

Bio and Session Information 2019 Seamless Healthcare for Our Veterans

PACT Model Primary Gatekeeper

This session describes how the VA Primary Care Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model of care serves as the gatekeeper for a panel of patients and how the PACT team coordinates care in the VA system, in the community and with veterans. Participants will learn how outside providers and VA providers can work together to provide the best care to veteran patients.

Katie Temple MN, CNL, RN currently serves as clinical nurse educator, she has previous experience in outpatient primary care and medical/surgical practice. Katie received her Master's in Nursing from Montana State University- Bozeman in 2012 and has her Clinical Nurse Leader certification.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

This session will address factors leading to the opioid use disorder epidemic, the relevance of the chronic disease model, and the importance of de-stigmatizing substance use disorders. Harm reduction as part of a continuum of care will be addressed, including components of an ideal integrated behavioral health approach. Evidence based medication treatment will be reviewed, with emphasis on buprenorphine and the importance of increasing access to this treatment through waiver trainings and addition of this medication to the pharmacologic tool kit.

Addressing the Overlap of Chronic Pain and Opioid Use Disorder

Building on the MAT content, this session will emphasize strategies in addressing risk prior to prescribing opioids for chronic pain and managing patient on high MEDs (morphine equivalent dose) with and without misuse. The importance of naloxone in this population and use of buprenorphine products in managing patients with the overlap of opioid use disorder and chronic pain will be discussed.

Dan Nauts, MD, FASAM has been at the forefront of developing flexible treatment strategies, and in particular, in applying stages of change theory and motivational enhancement. His work includes development of a hospital-based addictions treatment program in Washington State. He currently serves as the treasurer for the Northwest Society of Addiction Medicine, a Chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) representing Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming. He is approved as faculty by ASAM to provide buprenorphine waiver trainings and recently was selected as a faculty member to participate in providing a new course—The Fundamentals of Addiction Medicine. Dr. Nauts is an independent contractor for the Montana Primary Care Association, providing buprenorphine waiver trainings, community forums on opioid use disorders, technical assistance in implementing medication assisted treatment (MAT), and guidance in strategies to taper patients off of high dose morphine equivalents.

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Understanding Brain Injury: What's New? What do We Need to Know? This session will cover key clinical information and new thinking about TBI, as well as the overlap of TBI with PTSD and suicidality. It will touch on the clinical relevance of new research, including research being done at the University of Montana's Neural Injury Center. Discussion will focus on best clinical environments and approaches for interfacing with TBI outpatients, including clinical observations about similarities and differences in patients with TBI and PTSD.

Cindi Laukes, MA, MFA is director and COO of the Neural Injury Center at the University of Montana, where she directs an interprofessional brain injury research and clinical team. She is also a translational Research Navigator for the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at the University of Washington-Seattle and serves on the steering committee of a NW regional clinical research network. She recently was an investigator on a multi-site clinical trial of a medication for PTSD in combat veterans, and is currently an investigator on a neuroprotective medication trial for college athletes.

Common Sleep Disorders in the Veteran Population This session addresses diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders commonly seen in the VA Montana Sleep Clinic. Available services through the VA Sleep Medicine Clinic will be identified, focusing on unique needs of the veteran population.

Ashley Bryson PA-C has been working at the VA since 2010. She began in the outpatient clinic working as a primary care provider and transitioned over to the VA Sleep Disorders Clinic in 2015. She sees VA Sleep Clinic patients face to face at the Helena Clinic location and statewide through telehealth. She was a part of the team that helped the VA Sleep Disorders Clinic to obtain accreditation through the AASM in 2018.

Understanding PTSD and Treatment Options Do you wonder how common trauma histories or PTSD are in your clients? Do you wonder why some people develop PTSD and others do not? This session provides a context for the impact of trauma and how PTSD may influence a person's sense of connection to others, decreased ability to manage emotions, or a loss of sense of self-mastery or view of "goodness." Assessment and intervention options will be explored.

Joanna Legerski McCormick Ph.D. is one of the outpatient behavioral health psychologists at Fort Harrison Medical Center as well as the psychologist attached to a Geriatric Evaluation & Management interdisciplinary consultation team, and Director of Psychology Training Programs at Montana VA. Dr. McCormick's specialty background was originally in treating children, youth, adults & families impacted by trauma and violence. Joanna has treated victims of intimate partner violence, community/terrorist violence, traumatic grief & loss, and sexual assault