

Expanding Access to Effective Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Provider Perspectives on Reducing Barriers to Evidence-Based Care

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Speaker Biographies

Mitra Ahadpour

Mitra Ahadpour is a board-certified addiction medicine physician and the Principal Deputy Director of the Office of Translational Sciences (OTS) at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. OTS is comprised of the Office of Biostatistics, Office of Clinical Pharmacology, Office of Computational Science and Office of Study Integrity and Surveillance. In the Immediate Office, Dr. Ahadpour helps oversee translational medicine efforts across the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) and leads the areas of health informatics; data mining; technology transfer; training and career development; and regulatory and policy development.



Dr. Ahadpour previously was the Director of the Division of Pharmacologic Therapies at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. She led the accreditation and certification of more than 1,500 opioid treatment programs; and training of physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants on safe opioid prescribing and medication assisted treatment. In private practice, she contributed to legislation making Maryland smoke-free and, as chair of Montgomery County Medical Society's Community Service Programs, created and launched a tobacco awareness education program in middle schools.

She is the recipient of multiple awards for her novel program development, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2015 Hubert H. Humphrey Award for Service to America, 2016 HHS Ignite competition for creating and fully implementing the nationwide Rapid Opioid Alert and Response (ROAR) project, and the 2017 Federal Health IT Innovation Award for the Medication Assisted Treatment (MATx) mobile app. Dr. Ahadpour earned her medical degree from the University of Maryland and completed residency at George Washington University Hospital.

Lisa Alexander

Lisa Mustone Alexander, EdD, MPH, PA-C, is an experienced clinician, educator, administrator, and researcher. As president of the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA), which represents the 236 accredited PA programs nationwide, she is a passionate leader and advocate for PA education. In addition to her full-time faculty responsibilities, Dr. Alexander is a primary care clinician who practices in the DC area, and the founding faculty director of a student-run free clinic that partners with a local public health department, providing primary care to adults lacking access to reliable services. She is a charter member of the DC Primary Care Association.

Along with PAEA's government relations and research staff, she has worked hard to highlight the problem of opioid use disorder to faculty and students in PAEA member programs. In 2018, PAEA established a goal to train PA students and faculty to be X-waiver eligible through MAT training, funded through PAEA's partnership in a SAMHSA grant to the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry. Addressing the opioid crisis is a critical issue for the PA profession, and Dr. Alexander has made advocating for permanent X-waiver eligibility for PAs and NPs a top priority for PAEA, to improve the long-term capacity of PAs and NPs to respond to this public health crisis. Many PA education programs are in areas hardest hit by the epidemic, making this a personal issue for students who will go on to practice in these communities. As part of an ever-growing workforce of clinicians who care for patients in all settings across the health care delivery system, PAs are committed to advocating for increased access to evidence-based therapies that effectively treat opioid use disorder.

Kathryn Cates-Wessel

Ms. Cates-Wessel has more than 30 years background and experience in the substance use disorder field in administration, medical education, and policy. She is Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP) and Principal Investigator and Project Director for both the PCSS and STR-TA grant. As Principal Investigator and Project Director of these projects, she oversees the overall administration of the projects staff; consultants and sub-awards; negotiating contracts and overseeing work of partner organizations, consultants and vendors; and ensuring that all aspects of these projects are undertaken according to the project plans. Prior to her work at AAAP, she was Associate Director of Brown University's Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies for over 19 years and Executive Director of Physicians and Lawyers for National Drug Policy, a think tank of leaders from law and medicine advocating for prevention/treatment of addicts over incarceration. Prior to that she was Associate Director of a residential treatment center for adolescents for substance use disorders and co-occurring mental disorders.



Mady Chalk



Mady Chalk, Ph.D., MSW is Principal of theThe Chalk Group which provides strategic and policy consulting, including shared value strategies, and consulting services for performance measurement and quality improvement for public and private organizations, including Federal, State, and sub-state governmental agencies, managed care firms, and trade associations.

For 10 years, Dr. Chalk was the Director of the Policy Center at the Treatment Research Institute (TRI) in Philadelphia, PA. In her current consulting practice Dr. Chalk works with State Medicaid agencies through the CMS Innovator Accelerator Program (IAP) and with commercial insurers.

She has also served as a consultant to the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) to develop guidelines for treatment of opioid addictions, as well as performance standards and measures related to use of medications in treatment. She is a member of the Behavioral Health Standing committee of the National Quality Forum (NQF) and serves as a technical expert on many panels responsible for working on quality and performance measurement.

For many years, Dr. Chalk was the Director of the Division of Services Improvement in the Federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) where she founded the Washington Circle Group and created national initiatives such as the national SBIRT and Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) grant programs as well as many evaluation studies of costs and outcomes of treatment. For 15 years before coming to the Washington area, Dr. Chalk was a faculty member in the Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, Yale Psychiatric Institute. She received her Ph.D. in Health and Social Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University.

Jennifer Clarke

Dr. Jennifer Clarke is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She has been working as an internist at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections since 1998; and became the Departments Medical Programs Director in November 2015. Her research interests include incarcerated populations, women's health, substance abuse, and reproductive health.



Gregory Daniel



Dr. Gregory Daniel, PhD, MPH is the Deputy Director of the Duke-Robert J. Margolis, MD Center for Health Policy and a Clinical Professor in Duke's Fuqua School of Business. Dr. Daniel directs the DC-based office of the Center and leads the Center's pharmaceutical and medical device policy portfolio, which includes developing policy and data strategies for improving development and access to innovative pharmaceutical and medical device technologies. This includes post-market evidence development to support increased value, improving regulatory science and drug development tools, optimizing biomedical innovation, and supporting

drug and device value-based payment reform. Dr. Daniel is also Adjunct Associate Professor in the Division of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Previously, he was Managing Director for Evidence Development & Biomedical Innovation in the Center for Health Policy and Fellow in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution and Vice President, Government and Academic Research at HealthCore (an Anthem, Inc. company). In addition to health and pharmaceutical policy, Dr. Daniel's research expertise includes real world evidence (RWE) development utilizing electronic health data in the areas of health outcomes and pharmacoeconomics, comparative effectiveness, and drug safety and pharmacoepidemiology. Dr. Daniel received a PhD in pharmaceutical economics, policy and outcomes from the University of Arizona, as well as an MPH, MS, and BS in Pharmacy all from The Ohio State University.

Gail D'Onofrio

Gail D'Onofrio, MD, MS is Professor and Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Yale University and Physician-in-Chief of the Emergency Services at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She is internationally known for her work in substance use disorders, women's cardiovascular health, and mentoring physician scientists in developing independent research careers. For the past 25 years she has developed and tested interventions for alcohol, opioids and other substance use disorders, serving as PI on several large NIH, SAMSHA, and CDC studies. Her study of ED patients with opioid use disorder (JAMA 2015) demonstrating that ED-initiated buprenorphine improved patient engagement in addiction treatment, reduced illicit opioid use and was cost effective (Addiction 2017) has changed clinical practice. Dr. D'Onofrio has a long track record of mentoring junior and senior faculty members both at Yale and throughout the U.S. in multiple specialties. She is the PI of a NIDA K12 establishing the Yale Drug use, Addiction and HIV Research Scholars (Yale-DAHRS) program, a three-year post-doctoral, interdisciplinary, Mentored Career Development Program with focused training in prevention and treatment of drug use, addiction, and HIV in general medical settings. She is a founding Board member of Addiction Medicine, now recognized as a new specialty, subspecialty by the ABMS.



Sara Eggers



Sara Eggers supports FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research in the areas of decision support and analysis, contributing to the development and implementation of initiatives regarding human drug benefit-risk assessment, patient-focused drug development, risk evaluation and mitigation strategies, and other efforts. Before joining FDA in 2011, she conducted research and consulting in the area of decision science, stakeholder engagement, and risk communication. She has a Ph.D. in Engineering and Public Policy, with an emphasis on decision science, from Carnegie Mellon University.

Marc Fishman

Marc Fishman MD is an addiction psychiatrist, and leads Maryland Treatment Centers / Mountain Manor, a regional behavioral healthcare provider, which offers programs for residential and outpatient treatment of drug-involved and dual-diagnosis adolescents and adults. He is a member of the psychiatry faculty at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He writes and lectures widely on addiction treatment topics, including opioid addiction, youth treatment, placement and treatment matching strategies, medication treatments for addiction and treatment for co-occurring disorders. His academic work has focused on models of care and treatment outcomes for SUDs in youth, particularly opioid addiction. Dr. Fishman served as a co-editor for the most recent editions of the ASAM Criteria for the Treatment of Substance-Related Disorders and the chief editor for the ASAM PPC Supplement on Pharmacotherapies for Alcohol Use Disorders. He served as a past President (2010-12) of the Maryland Society of Addiction Medicine, and is a current member of its Board.



Kailee Fretland



CDR Kailee Fretland, PharmD, BCPS - CDR Fretland is a Public Health Service Officer with the Indian Health Service (IHS) on the Red Lake Nation in Northern Minnesota. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2006 from the University of Minnesota and completed her Pharmacy Practice Residency at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck, ND in 2007. She started with IHS in 2007, on the Standing Rock Reservation in ND. She is currently the, Acting Director and Residency Program Director at the Red Lake Indian Health Service. CDR Fretland is a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist and credentialed and privileged clinical pharmacist in multiple diseases including harm reduction and Vivitrol. She is passionate about harm reduction and substance abuse treatment. She was active in the development of an MAT program providing Vivitrol. She has served as an invitational speaker for numerous presentations to local, regional, state and national committees and groups on Naloxone and MAT. She is considered a national expert on MAT and Naloxone and served as the narrator for the HIS Naloxone Law Enforcement Training Video. CDR Fretland is the MAT sub-committee lead for the Indian Health Services Heroin, Opioids, and Pain Efforts (HOPE) Committee and has been working with the local community to address Substance Use Disorders through the Helping Hands community collaboration and 3-day team.

Brett Giroir

Admiral Brett Giroir is the 16th United States Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services. He serves as the Secretary's principal public health and science advisor, and oversees the Department's key public health offices and programs including: disease prevention and health promotion, infectious disease and vaccine policy, minority health, human subject protection, three Presidential and eleven Secretarial advisory committees and the Office of the Surgeon General. Admiral Giroir also leads HHS efforts to fight America's opioid crisis.



Previously, Dr. Giroir has served in numerous leadership positions in the federal government and in academic institutions. Most notably, he was the first physician to be appointed as an office director at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

He has published nearly 100 peer-reviewed publications, holds patents on a number of biomedical inventions, and has received numerous awards, including the American Heart Association President Lyndon Baines Johnson Award for Research, and the US Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service.

As a pediatric critical care physician, Dr. Giroir cared for critically ill children for 14 years. He continues to bring that hands-on, patient-centered perspective to his work as Assistant Secretary for Health.

Lawrence Greenblatt



Lawrence Greenblatt, M.D., FACP, is a general internist and holds dual appointments as Professor of Medicine and Professor of Community and Family Medicine at Duke.

Currently, he serves as Medical Director of Northern Piedmont Community Care which provides care management and support services to Medicaid patients and practices which provide their care in 6 counties. Dr. Greenblatt also serves as co-chair of the Opioid Safety Committee for Duke Health and is an active member of the Opioid and Prescription Drug Abuse Advisory Committee for North Carolina. He has served in an advisory capacity to the North Carolina Medical Board and the FDA on opioid safety as well. He serves as Chair of the North Carolina Medicaid P & T

Committee.

Dr. Greenblatt has been on faculty at Duke since 1994 and has received numerous teaching awards. He has held several leadership roles in residency training in the Department of Medicine.

He also has provided resident and faculty development since 1997 over a range of topics. He has frequently served as a mentor and consultant for health care educators in Singapore at Duke-NUS and SingHealth since 2012 with 14 trips there and more scheduled.

Tom Hill

Tom Hill began at the National Council for Behavioral Health in March 2017 and currently serving as Vice President of Practice Improvement. Tom previously served as a Presidential Appointee in the position of Senior Advisor on Addiction and Recovery to the SAMHSA Administrator. As part of this post, Mr. Hill initially served as Acting Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. Prior to his appointment, he was a Senior Associate at Altarum Institute, serving as Technical Assistance Director for a number of SAMHSA treatment and recovery support grant initiatives. He also served for four years as Director of Programs at Faces & Voices of Recovery.



Mr. Hill is frequently sought out as a national thought leader in the addiction and recovery field; his personal experience of recovery from addiction spans over 25 years. Reflecting his commitment to the goal of long-term recovery for individuals, families, and communities, Mr. Hill has also served on numerous Boards of Directors, advisory boards, committees, and task force/working groups. Mr. Hill received his MSW in community organizing from Hunter College at City University of New York. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Johnson Institute America Honors Recovery Award, the NALGAP Advocacy Award, and a Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship in the Developing Leadership in Reducing Substance Abuse initiative.

Kaylin Klie



Dr Kaylin A Klie is a dually board certified physician in Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine, with special clinical and research expertise in Perinatal Addiction Medicine. Prior to medical school, she trained as a marriage and family therapist. She graduated from Rush Medical College, and went on to residency and fellowship with the University of Colorado.

She is the founder of the Denver Health and University of Colorado OB Addiction Medicine clinics, which provide integrated peripartum care and substance use assessment and treatment for pregnant and mothering women. She is the medical director for Outpatient Addiction Medicine services at CeDAR, the University of Colorado's substance use disorder treatment center. She is the associate director for the Addiction Medicine Fellowship with the University of Colorado, and enjoys teaching and mentoring fellows, residents, and students in providing care for people with substance use.

Dr Klie is a steering committee member for the State of Colorado Substance Exposed Newborn task force, and the co-chair for Provider Education. She serves on the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Maternal Mortality Review Committee, helping to understand the impact substance use continues to have on maternal morbidity and mortality in CO. Dr Klie lives in Denver, CO with her husband and son.

Colleen LaBelle



Colleen T. LaBelle, MSN, RN-BC, CARN is the Director of Office Based Addiction Treatment (OBAT) Training and Technical Assistance Program for the state of Massachusetts. Ms. LaBelle is also the founder and director of Boston Medical Center's (BMC) OBAT Clinic, the largest of its kind in New England serving over 700 patients annually. Ms. LaBelle is also the Program Director of numerous other grants and projects including two Opioid Addiction Treatment Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHOs) at BMC. Ms. LaBelle has over 30 years of clinical experience treating HIV and addiction and over a decade of experience advising health care organizations on how to build addiction treatment into their programs. She is a member of the Massachusetts Board of Nursing and Governor Charlie Baker's Opioid Working Task Force. Ms. LaBelle is board director of the International Nurses Society on Addiction (IntNSA); she founded and serves as Executive Director of the Massachusetts IntNSA Chapter. In recognition of her work to improve and expand treatments for patients with addiction, Colleen received the 2017 Betty Ford Award from the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (AMERSA), 2016 Lillian Carter Exemplary Acts in Nursing Award from Modern Healthcare in partnership with the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility at the Emory University School of Nursing, and the 2013 Boston Mayor's Award for Innovations in Primary Care, in addition to many other awards and recognitions. Ms. LaBelle is board certified in addiction nursing and pain management.

Regina LaBelle

Regina LaBelle is a principal with LaBelle Strategies LLC, advising governments and non-profits on effective strategies to address the opioid epidemic. A Visiting Fellow with the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy, Regina is a frequent commentator on the opioid issue, with appearances on MSNBC, CNN and other national outlets. Regina served for eight years in the Obama Administration, as senior policy advisor and Chief of Staff in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). At ONDCP, she co-authored and helped to implement the Administration's plan to address the opioid epidemic. Her previous positions include legal counsel to the Mayor of Seattle and consulting King County, Washington on state legislative policies. Regina was also adjunct professor at Seattle University where she taught graduate level courses in legislative policymaking and ethics. A member of the Washington State Bar, Regina is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and Boston College.



Mark McClellan

Mark McClellan, MD, PhD, is the Robert J. Margolis Professor of Business, Medicine, and Policy, and Director of the Margolis Center for Health Policy at Duke University. He is a physician-economist who focuses on quality and value in health care including payment reform, real-world evidence and more effective drug and device innovation. He is former administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and former commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, where he developed and implemented major reforms in health policy. He was previously Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and a faculty member at Stanford University.

Jessica Hulsey Nickel

Jessica Hulsey Nickel '98 is the founder and CEO of the Addiction Policy Forum, a national nonprofit organization that advocates for patients and families impacted by addiction and helps to implement a comprehensive response that includes prevention, treatment, recovery, and criminal justice reform.

Jessica's 25 year career focusing on substance use disorder includes work in prevention, treatment, public policy and the criminal justice fields. In 1998, Jessica was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve on the Drug-Free Communities Commission that helped guide the implementation of the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997. Jessica worked for Senator Rob Portman while he was in the House, developing policy strategies around addiction and criminal justice, including the Second Chance Act, Access to Recovery, and the Drug Free Communities Act.



She has been center-stage at major events, from hosting a forum on addiction for Presidential candidates in New Hampshire in 2016, a series of forums on addiction with House and Senate Congressional leaders, to drug policy events with President George W. Bush and President H.W. Bush. Jessica was also profiled in a book by Governor John Kasich (R-Ohio) called "Courage Is Contagious: Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things to Change the Face of America" as one of the stories of courage, and her work has been featured in a Lifetime Network series, Discovery Health Channel profile, Cosmopolitan, LA Times, NY Times, MSNBC, and USA Today.

Yngvild Olsen

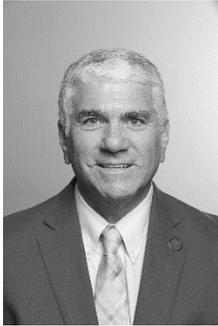


Yngvild Olsen, MD, MPH, is the Medical Director for the Institutes for Behavior Resources Inc/REACH Health Services, a comprehensive outpatient addiction treatment center in Baltimore City. She also provides part-time medical consultation to the local behavioral health authority for Baltimore City and the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration. After medical training at Harvard Medical School, and internal medicine residency with a year as Primary Care Chief Resident at the Boston Medical Center, she received a Master's in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health as part of a fellowship in General Internal Medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She has previously served as the Vice President of Clinical Affairs for the Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, as the Deputy Health Officer for the Harford County Health Department, and as the Medical Director for the Johns Hopkins Hospital's outpatient substance use treatment services. Dr. Olsen also serves as Secretary for the American Society of Addiction Medicine and is on the board of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Maryland.

Shawn Ryan

Dr. Ryan originally trained as an emergency physician at the University of Cincinnati and simultaneously obtained his MBA while completing his residency. For over 10 years, Dr. Ryan has practiced in the Greater Cincinnati area, and for part of that time, he functioned as a hospital administrator. During this time, he became acutely aware of the issue of heroin/opioid abuse in the region and for the past 6 years has been working tirelessly to make a difference in his community. Dr. Ryan serves on many regional, state, and national committees/workgroups focused on turning the tide of this epidemic. He is the president of the Ohio Society of Addiction Medicine and the Chair of Payer Relations for ASAM. Dr. Ryan is very excited to continue to work in the field of addiction medicine and to have the opportunity to substantially impact the treatment needs of patients with substance use disorder.



Edwin Salsitz

Dr. Edwin A. Salsitz has been an attending physician in the Mount Sinai Beth Israel , Division of Chemical Dependency, New York City, since 1983, and is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He is the principal investigator of the Methadone Medical Maintenance (office-based methadone maintenance) research project. Dr. Salsitz is certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM), as well as by the Board of Internal Medicine and Pulmonary Disease. He has published and lectures frequently on addiction medicine topics.

Dr. Salsitz is a course director for ASAM sponsored buprenorphine trainings, and is a mentor in the PCSS-MAT mentoring program. He has co-chaired the ASAM Review Course, the ASAM Common Threads Course, the ASAM State of the Art course and is a reviewer for the Journal of Addiction Medicine and Drug and Alcohol Dependence. He is the chair of the ASAM REMS course on safe and effective prescribing of opioids. Dr. Salsitz was the Co-chair of the ASAM CME committee and Chair of the New York Society of Addiction Medicine CME and Education committee.

Dr. Salsitz is a member of the medical advisory panel, for the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services. Dr. Salsitz is the recipient of the 2014 ASAM Annual Award, and the 2018 ASAM Annual Educator of the Year Award.

Sarah Hudson Scholle

Sarah Hudson Scholle (Dr.P.H. The Johns Hopkins University) is Vice President, Research and Analysis, at the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Dr. Scholle is an expert in health services and quality measurement in multiple settings and has a demonstrated record of moving innovative measurement concepts into implementation, particularly through NCQA's Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS). Current measurement projects focus on cross-cutting areas where new health information technology is critical, including behavioral health care, patient reported outcomes, and goal setting and improvement. Her experience also includes projects to test and assess the process of transformation to different models of care, including an initiative to test a patient-centered approach to oncology care. She leads NCQA efforts work to expand measures for vulnerable populations; this includes leading health equity innovation efforts for the CMS Office of Minority Health. She led an AHRQ/CMS funded Center of Excellence in Pediatric Quality Measurement, where the priorities focused on developing and testing outcome measures for adolescent depression using data from electronic health records, and currently leads a subsequent project to implement and demonstrate improvement on these measures. Measures developed in these projects have been included in HEDIS health plan reporting. She has also led activities in measurement related to patient-centered care and the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) and contributed to the development and implementation of surveys (such as the PCMH version of the CAHPS survey).



Sharon Stancliff



Sharon Stancliff, M.D. is a Public Health Physician at the New York State Department of Health. Dr. Stancliff has been working with people who use drugs since 1990 including provision of primary care, drug treatment, HIV care and syringe access. She is currently focused on opioid overdose prevention through expanding access to naloxone and expanding access to buprenorphine in primary care and in less traditional settings such as syringe exchange programs. Dr. Stancliff graduated from the School of Medicine at University of California at Davis, did her Family Practice residency at the University of Arizona and completed the AIDS Institute-sponsored Nicolas Rango HIV Clinical Scholars Program at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. She is board certified in Family Medicine, and certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine. She serves on the Public Policy Committee of ASAM.

Alexander Walley

Alexander Y. Walley, M.D., M.Sc., is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and a general internist and addiction medicine specialist at Boston Medical Center. He is the director of the Boston Medical Center Addiction Medicine Fellowship program. His research focus is on the medical complications of substance use, specifically HIV and overdose. He provides primary care and office-based addiction treatment for patients with HIV at Boston Medical Center and methadone maintenance treatment at Health Care Resource Centers. He is the medical director for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s Opioid Overdose Prevention Pilot Program. Since 2007, the MDPH program has trained over 60,000 people in Massachusetts’s communities, including people who use opioids, people in recovery, and their social networks. He graduated from Harvard College, received his MD from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and masters of science in epidemiology from Boston University School of Public Health.



Sarah Wattenberg



Sarah A. Wattenberg has been a senior leader in behavioral health organizations for more than 25 years and currently serves as the director of quality and addition services at the National Association for Behavioral Healthcare.

Ms. Wattenberg began her career developing and managing community-based treatment programs for the seriously mentally ill and later served as the senior director for clinical policy at Magellan, which at the time was the nation’s largest managed behavioral health care company. In 2001, Ms. Wattenberg joined the federal government and served as the senior advisor for drug policy to the assistant secretary for health at the U.S. of Health and Human Services, and later as the senior health policy advisor at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy during the Obama and Trump administrations.

Ms. Wattenberg graduated from New York University and earned her master's degree in social work from the Catholic University of America.

Janet Woodcock

Janet Woodcock is Director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In 2015, Dr. Woodcock also operated in the role of Acting Director of CDER's Office of Pharmaceutical Quality (OPQ). Dr. Woodcock first joined CDER in 1994. From 2005 until 2008, she served in the FDA's Commissioner's office, holding several positions, as Deputy Commissioner and Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Commissioner for Operations, and Chief Operating Officer. Her responsibilities encompassed oversight of various aspects of scientific and medical regulatory operations. Before joining CDER, Dr. Woodcock served as Director, Office of Therapeutics Research and Review, and Acting Deputy Director in FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. Dr. Woodcock received her M.D. from Northwestern Medical School. Prior to that, she completed further training and held teaching appointments at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of California in San Francisco. She joined FDA in 1986.



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