

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 (ricki.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 Monday, 11/20/2023**. For the full request for proposals, [click here](#).
- **2023-2024 BHI Mock Grant Review Program:** Sponsored by the BHI 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

- **Grant Writing Resources for Early Career Investigators** - The RARC has curated a comprehensive list of grant tools and writing resources designed to support you through the process of writing a grant. To view this resource, [click here](#). To check out our other addiction-related resources, [click here](#)!

Rutgers News

- Three RARC faculty, **Drs. Danielle Dick, Morgan James, and Lei Yu**, will showcase their innovative solutions at the **Solutions to Substance Use Disorders: Final Demo Day** on December 5th. They will virtually present their novel approaches and technologies, addressing challenging questions and seeking valuable feedback from industry leaders. Attendees have the opportunity to submit questions and provide feedback on the solutions presented. For more information, [click here](#).
- In a new study, researchers, including **Dr. Christoph Buettner**, professor of medicine in **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, focused on the critical relationship between the brain, nervous system, and fat tissue—providing essential insights into the severe consequences of excessive drinking that could lead to liver failure. For more information, [click here](#).
- A new study, published in the *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, led by Hillary Samples, faculty member at the **Center for Pharmacoepidemiology and Treatment Science** in the **Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research**, found that medical cannabis legalization is associated with a decrease in frequency of nonmedical prescription opioid use. For more information, [click here](#).
- Rutgers secured a spot in the *All Sober's* top 10 list for leading US colleges in recovery and sober adventures! Highlighted in the article is the impressive **Alcohol & Other Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)**, offering a comprehensive approach to combat addiction - From online assessments to the expanded Rutgers Recovery House, plus fantastic events like an annual spring break trip and sober holiday parties. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **Free Membership in AAAS/Science for Rutgers Grad Students and Postdocs** – Rutgers is now able to offer free membership in AAAS/Science for graduate students and postdocs as part of the Program for Excellence in Science. Those selected will receive a full membership in AAAS (the American Association for the Advancement of Science) for one year, which includes a subscription to the digital version of the weekly journal Science at no charge. This program is only open to individuals who are not current or past AAAS members/Science subscribers. **Sign up before Nov 27, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **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](#).
- **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

- **Request for Applications for Research on Gambling Among Under-served Communities:** The International Center for Responsible Gaming (ICRG) invites investigators to apply for a two-year grant in support of research on the impact of gambling on under-served groups in the U.S. or Canada. Applicants may request up to \$75,000 per year for a two-year Large Grant with no more than 15% of direct costs for Facilities and Administration. Total requested may not exceed \$172,500. **Application due Jan 22, 2024.** 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:

- [Multilevel Effects of Environmental and Neighborhood Factors on Sober Living House Resident 12-Month Outcomes](#)
Meenakshi S. Subbaraman, Elizabeth Mahoney, Jane Witbrodt, Katherine J. Karriker-Jaffe, Amy A. Mericle, Douglas L. Polcin
- [Beverage- and Context-Specific Alcohol Consumption During COVID-19 in the United States: The Role of Alcohol To-Go and Delivery Purchases](#)
Pamela J. Trangenstein, Thomas K. Greenfield, Katherine J. Karriker-Jaffe, William C. Kerr
- [Proximity to Legal Cannabis Stores in Canada and Use of Cannabis Sources in the First Three Years of Legalization, 2019–2021](#)
Elle Wadsworth, Pete Driezen, Julia A. Dilley, Robert Gabrys, Rebecca Jesseman, David Hammond

Press release:

- [Smartphones and smart speakers may be able to detect alcohol intoxication by analyzing voice patterns: Study](#)

Follow JSAD on Threads/Instagram/Twitter/Facebook: [@JSADjournal](#)

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

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

Save the Dates!

- **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](#).
- **NJ ACTS Special Populations Seminar with Ji Eun Chang, PhD - “Substance Use Disorder Program Availability in Safety-Net and Non-Safety-Net Hospitals in the US”**
Thursday, December 5th at 12:00 p.m. EST
Hospitals are ideal sites for delivering addiction treatment to patients with substance use disorders (SUDs), but the availability of these services varies nationwide. Ji Eun Chang, Ph.D., will present work examining differences in the delivery of different SUD programs across U.S. hospitals, with a particular focus on safety net hospitals. For more information, [click here](#).
- **The Opioid Epidemic: A Focus on Vulnerable Populations Part III Webinar**
Thursday, December 7th 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](#).
- **NIH-NIDA AA Webinar: Harnessing Technology and Social Media to Address Alcohol Misuse in Adolescents and Emerging Adults**
Wednesday, December 13th at 12:00 p.m. EST
Join the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) for a free, interactive webinar about how to harness technology and social media to prevent and address alcohol misuse in two populations--adolescents and emergent adults. For more information, [click here](#).

Addiction in the News

- [Americans Struggling With Addiction, Mental Health, SAMHSA Survey Shows](#) (Medpage Today)

- [Marijuana Use Tied to Heart Failure, MI, Stroke](#) (Medscape)
- [5 Things to Know About Alcohol Use During and After Pregnancy](#) (CDC Expert Commentary)

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).
- **[Results from the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\): Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States](#)**: This report provides key findings from the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) on substance use, mental health, and treatment among the noninstitutionalized U.S. population aged 12 or older. Estimates are presented by age group and by race/ethnicity for selected measures.
- **[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.