Objective: There is an epidemic of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) among adolescents in the USA. Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists (CAPs) often do not feel adequately trained to treat SUDs, and CAP training directors indicate a need for further teaching resources in SUDs. In order to follow up from their earlier survey, the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT) Addiction Committee’s Child and Adolescent Subcommittee (AdCCAS) surveyed CAP training directors to inform the development of educational resources.

Methods: The AADPRT AdCCAS developed a 5-item survey and distributed it to the AADPRT CAP Caucus listserv, which included most CAP Training Directors. The survey included a question on program characteristics. Participants were also asked to rank what (a) types of teaching resources and (b) topics would be most useful in teaching about adolescent SUDs. Responses were analyzed descriptively, and rankings were adjusted for descriptive analysis.

Results: 40 of 143 programs responded. The types of teaching resources that received the highest mean ranking (in order of preference) were: 1) online teaching modules with interactive teaching exercises; 2) case vignettes with teaching guides; and 3) an entire course for faculty to use in teaching CAP Addictions, including a syllabus, a curriculum map, scheduled educational content, teaching resources, and assessment tools for in-person delivery. The topics that were most highly ranked (in order of preference) were: 1) psychopharmacology for adolescent SUDs; 2) introduction to SUDs (screening, confidentiality, working with families, tox screens); and 3) developing and implementing a comprehensive treatment plan using a harm reduction model.

Discussion: Many CAP fellowship training directors do not feel that their fellows are adequately trained in adolescent SUDs. These findings will guide the prioritization in the development of resources for training of CAP fellows on SUDs.