

Mark A. Hurst, M.D. , Medical Director, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Ohio Revised Code specifies that the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services must name a medical director to manage patient care and treatment at its state-run hospitals. In this role, Dr. Hurst provides clinical supervision and leadership to the medical and psychiatric staff at Ohio's six regional psychiatric hospitals. He also advises the OhioMHAS director on matters related to recruitment, research, community mental health and addiction services plans, and licensure of private hospitals and residential facilities.

Hurst joined OMDH in 1993 as a psychopharmacology consultant at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare (TVBH) in Columbus. At TVBH, he progressed to assistant chief clinical officer for addiction psychiatry in 1998 and chief clinical officer in 2008. Prior to his career with the state, he held leadership positions in psychiatry and addiction psychiatry in the VA health system, at Harding Hospital and at The Ohio State University, where he remains an active clinical faculty member.

A native of Zanesville, Hurst was the 1981 class valedictorian at Muskingum College in New Concord. He graduated from the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo in 1985 and completed residency training at the University of Michigan and at The Ohio State University, where he served as chief resident in his final year of training. He is board-certified in psychiatry and addiction psychiatry and has been recognized as a "Best Doctor in America" since 1995.