

ISAM Webinar Series on COVID-19 and SUD: A Global Perspective on Challenges and Solutions

As you all know, the current COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly affected various populations globally. The International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) believes that the impact of this pandemic on people struggling with Substance Use Disorders could not be overlooked. Thus we decided to take this opportunity to hold a series of webinars with partners from different parts of the world, discussing challenges and solutions regarding the current pandemic from the addiction medicine perspective. The objective of these webinars is to support colleagues in the field of addiction medicine to learn from peers who either have undergone profound changes in service delivery or are on the brink of doing so.

The first webinar from this webinar series was held on the 23rd of March 2020 with more than 150 participants from various institutions worldwide discussing examples of good practice, COVID-19 considerations for substance-using populations, as well as suggestions for training, research, or policy that could help experts to be better prepared in the future.

The webinar consisted of 4 panels, addressing (1) COVID-19 impacts on opioid substitution treatment (OST) and other addiction pharmacotherapies, (2) abstinence and recovery based interventions, and psychosocial support, (3) harm reduction approaches during this pandemic and (4) best practices across the world. In the last panel, clinicians from Italy, Iran, USA, New Zealand, Norway, and Belgium shared their national experiences and best practices applied in addiction medicine and care context during this pandemic. The webinar ended with a group discussion and Q&A with attendees from 19 countries.

The Second Webinar from this webinar series held by ISAM will be on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET), 12:00 - 2:00 PM (GMT).

For inquiries, suggestions, and registration for the second webinar, please send an email to ISAM.NIG@gmail.com.

You can watch the full recorded video of the first webinar on the [ISAM-NIG channel](#).