

DEA Inspections, Addiction Specialist's take

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My 'data' sources:

- Reports from PCSS-B mentors
- Reports from ASAM members
- Report from ASAM's buprenorphine action group



Comments from addiction specialists:

- ❑ Inspector with a badge came in and interrupted medical care, for 40 min to 4hrs.
- ❑ They were nice people, they knew a little about buprenorphine.
- ❑ They asked about census, storage, prescriptions. Some also asked about logs, counseling, drug tests, call backs, pill counts.



Access to care: “chilling” effect

- Others in the office, including colleagues, students, residents, are being dissuaded from becoming addiction specialists when they witness an inspection.
- Physicians are turning in their x-numbers, giving up a tool to treat addiction.



ASAM's efforts to help our members:

- ❑ Buprenorphine action committee met with ASAM president and DEA representative to clarify elements of visit, hoping to have a 'dear colleague' letter go out soon to members.
- ❑ Buprenorphine training group presented information at ASAM Med-Sci component session.
- ❑ PCSS mentors' list-serve email advice/experiences to other mentors, posted recent guidance on this.