

CDUHR Virtual Symposium - Tuesday, April 9, 2024

**Strategies to Improve Methadone OUD Treatment Systems:
 Take Home Dosing, Office-Based Methadone, and Beyond**

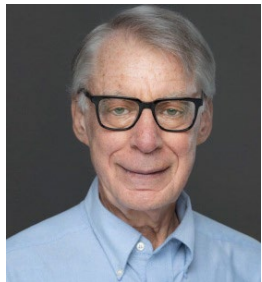
The HIV/HCV/opioid and overdose syndemic creates an urgent need to expand and improve MOUD access, coverage, and quality. Both methadone and buprenorphine are evidence-based interventions for the reduction of overdose and the treatment of OUD, and are vital parts of combined HIV and HCV prevention. The syndemic is driven in part by the Big Trend of the rise in fentanyl. A policy window linked to the COVID-19 pandemic Big Events is facilitating relaxation of regulations which have previously limited the access to, and the quality and population-level impact of methadone treatment systems. In response, this symposium will address a range of initiatives to improve methadone treatment systems and their impacts on syndemic outcomes including through office-based treatment, increased dosing flexibility ('take homes'), mobile vans, policy and regulation changes, and other strategies.

AGENDA

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| 9:00 - 9:05 am | Welcome and Introduction
<i>Holly Hagan, PhD – CDUHR Co-Director, NYU School of Global Public Health</i>
<i>David Perlman, MD – CDUHR Director, Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Social-Behavioral Theory Core & Professor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai</i> |
| 9:05 - 9:15 am | Initial Development of Methadone Maintenance
<i>Don Des Jarlais, PhD – CDUHR Co-Director, NYU School of Global Public Health</i> |
| 9:15 - 9:50 am | Office Based Methadone Medical Maintenance: The Mount Sinai Beth Israel Program
<i>Edwin Salsitz, MD, DFASAM – Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai</i> |
| 9:50 - 10:25 am | Positioning Methadone Maintenance Treatment within the Structural Context of Criminalization
<i>David Frank, PhD – Assistant Research Scientist, NYU School of Global Public Health</i> |
| 10:25 - 10:35 am | Break |
| 10:35 - 11:10 am | Expanding Equitable Methadone Treatment in New York State
<i>Ashly Jordan, PhD, MPH – Director of Research and Program Evaluation, NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports</i> |
| 11:10 - 11:45 am | CTN 0131 Office-based Methadone versus Buprenorphine to Address Retention in Medication for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment
<i>Paul Joudrey, MD, MPH – Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine</i> |
| 11:45 - 12:00 noon | Panel Discussion
<i>Moderator: Kimberly Sue, MD, PhD – Yale School of Medicine</i> |

Speaker and Panelist Bios

Don Des Jarlais, PhD – NYU School of Global Public Health



Don Des Jarlais is Co-Director of the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research and Professor of Epidemiology at the NYU School of Global Public Health. Dr. Des Jarlais is a leader in the fields of HIV/AIDS and injecting drug use, and has published extensively on these topics including articles in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Science*, and *Nature*. He is active in international research, having collaborated on studies in many different countries. He serves as a consultant to various institutions, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Drug Abuse, the National

Academy of Sciences, and the World Health Organization. Dr. Des Jarlais' research has received numerous awards, including a New York State Department of Health Commissioner's award for promoting the health of persons who use drugs. He formerly served as a commissioner for the National Commission on AIDS; as a core group member of the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Injecting Drug Use; and as a member of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Scientific Advisory Board.

David Frank, PhD – NYU School of Global Public Health



David Frank is a medical sociologist and Assistant Research Scientist at the New York University's School of Global Public Health as well as someone who has been on methadone maintenance treatment for approximately twenty years. His work focuses primarily on methadone maintenance treatment, and uses structural perspectives to problematize the use of addiction-and-recovery narratives to conceptualize treatment. He is on the board of the National

Coalition to Liberate Methadone and the current chair of the Society for the Study of Social Problems Drinking & Drugs division. He is also the recipient of the American Sociological Association Junior Scholar Award (Drinking and Drugs division) for his use of situated methodologies in research involving people who use drugs.

Holly Hagan, PhD – NYU School of Global Public Health



Holly Hagan is Co-Director of the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Social Behavioral Sciences at the NYU School of Global Public Health. Trained as an infectious disease epidemiologist, Dr. Hagan's work has sought to understand the causes and consequences of substance use disorders. Her research has examined blood-borne and sexually-transmitted infections among people who use drugs. She is an internationally-recognized expert in the etiology, epidemiology, natural history, prevention

and treatment of hepatitis C virus infection among PWUD, and in 2014 her work was recognized by the US Department of Health and Human Services with the President's Award for Leadership in the Control of Viral Hepatitis in the United States. In 2017, she was selected by NIDA to chair the Executive Steering Committee for the Rural Opioid Initiative funded by NIH, CDC, SAMHSA and the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Ashly Jordan, PhD, MPH - NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports



Ashly Jordan is the Director of Research and Program Evaluation for the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports. She is an interdisciplinary epidemiologist with more than 15 years of applied research experience and public health practice focused on understanding how systems and interventions can improve health and social outcomes for people who use substances and who experience addiction. She has served as a consultant to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Dr. Jordan's research has examined blood-borne and skin and soft tissue infections, tuberculosis, drug overdose, substance use epidemiology, and the impact of criminal legal involvement on substance use epidemiology and treatment trajectories. She has published extensively, including on prevention and care continua, Big Events theory, and novel metrics, and has served on study sections. Drawing on theory-based multi-level understanding of illness and health, and principles of health equity and social justice, Dr. Jordan's research and public health practice has focused on the interplay between individual, social and structural factors on people who use substances.

Paul Joudrey, MD, MPH – University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine



Paul Joudrey is an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He provides primary care, addiction medicine, and harm reduction services within outpatient and community settings. His research focuses on identifying factors impacting addiction treatment access and outcomes across urban and rural communities and developing, evaluating, and scaling interventions tailored to community needs to improve the health of people who use drugs. This includes research to expand access to patient centered methadone treatment for opioid use disorder. He is Co-lead Investigator for NIDA CTN-131, a randomized pragmatic trial of office-based methadone versus buprenorphine. He received his undergraduate degree from Case Western Reserve University and his medical degree from New York University. Dr. Joudrey completed residency training at Montefiore Medical Center in the Primary Care Social Internal Medicine program and completed the National Clinician Scholars Program fellowship at Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Joudrey and his sister, Anne Joudrey, co-founded North Central Ohio Harm Reduction to improve the health of people who use drugs in North Central Ohio.

David Perlman, MD – Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai



David Perlman is Director of the Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Social-Behavioral Theory Core at the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research and Professor of Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Dr. Perlman has over 20 years' experience in HIV, HCV, TB and STIs and remains active as a clinician in these areas. He has served as principal investigator on multi-center trials within NIAID's AIDS Clinical Trials group, and on R01 grants from NIDA. He has served on NIH study sections, CDC consensus panels, and committees within the ACTG, the NYS DOH AIDS Institute, and the NYC DOHMH. Dr. Perlman's earlier work focused on studies of the epidemiology of tuberculosis among drug users, and on health care delivery models and behavioral and structural interventions to facilitate adherence to the TB and HIV/TB care continuum. Dr. Perlman's work has focused on studies of barriers and facilitators of HIV and HCV testing and care among racial and ethnic minorities, high risk heterosexuals, and people who use drugs, and more broadly on studies of strategies to improve HIV and HIV/HCV care continua and prevention programming for these populations.

Edwin Salsitz, MD – Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai



Edwin A. Salsitz has been an attending physician in the Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Division of Addiction Medicine, New York City, since 1983, and is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He is the principal investigator of the Methadone Medical Maintenance (office-based methadone maintenance) research project. Dr. Salsitz is certified in Addiction Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine, 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 and REMS safe opioid prescribing trainings, and is a lead 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 teaches addiction medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, to third year medical students, masters of science students, neuroscience PhD candidates, and psychiatry residents. Dr. Salsitz was a founding 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, the 2018 ASAM Annual Educator of the Year Award, and the 2021 NYSAM Lifetime Achievement Award.

Kimberly Sue, MD, PhD – Yale University School of Medicine



Kimberly Sue is an Assistant Professor of Medicine with the Program in Addiction Medicine (Division of General Internal Medicine) at Yale University School of Medicine. She is the former Medical Director of the National Harm Reduction Coalition, New York, NY, which strives to improve the health and wellbeing of people who use drugs. Currently, she serves as an Attending Physician at the Central Medical Unit, APT Foundation, which provides primary care to patients receiving methadone and other substance use treatment services and supervises fellows and trainees within the Yale Addiction Medicine Fellowship program. She also is an Attending Physician on the hospital-based Yale Addiction Medicine Consult Service. She holds board certification in both Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine. Dr. Sue trained at Harvard's MD-PhD Social Science Program, and has a PhD in sociocultural anthropology. Her book, *Getting Wrecked: Women, Incarceration, and the American Opioid Crisis* (2019), is based on her research on women with opioid use disorder in Massachusetts prison and jails. Her current research interests include harm reduction, stigma, gender/women and substance use, and overdose response strategies on local, state, and federal levels.

Recommended Readings:

Adams Z, Krawczyk N, Simon R, Sue K, Suen L, Joudrey P. [To save lives from opioid overdose deaths, bring methadone into mainstream medicine](#). *Health Affairs Forefront*. 2022; May 27.

Cohen S, Tilley J, Yocheved A, Sue KL. Doing our best in a broken system: The urgent need for expansion of medication for opioid use disorder treatments in the United States. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*. 2023;17(4): 495-496. doi: 10.1097/ADM.0000000000001143.

- Courtwright D, Joseph H, Des Jarlais D. *Addicts who survived: An oral history of narcotic use in America, 1923-1965*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press; 1989.
- Dole VP, Nyswander M. A medical treatment for diacetylmorphine (heroin) addiction. A clinical trial with methadone hydrochloride. *JAMA*. 1965;193: 646-50. doi: 10.1001/jama.1965.03090080008002.
- Frank D. "I was not sick and I didn't need to recover": Methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) as a refuge from criminalization. *Substance Use and Misuse*. 2018;53(2): 311-322. doi: 10.1080/10826084.2017.1310247. [[PDF](#)]
- Jordan AE, Bachhuber MA, Tuazon E, Jimenez C, Lincourt P, Hussain S, Rubinfeld J, Cunningham CO. Methadone dosing at New York State opioid treatment programs following initial revisions to federal regulations. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. 2024; [Epub 2024 Apr 3]. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2024.111283.
- Jordan AE, Cleland CM, Wyka K, Schackman BR, Perlman DC, Nash D. Hepatitis C virus incidence in a cohort in medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder in New York City. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2020;222(Supplement 5): S322-S334. doi: 10.1093/infdis/jiz659. [[PDF](#)]
- Joudrey PJ, Bart G, Brooner RK, Brown L, Dickson-Gomez J, Gordon A, Kawasaki SS, Liebschutz JM, Nunes E, McCarty D, Schwatz RP, Szapocnik J, Trivedi M, Tsui JI, Williams A, Wu LT, Fiellin DA. Article commentary: Research priorities for expanding access to methadone treatment for opioid use disorder in the United States: A National Institute on Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network Task Force Report. *Substance Abuse*. 2021;42(3):245-254. doi: 10.1080/08897077.2021.1975344. [[PDF](#)]
- Meyerson BE, Bentele KG, Russell DM, Brady BR, Downer M, Garcia RC, Garnett I, Lutz R, Mahoney A, Samorano S, Arredondo C, Andres HJ, Coles H, Granillo B. Nothing really changed: Arizona patient experience of methadone and buprenorphine access during COVID. *PLoS One*. 2022;17(10): e0274094. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0274094. [[PDF](#)]
- Novick DM, Salsitz EA, Joseph H, Kreek MJ. Methadone medical maintenance: An early 21st-century perspective. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*. 2015;34(2-3): 226-237. doi: 10.1080/10550887.2015.1059225.
- Perlman DC, Jordan AE. The syndemic of opioid misuse, overdose, HCV, and HIV: Structural-level causes and interventions. *Current HIV/AIDS Reports*. 2018;15(2): 96-112. doi: 10.1007/s11904-018-0390-3. [[PDF](#)]
- Simon C, Vincent L, Coulter A, Salazar Z, Voyles N, Roberts L, Frank D, Brothers S. The methadone manifesto: Treatment experiences and policy recommendations from methadone patient activists. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2022;112(S2): S117-S122. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2021.306665. [[PDF](#)]