



President's Bulletin – November 2018

Damon Korb, MD

Dear SDBP members,

It was wonderful to see everyone at the annual meeting, and for those who could not attend, you missed a good one. We had record attendance and one of our own, Dr. Benard Dreyer, gave a stirring Plenary Session on the effects of poverty. Planning is underway for the 2019 annual meeting and given that the conference will occur in Washington, DC there will be an active advocacy component.

Each month I plan to share the Board's actions with the membership and welcome suggestions. Here is what we have been up to since the meeting:

Workforce

The recently published Workforce survey described the shortage in developmental behavioral pediatric clinicians. Addressing Workforce issues is complicated and will involve strategies to bring people into the field, efforts to obtain appropriate payment for our services, and helping to extend the skills of primary care providers and mid-level providers to support children with common behavioral and developmental issues. [workforce survey link](#)

We have been exploring solutions to the Workforce issues and talking to members of the Society about innovative training and recruitment strategies and novel models of care. Of course, the Workforce survey considered developmental and behavioral pediatricians and advanced practice nurses, but not psychologists. There are unique Workforce concerns to each clinician type and so I am particularly interested to hear from the advance practice nurses and psychologists. Many of the solutions will require partnerships with other important professional groups, but I believe that our society is in the best position to take a lead on this issue.

Practice Issues

Becky Baum and Marilyn Augustyn are assembling thoughts about appropriate payment for our services. These discussions cover broad topics such as strategic partners, coding, models of care and "getting a seat at the table." This is happening at a time when the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has put forward a proposal to reform Office-Visit payments. Spoiler alert: it is not good for DBPeds: [CMS Proposal to reform Office Visit Payments](#)

We wrote an endorsement in support of the Better Access to Treatment Act requiring a Behavior Analyst Licensure to be able to perform ABA therapy in Pennsylvania.

International SIG

Following the lead of the International SIG, recognition letters were sent to Rwandan and Nigerian colleagues for their participation in the conference.

ADHD SIG

The ADHD Guidelines are moving forward. The review process is about to start with a broad coalition made up of representatives from our Committees/SIGs/Sections, the Board, and then the JDBP. Leaders have been selected to head up implementation (Jason Fogler and Eugenia Chan) and dissemination (Jeff Yang and Jennifer Poon). This will be a tremendous effort that involves getting the word out and putting the guidelines into practice by creating a Toolkit, possibly MOC credit, EHR tools, metrics and measures, etc.

Thank you to Bill Barbaresi and the dozens of members that have participated in the research and writing of the guidelines. And thank you to the dozens more of you who have volunteered to help with dissemination and implementation. For those who have not signed up, but may be interested to support this process, use the following link to sign up:

ADHD Dissemination workgroup form: <https://goo.gl/forms/4RPbjgKcTfXzX1Vf2>

The SDBP was contacted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Evaluation and Inspections, who is conducting a study regarding follow-up care for Medicaid-enrolled children who are treated for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). As part of this study, they hope to draw conclusions about ways that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) could improve the rate of follow-up care for Medicaid-enrolled children who are treated for ADHD. To ensure that professional guidance is interpreted and reflected accurately in their report, they solicited the SDBP's feedback. Tanya Froehlich is going to represent us in that interview.

Visibility

Many members were filmed at the conference telling their "I Am DBP" story. Lots of good material that we can use in future marketing.

Research

Due to other commitments Carolyn Ievers-Landis will be stepping down from the leadership of the Research Committee. Usually we honor our colleagues who have served the Society at the annual meeting, but the timing is such that I think it is appropriate to thank her now for all of her efforts on the Research Committee, ensuring that Research is well represented at each meeting, and with the Research Scholars. Thank you for all you have done Carolyn!

JDBP

A recent article in our journal is getting broad press coverage. The entry is titled "Advertising in Young Children's Apps: A Content Analysis." It warns that apps that kids use are loaded with ads, many of which are inappropriate. As of the end of October there has been 206 downloads of the PDF and it has been picked up in 27 news outlets. Beyond the popularity of the report, it is an important reminder that parenting must extend to the digital world.

Link to the article: <http://bit.ly/2zeHiw9>

Link to the video: <http://bit.ly/2yFZlqj>

Parting Note

Hope everyone had a happy Halloween and remember to vote for kids next week.

Best,
Damon