



Welcome to the VIP Initiative

November 2018

An IDEAS –VISN 19 Service and Research Collaborative

## VIP CONSULT

The VIP has a new consult (now active) that any ED staff can use to refer and alert the VIP Primary Care Team about a patient who might benefit from follow-up by the VIP team.

### VIP CONSULT:

#### *Empanelment:*

- To alert the VIP team about a patient who might be appropriate for VIP Primary Care PACT – primarily patients with substance use disorders and complicated social, pain, and psychiatric disorders
- To have the patient be seen by the VIP team in a consultative visit to assist the established primary care team with the direction of treatment for patients with substance use disorders and complicated social, pain, and psychiatric disorders

### VIP e-CONSULT:

- Chart review and consultative advice for next steps for patients with substance use disorders and complicated social, pain, and psychiatric disorders

## X WAIVER TRAINING

### Xwaiver training in Battle Creek VA Medical Center, Michigan



Dr. Adam Gordon visited Battle Creek VA Medical Center, Michigan to expand medication addiction treatment to veterans by providing a 4-hour face to face X-waiver training as well as a discussion on “Difficult Cases” with the Battle Creek VA providers. The training covers medications to manage patients with addiction involving opioids, teaches how to overcome barriers and explains to providers how to use medications appropriately.

Under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000), physicians are required to complete training to qualify for a waiver to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine. The on-site training covers legislation, pharmacology, safety, patient assessment, and more.

## WHAT'S NEW ABOUT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

### NIDA Science Seeks Solutions to the Opioid Crisis

This past spring, Congress added \$500 million to the fiscal year 2018 budget of the National Institutes of Health to accelerate the search for scientific solutions to the opioid crisis. Using these resources, the Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) initiative engages several NIH institutes on two priority areas: (1) enhancing pain management with the aim of preventing opioid addiction and overdose while improving pain treatment and (2) improving the treatment and prevention of opioid use disorders (OUD). The latter goal, significantly led by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, includes not only developing improved treatments for OUD (medications and behavioral interventions) but also the development of new models of care to expand access to treatment through healthcare and justice settings, including rural populations, and new strategies to prevent OUD. Treatment providers currently have three FDA-approved medications to treat OUD, as well as one newly approved medication that can treat physical symptoms of opioid withdrawal (lofexidine)..... [continue reading>>>](#)

## DECEMBER 2018, VIP CHAT

Please announce to your networks our 30 minute, virtual VIP chat on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to discuss: **The case of Martel – A Review of Current Approaches to Treat Marijuana/Cannabis Addiction.** If you have a question you would like addressed, please submit it to [Nodira.Codell@va.gov](mailto:Nodira.Codell@va.gov).

For resources, guidances, past newsletters and presentations, visit our VIP SharePoint site: [www.tinyurl.com/vip-initiative](http://www.tinyurl.com/vip-initiative)