

Edward Bernstein, MD, FACEP

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For the past twenty-five years Dr. Bernstein has pioneered methods to integrate public health into emergency medicine practice, developed and disseminated systems of emergency care that enhance health communications between providers and patients, and extensively tested a comprehensive model for intervention in which physician extenders help steer patients with preventable conditions to appropriate services. In 1996 he co-edited the textbook, "Case Studies in Emergency Medicine and the Health of the Public." He has authored over 100 publications and over the past 20 years, Dr. Bernstein has developed a body of NIH sponsored research to test the application of motivational interviewing to improving health communications and outcomes to reduce drug use and sexual risk behavior among ED patients who use cocaine and heroin, reduce adolescent alcohol and marijuana use, in a 14 site Academic ED study, reduce at risk and dependent alcohol use. He also tested the Project ASSERT model, the nation's first SBIRT program, in a trial of a brief motivational intervention delivered by peers to cocaine and heroin users. He is Medical Director and Founder of Boston Medical Center's Project ASSERT: An ED peer addiction counselor program that provides assessments, and access to a continuum of addiction treatment services including medication therapy, primary care appointments, and opioid education and naloxone distribution. He is Director of one of the three MA Department of Public Health funded Regional Opioid Urgent Care Centers. He is currently serving a six-year term on the Massachusetts Public Health Council as a representative of the non-public medical schools. Dr. Bernstein is the recipient of the 2017-2018 American College of Physicians 2nd Second Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Award "to that individual or organization whose recent original approach in the delivery of health care or in the design of facilities for its delivery will increase its clinical and/or economic effectiveness."