



Leveraging Innovation for Rural SUD Care

A Special Lunchtime Event Exploring Case Studies with UVM CORA Faculty during the 2020 Vermont Center on Behavioral Health Conference

OVERVIEW

Learn about new interventions and technology through case-study discussions with small groups of participants that will be facilitated by local champions, UVM Center on Rural Addiction faculty, and research pioneers. During registration, participants should select the case study session they would like to attend. Topics include innovations in improving rural access and treatment, a whole-family approach to treating pregnant women, effective prescribing for complex opioid agonist therapy patients, managing stimulant use among opioid agonist therapy patients, and treatment of adolescents with substance use disorders. Attendance is limited. *Session Chairs: Sanchit Maruti, MD & Robert Althoff, MD*

CASE STUDY DESCRIPTIONS

#1: Innovations Improving Access to Treatment

Patients in rural areas face unique challenges receiving care for substance use disorders, including accessing buprenorphine, managing multiple medications, attending testing and/or therapy appointments, and participating in recovery programs. Through this case study, participants will explore how to leverage technology and new treatment methods to reduce barriers and enhance access.

#2: A Whole-Family Approach to Treating Pregnant Women

Opioid dependence during pregnancy is often compounded by multiple risk factors contributing to adverse maternal and newborn consequences. In this session, we will develop a treatment plan that addresses the complex medical, mental health, substance use, social/family and socioeconomic factors that are critical to providing effective, wholistic care to these complex patients.

#3: Effective Prescribing for Complex Opioid Agonist Therapy Patients

Opioid Agonist Therapy patients with complex needs such as co-occurring medical and psychiatric issues pose unique challenges for treatment. In this session we will cover how to induct on buprenorphine, psychosocial treatment, and dosing when trying to address pain as well as mental health disorders. The aim is to help providers better address non-adherence and challenges faced by the patient and provider when dealing with co-occurring conditions.

#4: Managing Stimulant Use Among Opioid Agonist Therapy Patients

We are experiencing an increasingly urgent public health issue related to cocaine and methamphetamine use, including among patients receiving treatment for opioid use disorder. In this session we will use a clinical case study to discuss how to use evidence-based tools for addressing concerning stimulant use in patients.

#5: Treatment of Adolescents

Discussion will focus on the unique challenges and opportunities around treating this special population related to state guidelines, parental guidance, confidentiality, consent to treat, and medication options. Practical tools to take back to your practice will be shared to support more effective delivery of recommendations and enhanced communication with patients. The case study will also examine methods to help empower young adults early on in their life as they face struggles with SUD.

<https://uvmcora.org>

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