



MEDIA ALERT

U.S. Surgeon General to Address Opioid Epidemic at Hartford Event

What: Members of the media are invited to attend a compelling discussion on opioid and substance misuse led by U.S. Surgeon General, Vice Admiral (VADM) Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, with participation from expert members of the Hartford HealthCare Behavioral Network.

Who: The [Hartford Medical Society](#) is teaming up with [Hartford HealthCare](#) to host the event. VIPs/speakers to include:

- VADM Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, 20th Surgeon General of the United States
- Bernard Kosto, MD, President, Hartford Medical Society
- Jeffrey A. Flaks, President and CEO, Hartford HealthCare
- J. Craig Allen, MD, Medical Director, Hartford HealthCare's Rushford Center
- Patricia Rehmer, President, HHC Behavioral Health Network and SVP, Hartford HealthCare
- John Michael Santopietro, MD, DFAPA, Physician-in-Chief, Hartford HealthCare Behavioral Health Network and SVP, Hartford HealthCare

When: Monday, March 2, 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Where: Heublein Hall, Hartford Hospital's Education and Resource Center, 560 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Media Contact: Media must RSVP. To do so, or with questions, contact Brian Westerlind, brian@markens.com, 413.686.9178

Pre-Event Release:

U.S. Surgeon General to Address Opioid Epidemic During Visit to Hartford

HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 6, 2020— In 2017, 955 people died from opioid overdoses in Connecticut. That, according to data from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, was twice the national rate. Fortunately, both local and national public health organizations have been working to combat the epidemic. This March, medical professionals of Connecticut can get an update from the top, when U.S. Surgeon General, Vice Admiral (VDM) Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, gives a talk at Hartford Hospital.

Taking place at the hospital's Heublein Hall on March 2 from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., the event will feature a panel discussion on opioid and substance misuse led by Dr. Adams. Experts from the Hartford HealthCare Behavioral Health Network will offer their views and expertise.

As Vice Admiral of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, the Surgeon General oversees the operations of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, which has approximately 6,500 uniformed health officers who serve to promote, protect, and advance the health and safety of the United States.

A board-certified anesthesiologist, Dr. Adams has bachelor's degrees in biochemistry and psychology from the University of Maryland, a master of public health degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and a medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine. Prior to his current position, he served as the Indiana State Health Commissioner from 2014 to 2017 where he led the state's efforts to mitigate an unprecedented HIV outbreak caused by the sharing of needles among people who inject drugs.

The March event will be hosted jointly by the [Hartford Medical Society](#) and [Hartford HealthCare](#). Hartford Medical Society, established in 1846, is a membership organization for practicing and retired physicians as well as other medical providers in Connecticut. They focus on continued learning, comradery in the community, cross-generational connections, as well as the history of medicine in the state. Their historical library, currently housed at UConn Health, features artifacts dating back to the early 1500s. Hartford HealthCare is Connecticut's most comprehensive health care network, with 30,000 professionals who serve 185 towns and cities in more than 360 locations across Connecticut.

The educational event is free to all, and complimentary lunch will be served. For more information and to RSVP, visit hartfordmedicalsociety.org.

PHOTO CAPTION: U.S. Surgeon General, Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH will speak at Hartford Hospital on March 2, 2020.



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Hartford Medical Society addresses the compelling problems facing medicine now and in the future while promoting collegiality among medical professionals. HMS works to inform the Greater Hartford community about medical challenges and solutions, and encourage interest in the medical humanities, especially the history of medicine, using the HMS Library as a resource. To learn more, visit hartfordmedicalsociety.org.

With 30,000 colleagues and total operating revenue of \$4.3 billion, Hartford HealthCare has cultivated a strong, unified culture of accountability and innovation. Its care-delivery system, with more than 360 locations serving 185 towns and cities, includes two tertiary-level teaching hospitals, an acute-care community teaching hospital, an acute-care hospital and trauma center, three community hospitals, the state's most extensive behavioral health network, a large multispecialty physician group, a clinical care organization, a regional home care system, an array of senior care services, and a large physical therapy and rehabilitation network. Hartford HealthCare's unique, system-wide Institute Model offers a single, high standard of care in crucial specialties at hospital and ambulatory sites across Connecticut. The institutes include: Cancer, Heart and Vascular, Ayer Neuroscience, Orthopedics and Tallwood Urology & Kidney. Visit Hartford HealthCare at hartfordhealthcare.org.