O
ne word embodies the 26th Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium: Growth.

The American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry welcomed 778 clinicians, trainees, and other healthcare professionals to the Huntington Beach Hyatt Regency Hotel and Spa. Registrations increased 24 percent overall, with a marked increase in the number of registrations for the Addictions and Their Treatment Course, which drew more than 200 participants.

Prior to the meeting, several Addiction Psychiatrists who are part of the Providers’ Clinical Support System

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projects, met to discuss increasing trainings on the use of naltrexone/Vivitrol to treat opioid use disorder. Currently, most trainings offered by the PCSS projects focus on buprenorphine. The group discussed the importance of Addiction Psychiatrists expanding their use of naltrexone and ultimately urging general practitioners to embrace the medication. The group agreed more basic trainings are needed for primary care providers, and more work needs to be done to reduce the stigma of addiction.

AAAP is the lead organization for both the Providers’ Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment and Providers’ Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies.

During the meeting, attendees had the opportunity to choose among a broad array of skills development workshops, symposia, and paper/poster presentations. This year, AAAP added a wellness element to the meeting with three yoga sessions and a well-attended Fun Run/Walk. Nearly 40 attendees braved the chilly morning to walk or run the 5K course along the beach.

This year’s silent and live auctions plus online donations, raised more than $10,000 for the Sheldon I. Miller Educational Fund—another record for AAAP! And more good news: Membership is at a record high of 1,600, a growth of 60 percent over this time last year.

For those who took the Addictions and Their Treatment Course, the deadline to submit evaluations is Dec. 27. Participants can receive as many as 20 CME/self-assessment credits. If you have not received your evaluation link, please contact Miriam Giles.

AAAP members who attended Annual Meeting have access to Maintenance of Certification offerings. Members should have received an email Oct. 20 announcing a new exam for members who attended the Annual Meeting, which is approved for 8 self assessment credits. The exam must be completed by Jan. 20.

We hope to see you next year at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, Bonita Springs, FL, Dec. 8-11!