



Welcome to the VIP Initiative

August 2019

An IDEAS –VISN 19 Service and Research Collaborative

RESEARCH: NEW CSP 2014

Congratulations to Drs. Michelle Bauer, Adam Gordon (Salt Lake City) on a newly awarded CSP 2014 VA-BRAVE study!!

VA Cooperative Study #2014, “Comparative Effectiveness of Two Formulations of Buprenorphine for Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Veterans (the VA-BRAVE trial)” was recently approved for funding by the Office of Research and Development. The VA-BRAVE trial is a randomized controlled trial designed to test the effectiveness of two formulations of buprenorphine, daily sublingual (Suboxone) and oncemonthly subcutaneous injectable (Sublocade) in a one-to-one open-label trial.

CSP #2014 (VA BRAVE) will evaluate the effectiveness of a newly available long-acting 30 day injectable formulation of buprenorphine, (Sublocade®) (300 mg), in improving retention in opioid agonist treatment and thereby reducing opioid use among addicted Veterans as compared to the current standard of care - daily oral sublingual buprenorphine (16-24 mg). The long-acting formulation of buprenorphine has the potential to advance the treatment of opioid use disorder by effecting longer periods of treatment retention that in turn will lead to reduced opioid withdrawal symptoms, less opiate craving, and lowered risk for opioid relapse.

CSP #2014 will determine whether a 30-day injectable buprenorphine formulation (Sublocade®) is superior to daily oral SL buprenorphine in retaining Veterans with opioid use disorder in medication assisted treatment and in maintaining length of time abstinent from illicit opioids. A positive finding would lead to widespread adoption by clinicians, through well-established methods of dissemination throughout VHA, that would reduce opioid use among veterans and would be expected to concurrently improve their medical, psychological and social outcomes.

AHSR CONFERENCE 2019

Let the [#countdown](#) begin! You only have [#4days](#) left to submit your research to [#AHSR2019](#). The late breaking submission portal closes this Friday, August 9th. This is your [#lastchance](#)! Head over to <http://tinyurl.com/AHSR2019> to submit [#now](#)!



VIP PUBLICATION

[Rural access to MAT in Pennsylvania \(RAMP\): a hybrid implementation study protocol for medication assisted treatment adoption among rural primary care providers.](#) Cochran G, Cole ES, Warwick J, Donohue JM, **Gordon AJ**, Gellad WF, Bear T, Kelley D, DiDomenico E, Pringle J. *Addict Sci Clin Pract.* 2019 Aug 1;14(1):25. doi: 10.1186/s13722-019-0154-4. PMID: 3136640

[Patterns and Correlates of Prescription Opioid Receipt Among US Veterans: A National, 18-Year Observational Cohort Study.](#) Rentsch CT, Edelman EJ, Justice AC, Marshall BDL, Xu K, Smith AH, Crystal S, Gaither JR, **Gordon AJ**, Smith RV, Kember RL, Polimanti R, Gelernter J, Fiellin DA, Tate JP, Kranzler HR, Becker WC; VACS Project Team. *AIDS Behav.* 2019 Jul 17. doi: 10.1007/s10461-019-02608-3. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 31317364

AUGUST 2019 VIP CHAT

Please announce to your networks our 30 minute, virtual VIP chat on Wednesday, August 21st, 2019, noon-1 PM MST:” *History of Buprenorphine in the VA*”. If you have a question you would like addressed, please submit it to Nodira.Codell@va.gov.

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