NIDA IS WONDERFUL
CLINICAL BACKGROUND

- 31 YRS DIRECTOR OF VA PROGRAM
  - 20,000 OP VISITS/YR
  - 350 IP/YR
  - TEACH Med Students Psychiatry Family Practice

- 8 YRS DIRECT PRIVATE PROGRAM
  - IP
  - OP
  - Adults & Teens

- CHAIR DSM IV SUD; MEMBER DSM V
MY CONCERN

HOW MERGER AFFECTS:

- TREATMENT
- PREVENTION
- RESEARCH
- TEACHING
KEY QUESTIONS

- WHERE’S THE BEEF?
- HOW DOES CHANGE HELP ME:
  - KEEP PEOPLE HEALTHY?
  - HELP PATIENTS IMPROVE?
- WHAT’S THE DOWNSIDE?
  - (AKA: THE IMPACT ON ME/MINE?)
HOW TO MAKE DECISIONS

- DATA!
- LOGIC
- EXPERIENCE
ALCOHOL: NOT JUST ANOTHER DRUG

✓ LEGAL

✓ PREVALENCE:
  • USE
  • UNHEALTHY USE
  • PROBLEMS
  • ABUSE/DEPENDENCE

✓ AFFECTS MOST:
  • SYSTEMS
  • MED ILL
  • PSYCH ILL

✓ IMPACTS:
  • ALL AGES
  • BOTH SEXES
  • ALL GROUPS
LOGIC/EXPERIENCE I

NIH
- IN THE BEGINNING:
  2 INSTITUTES
- MERGER IN ADAMHA
- NOW 2 INSTITUTES

SOCIETIES
- RSA FOR ALCOHOL
- CPDD FOR DRUGS
  NEVER MEET TOGETHER
  NEVER MERGE
WHERE’S THE BEEF?
TOO MANY INSTITUTES?
MONEY?
BIGGER IS BETTER?
### LOGIC/EXPERIENCE III

**EFFECTS ON MY PATIENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ASSETS (</strong>)**</th>
<th><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAVE $</td>
<td>ALCOHOL NOT FOCUS</td>
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<tr>
<td>↑ EFFICIENCY</td>
<td>↓ DATA ON USE/MISUSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>↑ IMAGE</td>
<td>↓ DATA ON BODY SYSTEMS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>↓ TEACH HEALTHFUL USE</td>
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<td>↑ RELUCTANCE TO ID/GET Rx</td>
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MAJOR LOSS
A DEDICATED, FOCUSED INSTITUTE
- THE MOST PREVALENT
- LEGAL
- CONTROL OF USE IN MANY
- COMPLEX, UNIQUE ISSUES
KEY QUESTIONS

- WHERE’S THE BEEF?
- HOW DOES CHANGE HELP ME:
  - KEEP PEOPLE HEALTHY?
  - HELP PATIENTS IMPROVE?
- WHAT’S THE DOWNSIDE?
  - (AKA: THE IMPACT ON ME/MINE?)