 Annual Conference. The first day, Friday, November 3, 2023 will feature two Workshops: our popular Addiction 101 Workshop instructed by Mary McMasters, MD, DFASAM and a Workshop focused on Criminal Justice. A Welcome Reception will follow on Friday evening.

The Annual Conference will take place on Saturday, November 4th and feature invited speakers, poster presentations, various networking opportunities and memorial awards. Please continue to monitor the VASAM 2023 Annual Conference webpage for regular updates.

Located on the north end of the Virginia Beach boardwalk overlooking the Atlantic, the Marriott Resort Virginia Beach Oceanfront is part of The Cavalier Resort.

All sessions will take place onsite in Salons D&E of the Seaside Ballroom. Hotel rooms are offered to VASAM 2023 attendees for the special group rate of \$209 per night (plus tax), on a first-come, first served basis. **Book your room today!**

Registration for individual attendees will open by the end of March.

Sponsorships Available!



WHAM 2023 Webinar Series

Back by popular demand, VASAM is pleased to present "*What's Hot in Addiction Medicine.*" This four-part webinar series will be held quarterly in 2023. WHAM 2023 is free for all VASAM Members, and \$49 per webinar/\$149 for series, for non-members. This activity has been approved for **(4) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™** – **one (1) credit for each live virtual webinar attended.** Dates & times are as follows:

The Opioid Abatement Authority: Changing How Virginia Thinks About Addiction

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, from 6:30pm-7:30pm

James Thompson, MD, Founder and Chief Medical Officer, Master Center for Addiction Medicine

Treating Hepatitis C in the Addiction Treatment Setting

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, from 6:30pm-7:30pm

Debra O'Beirne, MD, FASAM, Director of Addiction Medicine Services, Fairfax County CSB

Buprenorphine Boot Camp

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, from 6:30pm-7:30pm

Brandon Wills, MD, FASAM, Medical Director, MOTIVATE Clinic, VCU Health

Auricular Neural Stimulation as a New Non-Invasive Treatment for Opioid Withdrawal

Wednesday, December 6, 2023, from 6:30pm-7:30pm

Douglas A Brown, MD, Medical Director, Addiction Recovery Center of Virginia

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!
REGISTER TODAY!



From top: Dr. James Thompson & Dr. Brandon Wills

ASAM Corner

The ASAM 54th Annual Conference, "Innovations in Addiction Medicine & Science," will take place at the Gaylord National Resort in National Harbor, MD. The event begins at 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 13, 2023, with an opening welcome reception and concludes at 12:00 pm on Sunday, April 16, 2023.

VaSAM will host a Chapter Meeting on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 5pm-6pm at the Gaylord National Resort. This will be an informal discussion and meet and greet with fellow VaSAM members. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP here.

It would be hard to pass up the opportunity to attend this national conference when it is located just north of our Virginia state line. Details on registration, the full Schedule of Events and the venue are available here. The last day for the Early Bird Rate is March 1, 2023.

Please visit the ASAM eLearning page here for more information about upcoming training and Live or Virtual Courses. ASAM offers over 300 hours of accredited education.

Also, take some time to see the ASAM Calendar of Events here to filter by events and dates you are interested in.

We encourage members to join ASAM's Weekly Newsletter where members can access the "this week in addiction medicine podcast." Click here for more details.

Announcing VaSAM's 1st Flagship Sponsor



Thank you Alkermes for your support of
VaSAM!

Visit Alkermes today.

THERE IS ONE (1) FLAGSHIP SPONSORSHIP REMAINING FOR 2023;
CONTACT MOLLY.POISANT@VASAM.NET FOR MORE DETAILS!

Legislative Committee Update

*Update provided by VaSAM Legislative Committee Chair, Douglas A Brown, MD,
Medical Director, Addiction Recovery Center of Virginia*



I am pleased to report I had a very exciting day at the General Assembly on February 6, 2023. I was able to meet with a few delegates and senators. I expressed that VaSAM wants to serve as a legislative key contact to advocate for the specialty of Addiction Medicine. Also, representing national ASAM policies and current issues. We are not only interested in legislative issues but becoming a trusted source of information and education as it relates to how they vote on health care issues/addiction as addressing the Commonwealth's addiction issues as relevant to ongoing Opioid Crisis and increasing overdose deaths, especially fentanyl.

I was able to discuss some of VaSAM concerns, promoting low threshold access to intergrated SUD care, lowering barriers, that address social/health equalities. Also discussed treatment for the incarcerated/homeless population.

All these were well received and prompted some great discussions, which will continue with regular meetings with the delegates and senators and establishing a working relationship with all members of the General Assembly.

Following these meetings, it appears to me the General Assembly is very aware of VaSAM's interest in being a key contact.

Removal of DATA Waiver (X-Waiver) Requirement

Please see the following post from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration website.

Section 1262 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (also known as Omnibus bill), removes the federal requirement for practitioners to submit a Notice of Intent (have a waiver) to prescribe medications, like buprenorphine, for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD). With this provision, and effective immediately, SAMHSA will no longer be accepting NOIs (waiver applications).

All practitioners who have a current DEA registration that includes Schedule III authority, may now prescribe buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder in their practice if permitted by applicable state law and SAMHSA encourages them to do so. SAMHSA and DEA are actively working on implementation of a separate provision of the Omnibus related to training requirements for DEA registration that becomes effective in June 2023. Please continue to check this webpage for further updates and guidance.

In light of this new federal law, the Board has gotten questions about whether Virginia's regulations prohibit practitioners who do not hold a SAMHSA waiver and an X-number from the Drug Enforcement Administration from writing buprenorphine for opioid use disorder.

The Virginia Board of Medicine Regulations Governing the Prescribing of Opioids and Buprenorphine contain the following language in 18VAC85-21-130(A). "Practitioners engaged in office-based opioid addiction treatment with buprenorphine shall have obtained a SAMHSA waiver and the appropriate U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration registration."

With the elimination of the SAMHSA waiver and the DEA X-number, it has been determined that the Board will immediately suspend enforcement of 81VAC85-21-130(A) and pursue its removal from the regulations.

Meet the Member

Sesha Krishna Kotapati, MD is VaSAM's new Secretary.

Dr.Kotapati is a Psychiatrist and Medical Director at Centra Virginia Baptist Hospital Lynchburg, VA. He is one of the directors for Lynchburg Academy of Medicine. He is an active member of strategy committee of Centra Health System. He also actively teaches medical students from Liberty University and NP and PA students as well.

He did his MBBS in India, Internship and Residency at New York Medical College at Westchester Medical Center. He received best teaching resident Award and Outstanding Scholarship award during residency.



Job Postings

We would like to offer a portion of this quarterly bulletin for VaSAM members to share job postings. If you would like to have a posting added to the May Bulletin, please email alicia.standridge@vasam.net with the position title and a link to the application/relevant information, by April 15th.

Events Calendar

VaSAM Members are encouraged to send in details on upcoming events to share via this Member Bulletin. Please send the name of the event, date, time, location, and registration details to info@vasam.net for inclusion.

Follow Us on Social Media

[FACEBOOK](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

WWW.VASAM.NET

INFO@VASAM.NET
