

RARC DIGEST

Dear RARC Community,

Please see below for our weekly round-up of addiction-related news and events across Rutgers. Have news or events you'd like us to highlight in an upcoming digest? Send the details to RARC Communication Specialist, Ricki Arvesen (ricket.arvesen@rutgers.edu).

RARC News

- **2023-2024 RARC-BHI Pilot Grant Program:** The RARC has launched its 2023 pilot grant program to foster new collaborative, interdisciplinary addiction research among Rutgers faculty and affiliated clinical services, and to support pilot data that will lead to sustained funding from an external agency (e.g., NIH). We especially encourage applications that promote new interdisciplinary research collaborations between faculty and clinical/community partners. To hear from our clinical partners, [click here](#). **Letters of Intent due 11/20/2023**. For the full request for proposals, [click here](#).
- **2023-2024 BHI Mock Grant Review Program:** Sponsored by the Motivational and Affective Neuroscience Working Group, this program aims to increase the success of grant proposals submitted to NIH by Rutgers investigators connected to BHI. Intention to submit a proposal for review due by **Monday, December 4, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Ninth Annual Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium (November 30, 2023):** This year's symposium will be held at the Douglass Student Center, featuring talks by Rutgers faculty, student/postdoc poster presentations, and keynote speaker Dr. Michael Shadlen. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Now Hiring:** The **Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Department of Emergency Medicine, BHI, and RARC** are recruiting a tenure track faculty member at the Associate or Assistant Professor level with expertise in addiction, substance use, or overdose. For more information, [click here](#).

RARC Resource Spotlight

- **Looking for helpful resources for grant writing?** The RARC has curated a comprehensive list of our activities and initiatives. If you are submitting a grant, we encourage you to include information about the RARC in your plan to demonstrate the wealth of support you have access to and strengthen your application. To view this resource, [click here](#). To check out our other addiction-related resources, [click here](#)!

Rutgers News

- Congratulations to **Dr. Denise Hien**, director of **Rutgers Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies**, on receiving the Award for Excellence in Trauma Services for the Underserved: Policy, Advocacy, Research, and Clinical (PARC) by the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS)! Dr. Hien's extensive body of work has significantly contributed to the evidence base on effective interventions for individuals dealing with trauma and substance use disorders. For more information, [click here](#).
- Congratulations to **Dr. Anna Konova**, from **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, on receiving the Neuropsychopharmacology Editor's Early Career Award! Dr. Konova stands out as the recipient of the NEECA Award, recognized for her groundbreaking paper on the neuroeconomic signature of opioid craving and how it shapes perceptions of drug-related and nondrug-related value. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Danielle Dick**, director of the RARC, was featured in a *CNN Health* article about Matthew Perry, discussing alcohol use disorder (AUD) and paths to recovery. For more information, [click here](#).
- A new study led by RARC researcher, **Dr. Jessica Salvatore**, from **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, published in *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, found that the structure and impact of genetic and environmental factors on men's alcohol consumption patterns from adolescence to adulthood are linked to parental divorce. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **Application for Postdoctoral Research Associate, Notterman Lab** - A postdoctoral or more senior research position is available in the **Department of Molecular Biology** and the **Office of Population Research** at **Princeton University** to study the social determinants of young adult cardiovascular health as well as genetic, epigenetic and environmental interactions. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship Announcement** - This is a two-year endowed post-doctoral clinical research fellowship available to clinical psychologists and other social scientists (e.g., from health related fields such as sociology, social work, public health, psychiatric rehabilitation) from an accredited institution interested in developing their professional trajectory towards translational research on interventions and treatments for traumatic stress and addictions and wellness promotion. **Applications due by Nov 15, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Training Opportunity for SUD Researchers from Racial/Ethnic Minoritized Groups** - The Learning for Early Careers in Addiction and Diversity (LEAD) program, a NIDA-funded science education program focused on addictions research training is recruiting a new cohort of scholars. The program trains early career substance use disorder researchers from racial/ethnic minoritized groups that are underrepresented as NIH funded investigators. **Applications due by Nov 30, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).

Funding Opportunities

- **Crisis Diversion Homes:** This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the development of four (4) Crisis Diversion Homes (CDH). The goal is to provide stabilization, to divert hospital admissions and reduce emergency department (ED) visits. Proposals are due by **Nov 13, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NIDA 2023 “\$100,000 Start an SUD Startup” Challenge: Testing novel ideas addressing SUD that can be fostered into biotech startups** - NIDA is looking for research ideas that can potentially be commercialized as products for use in the area of substance use disorders (SUDs). Ideas may have originated in another research field as long as it is applicable to SUD, and NIDA is encouraging those with ideas for products that would address social determinants of health to submit their ideas to this Challenge. Submissions are due **Nov 15, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Supporting Recovery-Oriented, Family-Centered Care for Pregnant, Postpartum, and Parenting Women with Opioid Use Disorder (NOT-DA -24-008)** This NOSI seeks applications that test innovative models of service delivery to address maternal and family needs for mothers experiencing OUD during pregnancy and in the post-partum period, with an emphasis on reducing mortality and providing recovery-oriented, family-centered care. Applications are due **Nov 15, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RFA-DA-25-058: Psychedelics Treatment Research in Substance Use Disorder (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trials Optional)** The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to support the development of classic psychedelics (e.g., psilocybin, LSD), empathogens (e.g., MDMA), dissociatives (e.g., ketamine and related compounds), and other hallucinogens (e.g., ibogaine and its analogues) (henceforth “psychedelics”) as new treatment options for Substance Use Disorder (SUD). There is an urgent need to develop novel treatments for SUD in light of the escalating rates of substance use, addiction, and overdose. Lett of Intent due **Jan 28, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).

News from the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs, a publication of the Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies:

New in JSAD 84/6:

- [“Safer Drug Supply” Measures in Canada to Reduce the Drug Overdose Fatality Toll: Clarifying Concepts, Practices and Evidence Within a Public Health Intervention Framework](#)
Benedikt Fischer, Tessa Robinson
- [Detection of Alcohol Intoxication Using Voice Features: A Controlled Laboratory Study](#)
Brian Suffoletto, Ayman Anwar, Sean Glaister, Ervin Sejdic
- [Economic Cost of the HealthCall Smartphone Intervention to Reduce Heavy Alcohol Drinking in Adults With HIV](#)

Laura E. Starbird, Sarah Gutkind, Paul Teixeira, Sean Murphy, Efrat Aharonovich, Barry S. Zingman, Deborah Hasin, Bruce R. Schackman

- [Do Changes in Parent–Student Phone Call and Text Message Communication During the Transition to College Predict First-Year Drinking and Consequences? A Prospective Study](#)
Bradley M. Trager, Reed M. Morgan, Sarah C. Boyle, Joseph W. LaBrie

Just accepted in JSAD:

- [An Intervention to Reduce Drinking Among Individuals With HIV and Hepatitis C: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial](#)
Jennifer C. Elliott, Mahnoor Ali, Olga Radecka, Doukessa Lerias, Noga Shalev, Malka Stohl, Efrat Aharonovich, and Deborah S. Hasin
- [FRAMES Elements Associated with Alcohol Treatment Research Assessments and Related Behavior Change](#)
Patrick R. Clifford, Christine M. Davis, Stephen A. Maisto, and Robert L. Stout
- [Cannabis Retailer Communication About Cannabis Products, Health Benefits and Risks: A Mystery Shopper Study Of Licensed Retailers in 5 U.S. Cities](#)
Katelyn F. Romm, Patricia A. Cavazos-Rehg, River Williams, Campbell Dopke, Yuxian Cui, Cassidy LoParco, Yan Wang, Zongshuan Duan, Y. Tony Yang, Scott Burris, and Carla J. Berg

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For JSAD's free photo database of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug images, visit:

<https://www.jsad.com/photos>

Save the Dates!

- **NJ Integrated Behavioral Health Policy Summit**
Saturday, November 15th at 8:30 a.m. EST
Rutgers medical students are hosting the first Integrated Behavioral Health Policy Summit inviting medical students across the state of New Jersey, behavioral health providers, and leaders across UBHC, Medicaid, MHANJ, etc. The aim of the policy summit includes highlighting the current challenges in the delivery of integrated behavioral health in New Jersey, through hosting an interdisciplinary panel discussion, research symposium, and resolution writing workshop. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NJPN/CADCA Overdose Response & Prevention Webinar**
Tuesday, November 15th at 11:00 a.m. EST
Experts will share information to empower our New Jersey residents with vital information on opioid overdose prevention and response, with a spotlight on the lifesaving drug naloxone. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NJ ACTS Special Populations Seminar with Pia Mauro, PhD - “Alcohol and Tobacco Use among Older Adults in the US: A Lifecourse Perspective”**

Tuesday, November 28th at 1:00 p.m. EST

This presentation will describe the epidemiology of alcohol and tobacco use in older adulthood, estimate longitudinal changes in use in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and discuss opportunities to engage people in services when clinically indicated. For more information, [click here](#).

- **EASS Seminar with Eric Pedersen, PhD - “Comorbid PTSD and Substance Use in Veterans: Implementing Internet-Based Interventions”**

Thursday, November 30th at 12:30 p.m. EST

As part of the Emerging Addiction Science Seminar Series (Rutgers University Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies, Dr. Pedersen will be giving an in-person presentation titled, Comorbid PTSD and Substance Use in Veterans: Implementing Internet-Based Interventions. For more information, [click here](#).

- **The Opioid Epidemic: A Focus on Vulnerable Populations Part III Webinar**

Thursday, December 7^h at 11:00 a.m. EST

This webinar will revisit the topic of populations vulnerable to opioid use disorder, which had been covered in both the 2021 and 2022 Learning Series. Many groups, due to factors such as socioeconomic status, are more likely to suffer from the opioid epidemic. Experts will examine why that is the case and what is being done to address the issue. For more information, [click here](#).

Addiction in the News

- [Special Report: Opioid Use Disorder—Treatment in an Ever-Changing Crisis](#) (Psychiatric News)
- [Scientists Are Debating Whether Social Media is Addictive](#) (Time)

RARC Resources - Don't forget the RARC has collated addiction-related resources for Rutgers addiction researchers.

- **Do you need administrative support?** – The RARC would be happy to work with you to budget part of the RARC Program Assistant, Priscille Myrthil-Harder's efforts into your grants as a project coordinator. If you are interested in exploring this option, please reach out to RARC Program Manager, Emily Balcke (emily.balcke@rutgers.edu).
- **Scientific Writing and Communication Resources:** The RARC has curated a list of links designed to support you with both your writing and communicating your research with the public.
- **Words Matter – Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction:** This resource from NIDA offers background information on the affect of stigma on those with substance use disorders, and terms to use and avoid to reduce stigma and negative bias when discussing addiction.