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Weekly Public Affairs Program

Show # 2020-39 Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. Karen L. Margolis, MD, MPH, Executive Director of Research at HealthPartners Institute in Minneapolis

Dr. Margolis led a study that found that people enrolled in a pharmacist-led telemonitoring program to control high blood pressure were about half as likely to have a heart attack or stroke compared to those who received routine primary care. She explained how the approach differs from typical treatment programs. She also found that, with fewer medical complications, telemonitoring and phone visits translated into a \$1,900 savings on average, per patient.

<u>Issues covered:</u> High Blood Pressure Personal Health

2. Honora Englander, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine in the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine

Opioid abuse and overdoses are rising rapidly, in the wake of COVID-19 lockdowns. Dr. Englander studied 486 patients who entered an in-hospital addiction medicine intervention at OHSU, and found that three-quarters came into the hospital using more than one substance. She said medical personnel must be ready to offer additional support to patients using multiple drugs. She said participants in general abused fewer substances in the months after working with the hospital-based addictions team than before.

Issues covered:
Drug Addiction

3. **Dennis E. Reidy, PhD,** Clinical Neuropsychologist, Behavioral Scientist in the Division of Violence Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta

Stalking is a widely recognized public health concern, yet little information is available about stalking behaviors among teenage victims. Dr. Reidy led a study that determined that found that 14% of girls and 13% of boys have been victims of stalking. In addition, the survey found that the stalked teens were more likely to report symptoms linked to depression, as well as risky behavior such as binge drinking, drug abuse, dating violence and sexting.

Issues covered:
Stalking
Youth at Risk
Mental Health

