



Tennessee Society of Addiction Medicine

TNSAM 2026 Annual Conference

Saturday, May 16, 2026

Brentwood, Tennessee

*Presented by the Tennessee Chapter of the
American Society of Addiction Medicine*

HISTORY OF ADDICTION MEDICINE · 6 CME CREDITS

RECOVERY ORIENTED SYSTEM OF CARE · **NETWORKING**

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE · 7-OH & NOVEL DRUGS · EVIDENCE BASED CARE

OVERDOSE LANDSCAPE · **BEST PRACTICES · BUPRENORPHINE MICROINDUCTION**

EXHIBITION · CO-OCCURRING PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS

tnsam.org/conference

APPROVED FOR SIX (6) AMA PRA CATEGORY 1 CME CREDITS. [VIEW ACCREDITATION STATEMENT HERE](#)

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM

NETWORKING BREAKFAST IN EXHIBIT AREA

8:00 AM - 8:10 AM

WELCOME REMARKS

8:10 AM - 8:40 AM

The Original Drug Lords: East Indies Trading Company and the Birth of Addiction Specialists

Chad Elkin, MD, DFASAM



President, TNSAM; Founder, National Addiction Specialists;
TAADAS MAT Council Chairman

This lecture provides a concise overview of the history of addiction medicine, tracing its evolution from ancient cultural and philosophical interpretations of compulsive substance use to its emergence as a formal medical subspecialty. A pivotal early chapter in the American story involves the West Indies Trading Company and its colonial rum trade, which supplied cheap molasses from slave plantations to fuel highly profitable New England distilleries and trigger a massive alcohol epidemic in the post-Revolutionary period. Observing rampant daytime binge drinking of rum and whiskey, Benjamin Rush published his influential 1784 treatise framing habitual drunkenness as a disease of the brain and will. The presentation then covers key milestones including the 19th-century temperance movements, the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935, methadone maintenance in the 1960s, the neurobiological “brain disease” model, and the 2016 recognition of addiction medicine as a certified subspecialty, emphasizing recurring cycles of moral, social, economic, and medical interpretations that continue to shape today’s approaches.

8:40 AM - 9:40 AM

Keynote: Building a Recovery Oriented System of Care

Stephen D. Loyd, MD



Chief Medical Officer, Cedar Recovery;
Director, Office of Drug Control Policy of West Virginia

This presentation explores the persistent disparities in addiction care and the systemic barriers that limit access to effective treatment. It emphasizes the transformative power of kindness and compassion as clinical tools that foster engagement, dignity, and lasting recovery. By examining the principles of a Recovery Oriented System of Care, participants will be encouraged to move beyond siloed thinking toward a collaborative, inclusive approach that unites all pathways to recovery.

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

COFFEE BREAK IN EXHIBIT AREA

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Laws, Rules, and Regulations, Oh My!

Wesley Geminn, PharmD, BCPP



Chief Pharmacist / State Opioid Treatment Authority
TN Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Regulatory compliance remains a top priority for many addiction treatment providers. Due to the extent and frequency of changes to these regulations, provider confidence in regulatory compliance continues to be a challenge. This lecture is intended not only to provide information about recent updates to the regulations, but also to help clinicians become more confident in evaluating these regulations on their own and to better stay up to date with changes.

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

Beyond Kratom: 7-Hydroxymitragynine and the New Wave of Designer Opioids

Jason Kirby, DO, MBA, DFASAM

Chief Medical Officer, Recovery Centers of America;
Treasurer, ASAM; Co-chair, ASAM OUD Guideline Committee



Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) use has increased substantially in the United States, often perceived by patients as a “natural” alternative for pain management, mood regulation, or opioid withdrawal. However, the emergence of products enriched with 7-Hydroxymitragynine (7-OH)—a potent μ -opioid receptor agonist and active alkaloid of kratom—has significantly altered the risk profile of these products. Concentrated and semi-synthetic 7-OH formulations are increasingly marketed and may produce opioid-like tolerance, dependence, and withdrawal syndromes that are frequently unrecognized in clinical settings and undetectable on routine toxicology screens. This presentation will review the pharmacology of kratom and 7-OH, emerging market trends, and the clinical manifestations of 7-OH misuse. Practical guidance will be provided for screening, diagnosis, and management, including the role of medications for opioid use disorder such as Buprenorphine when clinically indicated. The session aims to equip addiction medicine clinicians with the knowledge needed to identify and manage this evolving substance use trend.

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Nashville Overdose Landscape

Lieutenant Mike Hotz

Metro Nashville Police Department



Lieutenant Hotz is a founding member of MNPD’s Overdose Unit and has worked to reduce overdose death for over six years. MNPD implemented a unique approach to the overdose crisis, utilizing both overdose investigations as well as harm reduction. Universal distribution of Naloxone throughout the community, combined with aggressive outreach and prevention strategies has contributed to the significant reductions in Nashville.

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH IN EXHIBIT AREA

1:15 PM - 2:00 PM

The Buprenorphine Microinduction Model

Amanda von Horn, MD

Director, Division of Addiction Psychiatry;
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



In the era of non-pharmaceutical fentanyl, traditional buprenorphine induction strategies have become exceedingly challenging due to the rising risk of precipitated opioid withdrawal. In this presentation, we will review the pharmacology of buprenorphine, explore patient-specific risk factors for precipitated withdrawal, and techniques and practical tips for successful implementation of the microinduction model into clinical practice.

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

Diagnosis and Treatment of Co-Occurring Non-SUD Psychiatric Disorders

David Marcovitz, MD

Associate Professor; Director, Middle TN HUB for OUD
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders represent one of the most clinically complex challenges in addiction medicine, with mood, anxiety, trauma-related, and psychotic conditions occurring at rates two to four times greater than in the general population across alcohol, opioid, and stimulant use disorders. Despite this prevalence, comorbidities remain systematically underdiagnosed and undertreated, contributing to poorer outcomes and higher relapse rates. Drawing on a decade of clinical practice in addiction psychiatry, Dr. Marcovitz has prepared a case-based presentation that offers practical frameworks for diagnosing non-substance psychiatric conditions in the context of active use, withdrawal, and early recovery — with attention to clinical timeline, collateral history, and validated assessment tools — and examines treatment considerations for common co-occurring conditions including major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, PTSD, and ADHD. Attendees will leave with translatable clinical pearls and a refined diagnostic approach applicable across outpatient, intensive outpatient, and residential treatment settings.

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH TNSAM PRESENTERS

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM

CLOSING REMARKS | CONFERENCE CONCLUDES AT 3:45 PM

Your Registration Includes:

- All conference sessions
- Six (6) AMA PRA Category 1 CME credits
- Continental breakfast & coffee break
- Networking luncheon
- Post-event access to speaker slides

REGISTRATION TYPE	EARLY-BIRD (until 3/31)	REGULAR (after 4/1)
ASAM Member (MD, DO, PharmD)	\$249	\$299
ASAM Member (Non-Physician)	\$199	\$249
Non-Member (MD, DO, PharmD)	\$349	\$399
Non-Member (Non-Physician)	\$299	\$349
Resident / Fellow / Student	\$99	\$149
ELITE SUPPORTER	\$5,000	\$5,000
KEY SUPPORTER	\$3,000	\$3,000
SUPPORT CIRCLE	\$1,500	\$1,500

VENUE: TNSAM 2026 will take place at the NAS Office Building, located at:
5511 Virginia Way, Suite 300, Brentwood, TN 37027.

REGISTER HERE

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Questions? Contact Us

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