MUSC Psychiatry Chair Update
January 2014

Thomas W. Uhde, MD
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences &
Institute of Psychiatry
Kevin M. Gray, M.D., is a board certified child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist. He is Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Gray earned a B.S. in chemical engineering from Clemson University in 1996. He then completed medical school, psychiatry residency, and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at MUSC before joining the faculty in 2005. Dr. Gray maintains active clinical practice and conducts National Institutes of Health sponsored clinical research on substance use disorders in adolescents and adults, with particular emphasis on cannabis and nicotine dependence. With a multidisciplinary group of collaborators at MUSC, Dr. Gray investigates biobehavioral mechanisms underlying substance use disorders, and works to apply these findings to treatment development.
Ms. Bowers Palmer received a BA in Economics from Newberry College and a M.Ed. in Clinical Counseling from the Citadel. She has been a practicing clinical counselor since 1994 and has been doing EAP specific work since 2002. She has worked in a variety of clinical settings specializing in addictions, codependency, co-occurring disorders, eating disorders, relationship issues, stress management and mental health. Her counseling style is influenced by: Murray Bowen’s Family Systems theory, Carl Rogers’ Client Centered approach, Transactional Analysis, Motivational Interviewing and Applied Behavioral Analysis.

An advocate for the utilization of employee assistance in the workplace, she is a Certified Employee Assistance Professional and President of the South Carolina Employee Assistance Professionals Association. Her current interests include helping organizations create positive environments that encourage productivity and helping clients with their occupational and personal development.
Dr. Anton’s research, both translational and applied, focuses on finding better treatments and diagnostic assays for alcohol use disorders. He has also had prior experience with treatment and research in severe affective disorders. Currently, he is an international expert in the fields of medication development for alcohol dependence, measurement of craving and its neurobiological origins, and genetic predictors of medication response. Specifically, Dr. Anton was the lead investigator on the COMBINE study (Anton et al., JAMA 2006); the largest medication clinical trial for alcohol dependence ever conducted. The over-arching theme of his research is that individuals with alcohol use disorders are different in biology and experience, and therefore require treatment tailored to their specific biology and circumstance (i.e., personalized medicine).

He is the Director of the Center for Drug and Alcohol Programs, the Scientific Director of an NIH/NIAAA funded Alcohol Research Center, and the Director of the Clinical Neurobiology Laboratory in the Institute of Psychiatry. Dr. Anton has also published over 270 articles and book chapters and currently holds a Senior Scientist Career Development and Mentoring Award from NIAAA and has active funding for incorporating brain imaging and genetics into clinical alcohol trials. He also helped pioneer the clinical utility of the carbohydrate deficient transferrin (CDT) blood test for the detection and monitoring of heavy alcohol use. In February 2013, he was awarded the Thurmond Wellness Endowed Chair.
The goal of Dr. Hughes-Halbert’s research program is to identify sociocultural, psychological, and environmental determinants of minority health and health care and to translate this information into sustainable interventions in clinic and community-based settings to improve health outcomes in these populations. Dr. Hughes-Halbert is a nationally recognized expert in cancer prevention and control among diverse populations and her research is supported by numerous grants from the National Cancer Institute and the National Human Genome Research Institute. Dr. Hughes-Halbert is also PI of an academic-community partnership funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to develop community-based interventions to improve health outcomes in African Americans. The results of Dr. Hughes-Halbert’s research have been published in influential journals in the fields of cancer prevention, clinical oncology, medicine, genetics, and public health. She is a member of the Board of Scientific Advisors at the National Cancer Institute.
KUDOS/WINS

• Congratulations to Drs. Diana Mullis, Rabiya Hasan, Ana Gomez, Eva Landron who passed their forensic boards. The Community and Public Safety Psychiatry Division has had a 100% pass rate for all Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship graduates since the program was founded.

• Dr. Aimee McRae-Clark was appointed as a member of the Standing Operations Subcommittee on the University Research Council.

• According to the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research NIH Rankings, The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences ranked 7th out of 125 departments of psychiatry in the United States. We received $24,085,722 in NIH Funding in 2013.

• Dr. Nolan Williams received the American Neuropsychiatric Association (ANPA) 2014 Young Investigator Award.

• Dr. Gregg Dwyer has been added a peer reviewed for the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Point of Care and Best Practice.

• Dr. Ashli Sheidow has been named Co-Director of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Faculty Mentorship Program.
  • Dr. Carla Danielson was appointed to the editorial board of the academic journal *Child Maltreatment*
  • Dr. Bryan Tolliver accepted the invitation to join the Alcohol Medical Scholars Program.
SMOKING AND HEALTH

Drs. Michael Cummings, Tony Alberg and Graham Warren recently put together a short PPT presentation on the 50th Anniversary of the Surgeon General Report (SGR) on Smoking and Health. The slideshow is a brief overview of the report/s and includes some excellent short video clips from past SGR releases, media coverage, and the Tobacco Industry’s response. If you are interested in learning more about the report, you can check out the below page we just launched. It has a lot useful information.
http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/scquits/resources/surgeon general.htm

Second Annual Women’s Health Research Day

The MUSC Women’s Health Research Center will be holding its second annual Women’s Health Research Day on Thursday, April 3, 2014 in the Institute of Psychiatry Auditorium. Investigators from across campus are invited to submit their gender/sex-based research for presentation; abstracts are due by noon on February 21, 2014. For more information, please visit www.musc.edu/wrc or contact Sarah Gainey (smithsar@musc.edu).

FACULTY RECEPTION

All faculty are strongly encouraged to attend the faculty reception on March 6, 2014, from 5-7pm at the Wickliffe House. This is a wonderful venue and a great opportunity to mingle and get to know our many new faculty members. Please RSVP to Kristen Mulholland (mulhollk@musc.edu) by February 27, 2014.
SPRING CYCLE FOR PROMOTION & TENURE

For anyone who is requesting promotion or tenure effective January 1, 2015, all promotion and tenure requests must be received in the Chairman’s office no later than February 4, 2014, in the form of complete packets accompanied by a letter of recommendation from your Division Director. Packets with checklists, requests for materials, and forms specific for regular and modified faculty have been developed to make the submission process more straightforward. Packets are available on the College of Medicine’s website. Follow this link: http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/com/faculty/apt/musc/index.html. The letter of recommendation from your Division Director must follow appendix 2 in the COM APT guidelines. Division Director letters should include the following paragraphs: introductory, education, research if applicable, scholarly publications, clinical practice if applicable, administration, and other activities and accomplishments. If you have questions, please contact Kristen Mulholland mulhollk@musc.edu.

FACULTY MEETING

The next Faculty meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, from 12-1pm in the IOP auditorium. All are encouraged to attend.

FACULTY PHOTOS

If you would like to have your “headshot” taken, please contact AV Services at 792-3000 or email Elizabeth Anne Thompson or Tim Roylance to make an appointment.

COMINGS AND GOINGS CELEBRATION

Please join us for a “Comings and Goings” celebration as we recognize new employees and faculty and say farewell to those leaving us. The celebration will take place on January 27 from 1:30-2:30pm in the Institute of Psychiatry lobby. Desserts and refreshments will be served.
BIRCWH K12 Program Accepting Applications

The Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Career Development Program supports the research career development of junior faculty members who have recently completed clinical training or postdoctoral fellowships (less than 6 years of research training), and who have mentorship and a solid plan for training in basic, translational, clinical and/or health services research relevant to women's health in all areas of the neurosciences. Scholars will be selected for a career development award to begin July 2014, and will receive 2-3 years of salary support commensurate with 75-100% effort per year to pursue multidisciplinary clinical and pre-clinical research. The program includes a supportive environment, start-up research funds, and access to core faculty who provide expertise and guidance in research design, measurement techniques, study coordination, data management, biostatistical analysis, publishing and presenting research, and grant writing. Applicants should develop a research topic in consultation with an eligible mentor (experienced faculty with NIH research funding) and submit their applications by noon on March 3, 2014. For more information and application instructions visit [www.musc.edu/bircwh](http://www.musc.edu/bircwh) or contact Sarah Gainey at smithsar@musc.edu or 792-8207.

SCOR Request For Pilot Project Proposals

In order to catalyze women's health-related research throughout the MUSC campus, the Specialized Center of Research (SCOR) on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women's Health is pleased to announce a request for pilot project proposals focused on sex and gender-related issues in neuroscience. The pilot program will provide short-term start-up funds (up to $15,000) to promising postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty (less than 5 years from post-doctoral training/terminal degree) to collect initial data for an R03, R21, or R01 submission. The project must focus on a neuroscience-related topic and explore either sex/gender differences or disorders/treatments as they uniquely relate to women. The project can be either clinical or basic science, but consistent with the NIH Roadmap Initiative and the vision of MUSC's South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SCTR). Projects involving multidisciplinary teams and/or translational research efforts are especially encouraged. Applications are due by noon on March 3, 2014. For more information visit [www.musc.edu/scor](http://www.musc.edu/scor) or contact Sarah Gainey (smithsar@musc.edu).
RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

TF-CBT Web Update – Benjamin Saunders, PhD (Continuation)

Clinical Scientists Training in Addictions at MUSC – Kathleen Brady, MD PhD (Continuation)

Center to Promote Schools as the Context for Urban Children’s Mental Health – Sonja Schoenwald, PhD (Continuation)

TEVA/NIDA Study TV 1380-COA-201 as Treatment for Facilitation of Abstinence in Cocaine Dependent Subjects – Aimee McRae-Clark, PharmD (Continuation)

Trans-Cranial Direct Current Stimulation to Treat Aphasia: Phase II Trial – Mark S. George, MD (Supplement)

Michigan Center for Health Communications Research II – K. Michael Cummings, PhD, MPH (Continuation)

Using Mobile Technology to Enhance MST Outcomes – Cindy Schaeffer, PhD (New)

Validation of Computer-Based Saccade Measures as a Sensitive, Reliable and Freely Available Biomarker for Tracking Subtle Neurocognitive Changes in Parkinson’s Disease – Travis H. Turner, PhD (New)
RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

Children’s Institute, Inc. Program Evaluation – Sonja Schoenwald, PhD (Continuation)

Biomarkers in Autism of Aripiprazole and Risperidone Treatment (BAART) – C. Lindsay DeVane, PharmD (Continuation)

Multinational Trial with Stratification of Subjects to either 56 or 160 Weeks – Patrick M. O’Neil, PhD (Amendment Modification)

A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Dose Frequency Study of Ketamine in Subjects with Treatment-Resistant Depression – Robert Malcolm, MD (Amendment Modification)

Monitoring and Assessing the Impact of Tax and Price Policies on US Tobacco Use – Dr. K. Michael Cummings, PhD, MPH (Continuation)
The NIDA K12 Career Development Program is currently accepting applications. The program will support the research career development of junior faculty members, with a MUSC appointment, who have recently completed clinical training or postdoctoral fellowships, and who have mentorship and a solid plan for training in clinical research relevant to drug abuse and addiction. For more information, view the complete RFA, which can be found at https://sctrweb2.musc.edu/pups/files/0000/0645/MUSC_NIDA_K12_RFA_2014.pdf.

Application Due Date: Monday, March 3, 2014 by 5:00 PM EST
Appointment Date: Tuesday, July 1, 2014
Website: https://sctrweb2.musc.edu/appsite/nida_k12_applications/new
Contact: Wendy Muzzy, MRA, MLIS at muzzy@musc.edu
Hot Topics Presenter:
• Joseph Taylor: Naloxone-Reversible Modulation of Pain Circuitry by Left Prefrontal Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

Data Blitz Presenter:
• Dr. Colleen Hanlon: Real-time Functional MRI Feedback, Compared to Sham, Reduces Cue-Induced Nicotine Craving in Smokers: Results from the First Clinical Trial

Panel Presentation:
• Dr. Peter Kalivas: Rapid LTP in Accumbens Is a Common Feature of Relapse to Multiple Classes of Addictive Drugs

Panel Chair/Discussant:
• Dr. Jacqueline McGinty: Neurobiological Regulation of Palatable Food Binging and Seeking

Panel Chair:
• Dr. Howard Becker: Behavioral, Endocrine, and Neural Plasticity Changes Reflecting Stress Associated with Mouse and Monkey Models of Heavy Alcohol Drinking

Panel Presentation:
• Dr. Howard Becker: Behavioral and Neural Adaptations Linked to Stress Associated with a Mouse Model of Ethanol Dependence and Relapse Drinking
Poster Presenters:

- Dr. Colleen Hanlon: Real-time Functional MRI Feedback, Compared to Sham, Reduces Cue-Induced Nicotine Craving in Smokers: Results from the First Clinical Trial

- Dr. Bernadette Cortese: Olfactory Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) in Combat Veterans: Brain Reactivity to Trauma-related Odor Cues

- Joseph Taylor: Naloxone-Reversible Modulation of Pain Circuitry by Left Prefrontal Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

- Dr. Joseph Schacht: Varenicline Effects on Neural Reward Processing among Non-treatment-seeking Alcohol Dependent Individuals

- Dr. James Prisciandaro: A Preliminary Comparison of Methodologies for Quantifying Brain Gamma-aminobutyric-acid Concentrations in Vivo Using Proton Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy

- Dr. Mark George: A Two-site Pilot Study Suggests that Three Days (9 sessions) of High Dose Left Prefrontal Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) is Feasible, Safe, and Reduces Suicidal Thinking in Suicidal Inpatients
• **Oxytocin in Cocaine Dependence**  
  Contact: Lisa Nunn  792-0476  
  The purpose of the study is to evaluate the effect of oxytocin on stress response and brain reactivity in individuals with cocaine dependence. Participation consists of a screening visit, three outpatient study sessions, and six brief follow-up visits.

• **A 12-week, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Once-Weekly Intra-Muscular Injections of TV-1380 (150 mg/week or 300 mg/week) as Treatment for Facilitation of Abstinence in Cocaine-Dependent Subjects**  
  Contact: Lisa Nunn  792-0476  
  This treatment study is investigating the effectiveness of the medication TV-1380 in reducing cocaine use in people who frequently use cocaine. A contingency management intervention and cognitive behavioral therapy sessions are incorporated to encourage study engagement and retention.

• **Buspirone Treatment for Marijuana Dependence**  
  Contact: Jessica 792-5819  
  This treatment study is investigating the effectiveness of the medication buspirone in reducing marijuana use in people who frequently use marijuana. A contingency management intervention and motivational enhancement therapy sessions are incorporated to encourage study engagement and retention.

• **Vilazodone Treatment for Marijuana Dependence**  
  Contact: Jessica 792-5819  
  This treatment study is investigating the effectiveness of the medication vilazodone in reducing marijuana use in people who frequently use marijuana. A contingency management intervention and motivational enhancement therapy sessions are incorporated to encourage study engagement and retention.

• **A Randomized Controlled Trial of Varenicline for Adolescent Smoking Cessation**  
  Contacts: Christine Horne 792-5807 or Lori Ann Ueberroth 792-8220  
  This is a placebo-controlled smoking cessation treatment study for adolescents ages 14-21. After assessment and inclusion into the study, participants are randomized to receive a 12-week double blind course of varenicline or placebo. All participants concurrently receive weekly smoking cessation counseling and participate in a contingency management (CM) intervention, specifically designed to reinforce participant retention.

• **An Open-Label Pilot Trial of N-Acetylcysteine and Varenicline (Chantix®) in Cigarette Smokers**  
  Contacts: Christine Horne  792-5807 or Erin McClure, Ph.D. 792-7192  
  The purpose of this study is to conduct a pilot feasibility trial of N-Acetylcysteine and Varenicline (Chantix®) in adult cigarette smokers, preliminarily assessing the tolerability and effects of this combination pharmacotherapy.
ONGOING STUDIES

• The Gender-Sex Hormone Interface with Craving & Stress-Related Changes in Smoking
  • Contacts: Christine Horne 792-5807 or Lori Ann Ueberroth 792-8220
  • During a 2-week period, nicotine dependent adult participants use the newly developed and validated Cue Reactivity Ecological Momentary Assessment (CREMA) software implemented on a widely available personal digital assistant (iPhone) to provide real-time responses to smoking-related and neutral picture cues presented multiple times daily in their natural environment. Additionally, daily saliva samples are used to determine sex hormone (estradiol, progesterone, testosterone) levels. These procedures provide an unprecedented opportunity to prospectively and continuously evaluate dynamic sex hormone influences on cue-responsive craving in the “real world” natural environment of smokers. Following the two weeks of CREMA data collection, a laboratory session is conducted to investigate responses to acute dosing of oxytocin (versus placebo) in context of controlled evaluation of stress reactivity and smoking behavior.

• Achieving Cannabis Cessation—Evaluating N-Acetylcysteine Treatment (ACCENT)
  • Contacts: Susan Sonne, PharmD 792-5221 or Ricardo Cantu 792-8894
  • The primary objective of this study, conducted across six sites nationally within the National Institute on Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network, is to evaluate the impact of N-acetylcysteine 1200 mg versus matched placebo twice daily, added to contingency management, on cannabis use among treatment-seeking cannabis-dependent adults (ages 18-50). This is a Phase 3, 12-week, intent-to-treat, two-group, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial with one follow-up visit approximately 4 weeks post-treatment.

• Impulsivity and Drinking/Craving: Effect of a Dopamine Stabilizer Medication
  • Contact: Mark Ghent 792-1222
  • Therapy: None
  • Age Requirement: 21-40
  • MUSC Center For Drug And Alcohol Programs is conducting an alcohol research study investigating the effects of a medication in response to alcohol. Individuals (ages 21-40) who complete the study will be paid for their participation. This study does not involve alcohol treatment. For more information, call Mark at 792-1222.

• Genetic and Brain Mechanisms of Naltrexone’s Treatment Efficacy for Alcoholism
  • Contact: Konstantin E. Voronin, MD, PhD 792-2727
  • Therapy: Individual Medical Management Sessions over 16 weeks
  • Age Requirement: 18-70
  • Looking for men and women ages 18 to 70 who are alcohol dependent and currently drink and are otherwise generally healthy. The treatment period is 16 weeks with medication called naltrexone or placebo taken daily. There will be 9 visits during the treatment period and two follow-up visits on weeks 28 and 40. Participants will be seen by a medical provider (MD or nurse), blood tests will be done prior to and during participation.
It is a departmental requirement for each faculty member to have a complete webpage. Please take a moment to visit the faculty webpage (http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/psychiatry/faculty/), find/click on your name, and review your detail page. In order to have everyone's page uniform; each page should include the following:

- Recent Picture
- Name, Title(s) & Division(s)
- Phone/Fax numbers
- Email Address
- A Short biographical sketch
- A few keywords that indicate your Research and Clinical expertise/focus

If your page is missing any of the above pieces, please send the information to mulhollk@musc.edu. If you would like to have your “headshot” taken, please contact AV Services at 792-3000 or email Elizabeth Anne Thompson or Tim Roylance to make an appointment.
• Stress Induced Drinking in Emerging Adults
  • Contact: Arden Lowndes 792-1841
  • Therapy: None
  • Age Requirement: 21-30
  • Have you witnessed or experienced traumatic or stressful events in your lifetime? Individuals between 21-30 years old are being recruited for a research study looking at trauma history, personality differences, and alcohol preference. Healthy volunteers are also being recruited. This is not a treatment study. Compensation is available.

• Protocol I5J-MC-NOAD Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo-Controlled Trial in Patients with Alcohol Dependence
  • Contact: Konstantin E. Voronin, MD, PhD 792-4887
  • This treatment study is an 8-week outpatient clinical trial where subjects will get medication, which might help them to reduce or stop their drinking or a placebo (placebo is a capsule that looks the same as the investigational drug, but has no real medication. It is a “sugar pill”). This study will recruit and randomize subjects who have expressed an interest in receiving treatment for alcohol dependence. Upon enrollment into this study there will be 8 outpatient visits. Each visit will last about 1-1.5 hours.

• Brain Imaging and Genetic Assessment of Light Drinkers
  • Contact: Mark Ghent 792-1222
  • MUSC Center for Drug and Alcohol Programs is conducting an alcohol research study investigating the brain and genetic mechanisms that are related to alcoholism. Individuals (ages 21-60) who complete the study will be compensated for their participation. This study seeks people who are light alcohol drinkers (less than 7 drinks per week for women, or 14 per week for men) so that they may be compared to people who are heavier drinkers or dependent upon alcohol. The study involves a psychiatric interview and self-report questionnaires, a blood draw for genetic testing, and a 1-hour magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan. The same procedures are currently being conducted among heavy drinkers and alcohol-dependent people, and data from participants in this study will ultimately be compared to data from these people.

• A Randomized, Multicenter, Double-Blind, Non-Inferiority Study of Paliperidone Palmitate 3 Month and 1 Month Formulations for the Treatment of Subjects with Schizophrenia
  • Contact: Kim Irk 792-1231
  • You may be eligible to volunteer in this research study, if you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia and you are having severe, worsening symptoms. The sponsor of this study is developing a new formulation of paliperidone palmitate that can be given by injection once every 3 months for the treatment of schizophrenia in patients who have first been stabilized on paliperidone palmitate, the first long-acting, antipsychotic approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Union (EU) for treatment of schizophrenia in adults. Paliperidone palmitate is given by injection on a once-a-month schedule. The sponsor is developing a new formulation of paliperidone palmitate that can be given by injection once every 3 months for the treatment of schizophrenia in patients who have first been stabilized on paliperidone palmitate.
ONGOING STUDIES

• N-Acetylcysteine for Relapse Prevention to Cocaine Use
  • Contact: Kim Irk  792-1231
  • The purpose of the study is to assess the safety and efficacy of N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) in preventing relapse to cocaine use. In order to participate in this research study you must be currently enrolled in an intensive outpatient treatment program and addicted to cocaine.

• Effects of TMS on Pain and Craving
  • Contact: Alex at 792-3788
  • Testing the effects of repeated TMS on pain and craving among individuals with prescription opioid dependence and chronic pain. One human laboratory session.

• STEER (Screening, Training, Education, Evaluation, Resources) Away from Alcohol and Drugs
  • Contact: Shameeka Bowman  792-5423
  • Our project, “STEER” Away from Alcohol and Drugs will have a multi-faceted approach: Screening, Training, Educating, Evaluating, and providing Resources for treatment. The specific aims are: to screen individuals at local health fairs, community centers, and other community facilities for alcohol and drugs using evidence-based questionnaires; to train interdisciplinary professionals (nurses, social workers, psychologists, physicians, physician assistants, etc. to assess, evaluate and treat alcohol and drug use in patients in various clinical settings; and to evaluate the impact of the STEER program on community leaders' attitudes and knowledge.

• Integrated Treatment of OEF/OIF Veterans with PTSD and Substance Use Disorders
  • Contact: Frank 792-2522 or Drew 792-0236
  • RCT of an integrated behavioral intervention that combines prolonged exposure therapy for PTSD with relapse prevention for substance use disorders. 12 individual therapy sessions.

• Glial Regulators for Treating Comorbid Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (Injury) and Substance Use Disorders
  • Contact: Ginny 792-5446 or Scott 792-5560
  • Double-blind, placebo-controlled RCT of N-acetylcysteine in Veterans with PTSD and substance use disorders. 8-week treatment phase.

• The effects of sleep disruption on pain and stress response in healthy volunteers
  • Contact: Dr. Kelly Barth  stephen@musc.edu
  • To determine effects of sleep disruption on changes in laboratory measurements of pain, somatic symptoms, and HPA axis reactivity in healthy individuals.
• **Effects of transcranial Direct Current Stimulation and Brief Cognitive Intervention on Pain Tolerance**
  - Contact: Megan Hilbert hilbertm@musc.edu
  - This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) and a brief pain-management cognitive intervention in increasing pain tolerance. Specifically, this study will determine whether healthy subjects will indicate greater pain tolerance to a heat stimulus following a single 20-minute session of tDCS (compared to sham tDCS). This study will also test whether providing a brief cognitive pain-management intervention (conducted during the tDCS session) will result in even greater pain tolerance among subjects who also received tDCS.

• **Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation in the Management of Post-operative Pain**
  - Contact: Megan Hilbert hilbertm@musc.edu
  - The new technology is called Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) and uses a very small amount of electricity to temporarily stimulate specific areas of the brain. The electrical current passes through the skin, scalp, hair, and skull and can temporarily increase or decrease activity in the areas of the brain that are thought to be involved in pain reduction. The tDCS sessions last 20 minutes, and patients will be asked to report pain ratings. Currently recruiting patients that will undergo total knee arthroplasty.

• **Evaluation of the Effectiveness of tDCS in the Management of Perioperative Pain**
  - Contact: Megan Hilbert hilbertm@musc.edu
  - The purpose of this study is to determine whether a new medical technology can help reduce post-operative pain. Some preliminary studies suggest that tDCS may be effective in altering pain perception in healthy adults and in patients with various types of pain conditions. Currently recruiting patients that will undergo spine surgery or total pancreatectomy/autotransplantation.

• **Effects of mifepristone in Patients with Major Depressive Disorder with Psychotic Features**
  - Contact: Jkeonye Moss 876-5141 mosjk@musc.edu
  - Age requirements: 22 or older
  - The purpose of this study is to evaluate how well treatment with mifepristone, followed by an antidepressant, works in treating Psychotic Depression. The study drug will be compared to treatment with placebo followed by an antidepressant.

• **Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) in conjunction with mood stabilizers in Subjects with Bipolar Depression**
  - Contact: Jkeonye Moss 876-5141 mosjk@musc.edu
  - Age requirements: 22 or older
  - The purpose of this study is to determine if deep repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (dTMS) is safe and effective in treating subjects suffering from bipolar depression while being treated with mood stabilizers.
ONGOING STUDIES

• **Focal Electrical Administered Seizure Therapy (FEAST) for Major Depression**
  - Wil Devries 792-5141 [devriesw@musc.edu](mailto:devriesw@musc.edu)
  - Age requirements: 18-90
  - Purpose: Relative to concurrent reference data from our ongoing ECT protocols, the investigators hypothesize that acute and subacute adverse cognitive effects of FEAST will be substantially less than those in patients receiving state-of-the-art ECT, but with a traditional bidirectional, nonfocal stimulus. The investigators also hypothesize that the majority of patients will remit with FEAST.

• **Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation in Depressed Adolescents**
  - Contact: Jkeonye Moss 876-5141 [mosjk@musc.edu](mailto:mosjk@musc.edu)
  - Age Requirement: 13 and 18 years old, inclusive
  - The purpose of this study is to gather information on the use of repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) in adolescents. We will be looking at what effects (good and bad) the rTMS treatment has on adolescent Major Depression.

• **Protecting Children Online: Using Research-Based Algorithms to Prioritize Law Enforcement Internet Investigations**
  - Contact: Dr. Gregg Dwyer 792-1461
  - Purpose: Use data from Internet Crimes Against Children task forces across the United States -- offender characteristics, crime characteristics, and online behavior -- to develop empirically-based algorithms to assist law enforcement in prioritizing (1) cases involving production of child pornography over possession/distribution; (2) cases involving online luring for the purpose of meeting the minor to commit sexual offenses, over luring restricted to online behavior such as sexual chat or exchanging pornographic images; and (3) cases involving offenders who have committed hands-on sexual offenses against children over cases involving offenders with no known history.

• **Internet Crimes Against Children: Development of a Typology of Offenders for Use in Prevention, Investigations and Treatment**
  - Contact: Dr. Gregg Dwyer 792-1461
  - Purpose: This study uses data from Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) investigated by ICAC Task Forces in multiple states with a focus on perpetrator, victim and offense data and content analysis of Internet chats to solicit children. Results will serve to inform the mental health, social services, education and legal fields for use in forensic evaluations, treatment planning, criminal investigations, court proceedings and developing public safety strategies for protecting our communities’ youth.
ONGOING STUDIES

• Sexually Violent Predators: Psychosocial Characteristics and Treatment Needs of Those Recommended versus those Dismissed by the Multidisciplinary Team during the Civil Commitment Review Process
  • Contact: Dr. Gregg Dwyer  792-1461
  • Purpose: This study will identify differences between persons recommended for commitment and those dismissed from further consideration during the commitment evaluation process in South Carolina. The results will facilitate treatment planning for committed individuals and more broadly provide a data resource for system management in South Carolina. In addition, results will serve to inform not only the mental health system, but also social services, education and legal fields for use in criminal investigations, court proceedings and developing public safety strategies for protecting South Carolina communities and especially the state’s children.

• Integrative Risk Reduction and Treatment for Teen Substance Use Problems and PTSD (RRFT)
  • Contact: Liz McGuan 792-8361 or mcguan@musc.edu
  • Therapy: Individual and group trauma-focused treatment options; average length of treatment is 3-4 months
  • Age Requirements: 13-18
  • The National Crime Victims Center is offering a therapeutic research program for adolescent victims of sexual abuse/assault that may also use alcohol or other substances to help them cope. Teens and caregivers are matched with a clinician to receive weekly trauma-specific treatment. Compensation is available for time devoted to ongoing research assessments.

• Enhancing Disrupted Reconsolidation: Impact on Cocaine Craving, Reactivity & Use
  • Contact: Amanda Smith, 792-6984
  • The purpose of this double-blind, placebo-controlled study is to examine whether beta-adrenergic antagonist propranolol can attenuate cocaine-associated memories and thereby reduce cocaine craving, cue reactivity, and use in cocaine dependent participants. Participants will receive either placebo, 40mg, or 80mg of propranolol after each of two laboratory sessions of cocaine cue exposure. Participants will be evaluated on cocaine craving, physiological reactivity to cocaine cues, and cocaine use in follow-up sessions for 6 weeks.

• Vitamin D and Type 2 Diabetes Study (D2d)
  • Contact: Suzanne Kuker 792-5427 kuker@musc.edu
  • Purpose: The goal of the Vitamin D and type 2 diabetes (D2d) study is to determine if vitamin D supplementation works to delay the onset of type 2 diabetes in people at risk for the disease and to gain a better understand how vitamin D affects glucose (sugar) metabolism. Researchers at twenty US sites will enroll people with pre-diabetes (people who have higher than normal blood glucose level but not high enough to meet the diagnosis of diabetes). The study will enroll participants over approximately 2 years and participants will be followed for approximately 4 years. Participants will receive either Vitamin D or a placebo by chance. Participants will take 1 pill a day for the duration of the study. Participants will visit the study site for up to 13 scheduled visits during their participation.
• **Reducing Smoking Cue Reactivity and Behavior via Retrieval-Extinction Mechanism**
  
  **Contact:** Amanda Smith, 792-6984
  
  This study will examine the effects of a brief behavioral intervention, retrieval-extinction training, on cue reactivity and smoking behavior of nicotine dependent participants making a quit attempt. All participants will receive two laboratory-based ‘extinction’ sessions that involve protracted exposure to multiple sequences of smoking cues. Half of the participants will be shown a video containing smoking content prior to extinction and the other half will be shown a video with no smoking content. The smoking video combined with extinction is postulated to alter memories for learning that support smoking cue reactivity and behavior. Therefore, participants shown the smoking video prior to the extinction are expected to exhibit reduced craving and smoking behavior at post-treatment follow-up time points (i.e., 24 hours, 2 weeks, and 4 weeks).

• **Vitamin D and Type 2 Diabetes Study (D2d)**
  
  **Contact:** Suzanne Kuker 792-5427 kuker@musc.edu
  
  **Purpose:** The goal of the Vitamin D and type 2 diabetes (D2d) study is to determine if vitamin D supplementation works to delay the onset of type 2 diabetes in people at risk for the disease and to gain a better understand how vitamin D affects glucose (sugar) metabolism. Researchers at twenty US sites will enroll people with pre-diabetes (people who have higher than normal blood glucose level but not high enough to meet the diagnosis of diabetes). The study will enroll participants over approximately 2 years and participants will be followed for approximately 4 years. Participants will receive either Vitamin D or a placebo by chance. Participants will take 1 pill a day for the duration of the study. Participants will visit the study site for up to 13 scheduled visits during their participation.