Aug. 19, 2022: Advocacy Update other news

Action needed to increase treatment for youth substance use

Last year, the number of overdose deaths in the United States exceeded 100,000 for the first time ever. Equally alarming, the rate of drug-related overdose deaths among U.S. teenagers nearly doubled in 2020. Since that time, the data indicates that the mortality trend among adolescents is continuing, exacerbated by the nationwide mental health crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing barriers to evidence-based care for mental illness and substance use disorder (SUD) among teenagers.

To provide actionable strategies and policy solutions to help reverse these trends and increase access to evidence-based care, the AMA and Manatt Health recently brought together leading pediatric addiction medicine experts and harm reduction advocates in a new webinar. Speakers included:

- Jocelyn Guyer, Managing Director, Manatt Health
- Sharon Levy, MD, MPH, Director of Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program, Boston Children’s Hospital and Associate Professor Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
- Deepa R. Camenga, MD, MHS, FAAP, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics & Public Health; Associate Director for Pediatric Programs, Yale Program in Addiction Medicine; Yale Schools of Medicine & Public Health
- Christine Rodriguez, MPH, Senior Program Manager, Harm Reduction at AIDS United

Watch the discussion and download the presentations.

Simplified outpatient documentation and coding

Reduce workload with recent updates to E/M coding and team documentation in this new AMA STEPS Forward® toolkit. Key takeaways include the most recent billing and coding documentation guidelines, workflow solutions for more efficient documentation and examples to help educate physicians and their teams.
AMA podcasts: Setting boundaries and private practice

In the latest episode of the AMA STEPS Forward® podcast, Kevin Hopkins, MD, AMA senior physician advisor and primary care medical director at Cleveland Clinic, outlines strategies for setting healthy boundaries to help protect and strengthen personal well-being. Listen on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

Marie Brown, MD, the AMA’s director of practice redesign and a professor at Rush University in Chicago, answers questions about opening a private medical practice and shares resources for how to get started in a recent Moving Medicine podcast episode. Watch the interview or listen on Apple Podcasts or Simplecast.

More articles in this issue

- Aug. 19, 2022: Advocacy Update spotlight on the Inflation Reduction Act
- Aug. 19, 2022: National Advocacy Update
- Aug. 19, 2022: State Advocacy Update