Dear Colleagues,

I am writing on behalf of AATOD at an unprecedented time for our health care system and OTPs. I have been communicating with the appropriate federal and state agencies, which have regulatory jurisdiction in this area in addition to suppliers of medication to OTPs and suppliers of equipment to OTPs.

I am providing a link to AATOD's guidance for OTPs in responding to the challenges of COVID-19. I am grateful to Janice Kauffman (AATOD First Vice President/Chair of AATOD's Policy Committee) in addition to the Policy Committee members (Michael Rizzi, Tina Beckley and Brian McCarroll) for their contributions in developing these guidelines.

These guidelines have been vetted by the AATOD Board of Directors, in addition to federal and state agencies and our associates in other national associations. I am grateful for their guidance and counsel.

From our point of view, the nation’s network of OTPs provide essential services to our patients. The guidance clearly promotes having OTP operations continue and we want to provide take-home medication wherever possible and in accordance with sound clinical judgment to decrease the exposure that patients will encounter as they travel to and from the OTPs.

AATOD will continue to serve as a resource to our field and will work with other partner organizations in order to respond to questions that will inevitably come to surface.
These partners will certainly include the National ATTC and the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP) among other parties. If OTPs want to access additional resources and support, we encourage you to reach out to AAAP, ATTC, ORN and PCSS as well. Once you have reviewed the guidance, you can submit questions through this link and we will work with our partners to develop a FAQ document.

AATOD has a long history in working in such partnership with many organizations and we will continue this tradition throughout this health epidemic and long after. We have already consulted with a broad range of organizations including the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) and the American Psychiatric Association (APA).

We hope that the guidelines are useful.

Thank you for all of your work on behalf of our patients and to preserve the continuity of care for the patients that we treat. Please let me know if you have any questions.

With best regards,

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