Greetings to West Virginia District Branch Members! I hope everyone is staying healthy in these unprecedented times.

The WVDB has had an active year. We sent letters to our Governor and the Cabinet Secretary of West Virginia Department of Health & Human Services regarding collecting data and making it available to the public related to testing status, hospitalization, and mortality associated with COVID-19. We also sent letters of support for the Youth Mental Health Protection Act, HB2817. This important legislation will protect West Virginia’s youth from harmful and potentially deadly psychotherapy practices aimed at changing sexual orientation in minors.

A West Virginia task force was formed to take a closer look at African-American disparities regarding COVID-19. The task force is made up of 12 commissioners from grassroots groups, the health care field, legislators, and faith-based organizations. Jill Upson, the director of the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, is heading the group. The task force said one of its most pressing issues is raising awareness about testing in vulnerable communities and they plan to meet twice a week. These meetings are open to the public.

For those who were unable to attend the February District Branch meeting, we had a very interesting session! We had a great turnout, including residents from all three programs as well as several medical students. There were three engaging resident presentations given by Dr. Aatif Mansoor from WVU Charleston, Dr. Mark Peterson from Marshall, and Dr. Eddie Hamrick Jr. from WVU Morgantown. All were well received by our membership. Dr. Fink also provided a nice update on the new Psychiatric Advance Directives and, although she was unable to make it, we received a legislative report from Marsi Thrash.

This year our summer meeting will be virtual via Zoom on Friday, August 21st, 2020. Watch your emails for an invitation. We will have presentations from Dr. Dan Thistlethwaite on Esketamine and from Dr. Kari Law on Telepsychiatry. Returning this year, a resident from each program will be presenting TED Talk and we will have a virtual gift basket giveaway. CME will be awarded for those in attendance and the business meeting will follow the educational portion.

I want to thank Barbara Samples, our Executive Director, for all of her hard work and I hope to see you via Zoom at our next meeting!

Tiffany Sparks, MD - President

Please check our DB website at https://wv.psychiatry.org for COVID-19 resources.
WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE
AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION
SUMMER MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2020

Due to COVID-19 concerns and in order to keep our members safe, the Summer Meeting will be held virtually using Zoom. Please rest assured that the meeting will be conducted as safe as possible for our members using a meeting ID and password. All members who RSVP to the meeting will be sent an email with the link to the meeting along with the ID and password. You MUST RSVP in order to receive information to join the meeting.

AGENDA
10:45 am – 11:0 am  Welcome/Introductions
11:00 – 12:00 pm  “Telepsychiatry”, Presented by: Kari Law, MD, Morgantown, WV
12:00 – 1:30 pm  “Esketamine”, Presented by Dr. Daniel Thistlethwaite, Charleston, WV
1:30 – 1:45 pm  Break
1:45 – 2:30 pm  TED Talk, Residents from each psychiatry residency program
2:30 – 3:30 pm  Business Meeting
                  Prize drawing/give away

Please RSVP by August 17, 2020 to Barbara Samples, wvdbpsych@frontier.com or 304-776-5067
You MUST RSVP in order to receive information to log on to Zoom.
Disclosure

It is the policy of the CAMC Health Education and Research Institute that any faculty (speaker) who makes a presentation at a program designated for AMA Physician's Recognition Award (PRA) Category I or II must disclose any financial interest or other relationship (i.e. spouses/partners, grants, research support, consultant, honoraria) that faculty member has with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) that may be disclosed in the educational presentation. Program Planning Committee Members must also disclose any financial interest or relationship with commercial industry that may influence their participation in this conference. Faculty relationships with industry, if any, will be made available on-site and disclosure made from the podium to the participants.

Accreditation: In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by The West Virginia Psychiatric Association and CAMC Health Education and Research Institute. CAMC Health Education and Research Institute is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team. Physicians - CAMC Health Education and Research Institute is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. CAMC Institute designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.5 hours for AMA PRA Category I credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

District Branch Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2020

Attendees: David Humphreys, MD; Jeff Priddy, MD; Michael Hackman, MD; Tiffany Sparks, MD; Ralph Smith, Jr. MD; Krista Rhodes, MD; Kenneth Fink, MD; T. O. Dickey, MD; Veena Bhanot, MD; Lauren Swager, MD; James Berry, DO; Walter Byrd, MD; Muruga Loganthan, MD

Residents: Aatif Mansoor, MD; Mark Peterson, MD; Elizabeth Collier, MD; Mamoona Mohsin, MD; Jason Barrett, MD; David Lewis, MD; Rebekkah Brown, DO; Mustafa Rahman, MD; Sushma Kosarju, MD; Simratdeep Sandhu, MD; Daniel Leanor, MD; Yasha Rastgar, MD; Edward Hamrick, MD; Danielle Guinan, MD; Molly Robinson, DO; Mark Peterson, MD

Medical Students: Lee Mendenhall; Marji McCoy; C. Thanijaivasa; Paul Shaver; Cecilia Nease; Dakota May; Aryana Misagha; John Brown; Richard Carpenter

Barbara Samples, BA, Executive Director

The meeting was brought order by Tiffany Sparks, MD, President, West Virginia District Branch, American Psychiatric Association. All were welcomed and afterward there was a period of silence and reflection on the recent death of Dr. Sidney Lerfald, a Past President and long time and valued member of the District Branch and a friend of many in attendance.

Lunch was available at both locations: Charleston, WVU Education Building and Morgantown, WVU Health Sciences Center. (The Morgantown location participated in the main body of the scientific and business meeting through live audiovisual link.)
Three cases were presented by psychiatry residents from the three psychiatric programs within the state: the Charleston program, the Huntington program and the Morgantown programs.

First presentation:
“A Royal Flush: A Case of Neurosyphilis in a Patient with a History of Bipolar Disorder”
Presented by: Aatif Mansoor, MD, PGY-3, WVU Charleston

Second presentation:
“Neurocognitive Disorder with Mixed Features: A Case Presentation by Treatment Considerations”
Presented by: Eddie Hamrick, Jr., MD, PGY-2, Morgantown

Third presentation:
“Twenty-five Year Old Male Diagnosed with Social Anxiety Disorder”
Presented by: Mark Peterson, DO, PGY-2, Marshall University

Break

Business Meeting

The Business meeting was called to order by Dr. Sparks, President WVDB, at 3:00 PM.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
The President’s report began with a summary of recent discussion with the WVDB legislative lobbyist, Danny Scalise, pertaining to concerns regarding the increased cost of retaining Danny Scalise, as lobbyist for the West Virginia State Medical Association, who had been functioning as a lobbyist as well for the West Virginia District Branch in 2019. The job performance by Mr. Scalise was efficient and fully acceptable to the District Branch members, however his request for increased funding posed a challenge. The cost for retaining Mr. Scalise as the District Branch’s lobbyist has more than doubled from 2019 to 2020. In 2019 his fee had been $2,000, his request for 2020 was an increase in the amount to $5,000. This was felt to be outside the current framework of the District Branch’s current budget.

Dr. Faheem, however, reflected on the useful role of the lobbyist and his helpfulness in the past, and Dr. Faheem recommended consideration of possible funds from the America Psychiatric Association national office to assist the WVDB to possibly achieve the $5,000 projected increase in Mr. Scalise’s fee. Additionally, there will be an initiative to reach out to Marsi Thrash, the APA Regional Director for Government Relations for Legislative updates on the National and local level.

In other recent activities. Dr. Sparks noted that Dr. Mansoor, resident at WVU Charleston, is running for Resident Fellow Member Trustee Elect.

Dr. Sparks also reminded the WVDB membership present to pay their 2020 dues if they have not already done so.

SECRETARY’S REPORT:
The Secretary’s report was given by Dr. Walter Byrd, reviewing the minutes of the previous West Virginia district Branch meeting, August 23, 2019. The minutes were approved as read. As a component of the previous minutes, the WVDB members’ attention was drawn to the comprehensive review of the previous August 2019 minutes, with additional features pertaining to the November 2019 Assembly, as distributed by Dr. Sparks in the January 2020 District Branch Newsletter.

TREASURER’S REPORT:
The Treasurer’s report was submitted by Dr. Jeff Priddy with an in depth review of recent expenditures and revenues in the checking account along with a review of the savings CD. The Treasurer’s report was approved as presented.
ASSEMBLY REPORT:
The Assembly report was presented by Dr. T.O. Dickey. Dr. Dickey reviewed the high points of the November 2019 Assembly Report, via notes compiled by Dr. Adam Nelson, which were contained in the January 2020 District Branch Newsletter as circulated by Dr. Sparks. The next Assembly Meeting will be held in conjunction with the APA Annual Meeting, April 25-29, in Philadelphia, PA.

RESIDENT’S REPORT:
The Resident's report was given for each of the 3 psychiatric training programs. Dr. Elizabeth Collier reviewed the Charleston program, reflecting on the success of the movie night held in the fall of 2019 generating increased mental health awareness in the Charleston area. She noted that in recent months there have been several Wellness events held for the Psychiatry residents in the Charleston program as part of the residency’s team building exercise. Also, the Charleston residency has been developing expanded telepsych capabilities to increase the effectiveness of patient evaluation and triage, targeting areas underserved with psychiatric services.

Dr. Mark Peterson gave the report for the Marshall program, indicating with enthusiasm that the Psychiatry residency in Huntington will now be increasing to six residents per year. The Geriatric service has been moved from River Park Hospital to the Mildred Bateman Hospital. The Huntington program now manages an additional 10 acute psychiatric beds at Saint Mary's Hospital. Regarding fellowships, there is an Addiction Fellowship now in operation at the Huntington Veterans Administration Hospital. Also, beginning in summer 2020, there will be two new fellowships: a Child and Adolescent Fellowship and a Geriatric Fellowship.

Dr. Swagger presented the residents report from the Morgantown program for Dr. Guinan. The Morgantown program is anticipating growing from seven residents per year to eight residents per year with recent receipt of a Federal grant to install a rural track slot for training psychiatric residents. Currently there are three fellowships in operation at the Morgantown Campus, Child and Adolescent Fellowship, Forensic Fellowship and Addiction Medicine Fellowship. Additionally the much anticipated Center for Hope and Healing for thirty -day residential treatment for substance abuse in now fully operational and at census.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:
Dr. Dickey noted that there was in bill in the legislature to ban gender conversion therapy. There has been no new action in the legislature, regarding psychologist seeking medication prescribing privileges. Senate Bill 664, is moving forward to allow Physician Assistants to assess patient’s lack of capacity. There has been discussion at the legislative level regarding a Mental Health Parity Bill to address equal funding for the treatment of mental illnesses with no mental health “carve out,” and the WVDB is obviously in strong support of such an initiative. Discussion is ongoing to consider the question of possibly legalizing recreational marijuana in West Virginia.

ETHICS REPORT:
Dr. Hussein El-Khatib gave the Ethics committee report and no infractions or complaints have been submitted.

FELLOWSHIP REPORT:
Dr. Ralph Smith gave the Fellowship report, and was encouraged all eligible members to apply for Fellow status or Distinguished Fellow status as appropriate.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:
Dr. Veena Bhanot composed the Membership report, and in the absence of Dr. Bhanot, Barbara Samples, WVDB Executive Director, gave the membership report. Total Membership currently stands at 190.
NEW BUSINESS:
On August 21, 2020 the West Virginia District Branch Meeting will be held at the Greenbrier. The scientific component may address the use of ketamine and other novel new medications for the treatment of psychiatric disorders. Executive Director, Barbara Samples, indicated that plans were not going forward with regards to potentially co sponsoring the Southern Psychiatric Association meeting in 2021 largely due to both logistical and a physical factors.

Dr. Kenneth Fink brought to the meeting floor the issue of psychiatric advanced directives. Apparently twenty-seven states currently have psychiatric advanced directives and the Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services (CMS) is promoting the implementation of psychiatric advanced directives across the country. Regarding panel considering issue of advanced directives, Dr. Woody Moss is the only physician on the panel in West Virginia at the present time.

Barbara Samples noted that funds have recently been sent to the American Psychiatric Foundation through a recent raffle that took place at the August 21, 2019 DB meeting. She also indicated that at the national level there is renewed interest in encouraging the APA Life Members to mentor younger APA members through a pilot program conducted by the Senior Psychiatrists group. Any DB members who are interested in participating please contact Barbara.

ADJOURNMENT:
The meeting was adjourned by President Dr. Tiffany Sparks at 4:05 p.m. She encouraged members to attend the American Psychiatric Association annual meeting April 25-29, 2020 in Philadelphia and also to attend the next West Virginia District Branch meeting scheduled for August 21, 2020 at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Byrd, MD
Secretary, West Virginia District Branch

Assembly Report April 2020
This digest of events during the April virtual Assembly meetings held via Zoom summarizes the business conducted by the Assembly. Many other reports presented in written form can be found in the Assembly Packet. It is best to download or read these notes online, but may also be printed and distributed in hardcopy (without access to the web links). You may use it as is, or edit and modify the content to suit your particular needs. Any errors or omissions are to be considered unconscious. Corrections and suggestions may be sent to Adam Nelson, M.D.

Speaker’s Welcome—Paul O’Leary, MD  Dr. O’Leary welcomed all to the April virtual meeting of the Assembly. He discussed the tremendous effort put into organizing and orchestrating the format for the meeting, which is scheduled to run for 1½ hours today, rather than the usual 2½ days of meetings in person, as has been the tradition of the APA Assembly. However, circumstances involving the coronavirus COVID-19 have precluded the conducting of business as usual. In addition, many of us are all too aware of the toll this pandemic has taken on colleagues around the country. For them, Dr. O’Leary asked for a moment of silence.

Report of the Rules Committee —James R. Batterson, MD  Ordinarily, the Rules Committee report would not receive comment in the Notes. However, with recent changes in the Procedures Code of the Assembly, the Rules Committee was tasked with new responsibilities. In addition to the assignment of Action Papers and other actionable items before the Assembly either to the Reference Committee or to the Consent Calendar, the Rules Committee also assigned some Action Papers to a Reaffirmation Consent Calendar. In addition, because of the unique circumstances of this Virtual Meeting of the Assembly, a third assignment category option was to defer those Action Papers and other actionable business not considered time sensitive to the November Assembly Meeting, when they might receive more deliberative attention. Also, several authors volunteered to defer their Action Papers until November as well. The results of those action items on which the Assembly decided can be found below. Special Rules of the Assembly for this virtual format were also approved by the Assembly.
Assembly report continued...

Assembly Election Results — James R. Batterson, MD, chair Assembly Nominating Committee Results of last week’s election of Assembly officers were announced. For Speaker-Elect, Mary Jo Fitz-Gerald, MD (Area 5) was elected by acclamation. For Recorder, Adam Nelson, MD (Area 6) was elected. Congratulations to the new officers and to all the candidates on a hard fought campaign.

APA Position Statements The following Position Statements were approved by the Assembly: (by consent)
Retired Position Statement: Endorsement of the Patient Physician Covenant
Proposed Position Statement: Use of Antipsychotic Medication in Patients with Major Neurocognitive Disorder (MNCD)
Proposed Position Statement: Universal Health Care in the United States
Revised Position Statement: Banning of Pharmacy Benefit Management Policies that Require the Provision of Dangerous Quantities of Medications
Proposed Position Statement: Mental Health Needs of Undocumented Immigrants
Proposed Position Statement: Competence Evaluation and Restoration Services and the Interface with Criminal Justice and Mental Health Systems
Proposed Position Statement: Pharmaceutical Marketing to Justice Entities regarding Medication Treatment for Substance Use Disorders
Retired Position Statement: Death Sentences for Persons with Dementia or Traumatic Brain Injury
Retired Position Statement: Diminished Responsibility in Capital Sentencing
Retired Position Statement: Mentally Ill Prisoners on Death Row
Retired Position Statement: Position Statement on Moratorium on Capital Punishment in the United States
Proposed Position Statement: Issues Pertaining to Capital Sentencing and the Death Penalty
Revised Position Statement: Second Generation Antipsychotic Medications
Proposed Position Statement: Antiretroviral-Based Therapy for HIV Prevention
Proposed Position Statement: Recognition and Management of Addictive Disorders and Other Mental Illnesses Multi-morbid with HIV
Proposed Position Statement: HIV Risk Reduction
Proposed Position Statement: Recognition and Management of HIV-Related Neuropsychiatric Findings and Associated Impairments
Proposed Position Statement: Leadership of Academic Departments of Psychiatry
Proposed Position Statement: Issues Related to Sexual Orientation and Gender Minority Status
Proposed Position Statement: Xenophobia, Immigration, and Mental Health
Retired Position Statement: Xenophobia, Immigration, and Mental Health (2014)
Proposed Position Statement: Consent to Mental Health Treatment by Guardians, Health Care Agents or other Legally Designated Surrogate Decision-making for Adults with Mental Illness
Proposed Position Statement: Voluntary and Involuntary Hospitalization of Adults with Mental Illness
Proposed Position Statement: Level of Care Criteria for Acute Psychiatric Treatment.

Action Papers/Items
Among the Actions taken during this session, the Assembly voted:
To ratify proposed language to be incorporated into the APA by-laws and effectuate the improved nomination and election process of the APA. (on vote by strength prior to the virtual Assembly meeting)
To support all means of ordering or prescribing medication, including electronic, written, fax, and telephonic.
To support fair and equitable Medicaid funding for states and territories alike, including Puerto Rico.
To have the APA expediently approve a Position Statement on Treatment of Transgender (Trans) and Gender Diverse Youth To reaffirm APA’s Commitment to Achieving Mental Health Equity (by reaffirmation consent)
To oppose the recent Medicare Executive Order, which jeopardizes quality care, patient safety, and the profession of Medicine
To approve addition of diagnostic codes with corresponding text for suicidal behavior and non-suicidal self-injury to DSM-5-TR (by consent)
Assembly report continued…

Reports and Next Steps from the Assembly Committees/Work Groups
Reports from Committees on Access to Care (Eliot Sorel, MD – chair), Public and Community Psychiatry (Isabel Norian, MD – chair), and RFMs (James LePage, DO – chair), and the Assembly Psychiatry Workforce Workgroup (William Greenberg, MD – chair) were contained in the Assembly Reports packet.

Presentation of Assembly Awards
This year, awards announcements were made prior to the Assembly meeting. Here is a summary of those awards given:

Ronald A. Shellow Award-Established in 2004 in honor of Ronald A. Shellow, M.D., past Speaker of the Assembly, this award recognizes departing members of the Assembly who have served the Assembly far beyond the general standards of service shown by most members of the Assembly. For 2019, the award was presented to Charles Price, MD (Area 7). For 2020, the award was presented to Bhasker Dave, MD (Area 4) and Robert Cabaj (Area 6) (posthumously).

Assembly Award for Excellence in Service and Advocacy-Established in 2011, this award recognizes activities by women that promote mental health and reduce stigma related to psychiatric illness, particularly on behalf of women and members of disadvantaged population groups. The award was presented to Jemima Kankam, MD (Area 3)

Assembly Resident-Fellow Member Mentor Awards were presented to Jessica Isom, MD, MPH (Area 1), Cristina Secarea, MD (Area 3), Stephen Salzbrener, MD (Area 4), Anish Dube, MD, MPH (Area 6), Ray Hsiao, MD (Area 7), Jose Vito, MD (Area 2), Eugene Lee, MD (Area 5)

District Branch Best Practice Award: Colorado Psychiatric Society and New York County Psychiatric Society
Assembly Award for the District Branch and Area Council with the Highest Percentage of Voting: Mid-Hudson Psychiatric Society (34%) and Area 2 Council (23%)

Commendations and Farewells
Commendations to Speaker Paul O’Leary, MD and the APA Assembly Staff for their amazing work in transitioning our complex Assembly meeting agenda to an online virtual format. Farewells to all those going off the Assembly after this meeting, and thank you for your dedication and tireless service.

Future Meetings
All future governance and business meetings of the APA will be conducted virtually for the remainder of 2020. Announcements regarding dates and Action Paper deadlines for the November Assembly will be forthcoming.
EVERYONE PLEASE STAY SAFE AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH!

Respectfully submitted by T. O. Dickey, MD, and Jorge Cortina, MD, WV District Branch Assembly Representatives
RESIDENT NEWS

WVU Charleston Division

Residency training teaches us many things, both clinical and non-clinical. One of the most important lessons we learn is resilience. The recent COVID-19 Pandemic has shown how resilient the Psychiatry residents at WVU Charleston Division truly are. We have been able to utilize teamwork and flexibility to make the best out of an unfortunate situation and come out stronger than we were before.

Since the start of the COVID pandemic until roughly 2 weeks ago we were working our inpatient and consult service on a "skeleton crew" to decrease the risk of exposure by being in the hospitals and ER. Thankfully, we have had no positive cases in any residents or faculty members thus far. Our outpatient clinics have also experienced some changes, as we started to implement TelePsych for office visits. This setup has been working very well and patients seem to enjoy it. We have recently started allowing patients to come in for face-to-face visits in the clinic, which has been a small glimmer of hope that things could return to a somewhat normal state soon.

Some of the other changes we had been preparing for (TMS, Esketamine clinic, etc.) have been put on temporary hold until COVID is over. Another unfortunate change to this year’s routine includes the switch to a virtual graduation ceremony. This year we will graduate 3 general psychiatry residents (Drs. Gira Borad, Elizabeth Collier, and Fahd Mousa). Dr. Borad will be completing an Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship in Pittsburgh, while Drs. Collier and Mousa have both signed on to work in West Virginia. Additionally, we will be graduating 2 Med/Psych residents, Drs. Daniel Cho and Jamal Shah. Dr. Shah will be completing an Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship in Cincinnati while Dr. Cho will be taking his talents to California. Another noteworthy accomplishment to mention, one of our upcoming 4th years, and rising chief resident, Dr. Jason Barrett has accepted a Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship position at the University of Cincinnati.

We look forward to welcoming 4 new General Psychiatry residents as well as 2 Med/Psych residents next month. 2 of our General Psychiatry residents completed their Medical School training in-state at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. We are excited to welcome some bright new faces into our program and look forward to the changes ahead for the WVU Charleston Division!

Rebekkah Brown, DO, PGY-2
Behavioral Medicine & Psychiatry
CAMC/WVU - Charleston Division

Marshall University

Marshall, much like everywhere else in the world, has spent much of the spring adjusting to the coronavirus outbreak. Our clinic was transitioned to Microsoft Teams to minimize our patient's exposure. Overall, the transition has gone very smoothly. Our patients have been taking the adjustments in stride. Our inpatient service at the state hospital has transitioned to telehealth as well. The consult service temporarily switched to telehealth but has since resumed in hospital visits.

This year we are happy to announce that all of our fourth-year graduates will be staying at Marshall. Three of our graduates, Dr. Meredith Bentley, Dr. Jordan Gaal, and Dr. Janice Hostetter have signed on to work as attendings. Dr. Bentley will be focused on the outpatient clinic and mind wellness center. Drs. Gaal and Hostetter will be focused mainly on acute inpatient services at the state hospital. Our fourth graduate, Dr. Clare Plyler will be staying on for our geriatric fellowship.

We are also happy to announce that our three third years will all be going into child psychiatry. Dr. Erika Maynard and Dr. Tiffany White have decided to stay at Marshall for their child psychiatry fellowship. Dr. Ruthie Cooper will be going to fellowship in Cincinnati.
Resident News continued...

The Marshall Psychiatry program continues to evolve and expand. This coming year will be the first year for our geriatric fellowship and child fellowship. The geriatric fellowship is allowing for expansion into WV nursing homes and will be a great resource to the community. The child fellowship will provide much needed treatment to the children and adolescents of the area.

Lastly, we are very excited to welcome our new interns this July! Each intern is matched up with a senior resident mentor and staff supervisor to help ease their transition to residency. We look forward to working with these bright and compassionate young men and women.

Mallory Morris, MD, PGY-2 Resident
Marshall Psychiatry

WVU Morgantown

These are unprecedented times in the field of medicine. The novel COVID-19 virus has required rapid adaptation to a new way of healthcare delivery. In the span of only a few weeks, the West Virginia Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry made the transition to complete virtual care of all outpatient clinics, including various substance abuse groups and intensive outpatient programs. WVU is utilizing both telephone and video visits (through Epic’s MyChart Video system) to conduct telemedicine with a >85% show rate per most recent reports. While the coronavirus has had a devastating effect on countless lives across the world, it has propelled the department into adopting a new and possibly more accessible and patient-centered approach to psychiatric care to our largely rural and financially limited patient population.

Changes have also taken place on our inpatient units and consult service. Chestnut Ridge Center continues to hold four inpatient psychiatric units with the capability of housing around 35 patients. The Center for Hope and Healing, the department’s newly opened 28-day residential program for treatment of substance use disorders, has also maintained near full capacity. The consult liaison service is utilizing various technological platforms to successfully conduct virtual psychiatric consults using iPad technology, both in the Emergency Department and on medical inpatient floors.

Despite all of the challenges and difficulties, our department still finds reason to celebrate! We have successfully recruited and look forward to welcoming 8 new interns to our program in July 2020. We are also very excited and proud to graduate 8 residents this year! Dr. Ramez Altuwijri will be staying to complete an Addiction Medicine fellowship at WVU. Dr. Nathan Pearson will be staying on as faculty at WVU. Dr. Robert Looper has accepted a position in Charlotte, NC working at Atrium Behavioral Health’s inpatient unit. Dr. Yasha Rastgar will be working for Savant Care, a private practice group Redondo Beach, CA. Dr. Patrick Henderson is moving to Tulsa, OK to work as an outpatient psychiatrist for Laureate Psychiatric Clinic. Dr. Halima Al-Qawasmi will be taking her talents to Detroit, MI and working as a staff psychiatrist at St. John’s Hospital. Dr. Jayson Varughese will be completing a Geriatric Fellowship at John’s Hopkins. And Dr. Sadia Chaudhary accepted a position at UnityPoint Health in Waterloo, IA. I will also be graduating and have been accepted to complete a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship at Duke University. We would also like to congratulate Doctors Daniel Leonor, Ernest Spiotto, and Dorothy Van Oppen who have been selected as the upcoming resident chiefs.

The ability of our program to adapt and remain flexible during this complicated and trying time has been inspiring. We extend our appreciation to all mental healthcare providers as we join together to fulfill our commitment to serving the mental healthcare needs our West Virginia residents.

Danielle E. Guinan, MD
Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry
PGY-III
APA NEWS

Telepsychiatry Toolkit
APA's Telepsychiatry Toolkit — developed by the APA Work Group on Telepsychiatry — is an evolving resource for members who want to learn about the various aspects of telepsychiatry, including clinical, training, and policy considerations. As new topics emerge, more resources and information will be added to this toolkit.

The toolkit covers topics from History, training, practice/clinical, reimbursement and legal issues from leading psychiatrists.

Stay Connected
Add your email address and name to receive updates on Telepsychiatry from the APA.

https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/telepsychiatry/sign-up

Telepsychiatry Blog
Get the latest news in telepsychiatry.
https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/telepsychiatry/blog/telepsychiatry

Child & Adolescent Telepsychiatry
Learn about unique to practicing telepsychiatry with children & adolescents.


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What Types of Activities Are Available?
We have 200+ activities in the Learning Center Catalog. Many are offered for free or at a minimal cost. APA Members always get the best price.
WELCOME NEW/REINSTATED MEMBERS

New Members

New Residents: Applications for New PGY-1 Residents are currently being processed through the APA

Transfer to WV: Muruga Loganathan, MD- Morgantown; Derek Goff, DO-Huntington

Congratulations to the 2020 Resident Graduates and those who have been accepted into Fellowships:

Halima Al-Qawasmi, MD – practice in Detroit, MI
Ramez Aitwirjeri, MD – addiction fellowship at WVU Morgantown
Clare Bajamundi-Plyer, DO – geri psych fellowship at Marshall University
Meredith Bentley, DO – faculty at Marshall University
Gira Borad, MD – addiction psych fellowship in Pittsburgh, PA
Sadia Chaudhary, MD – to practice in Waterloo, IA
Daniel Cho, MD – to practice in CA
Elizabeth Collier, MD – to practice in WV
Ruthie Cooper, MD – child fellowship in Cincinnati, OH
Stephen Deci, MD – child fellowship at WVU Morgantown
Jordan Gall, DO- faculty at Marshall University
Danielle Guinan, MD – child fellowship at Duke University
Patrick Henderson, MD – to practice in Tulsa, OK
Janice Hostetter, DO – faculty at Marshall University
Robert Looper, MD – to practice in Charlotte, NC
Erika Maynard, MD – child fellowship at Marshall University
Fahd Mousa, MD – to practice in WV
Nathan Pearson, MD – faculty at WVU Morgantown
Yasha Rastgar, MD – to practice in CA
Jamal Shah, MD – addiction psych fellowship in Cincinnati, OH
Tiffany White, DO – child fellowship at Marshall University
Jayson Varughese, MD – geriatric fellowship at Johns Hopkins

Upcoming Events…

WV District Branch Summer Meeting, August 21, 2020, Virtual meeting (see page 2 of this Newsletter)

WV District Branch Winter Meeting, February 2021 (date to be determined)
American Psychiatric Association’s Endorsed Professional Liability Insurance
Designed for Psychiatrists in all types of practice

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