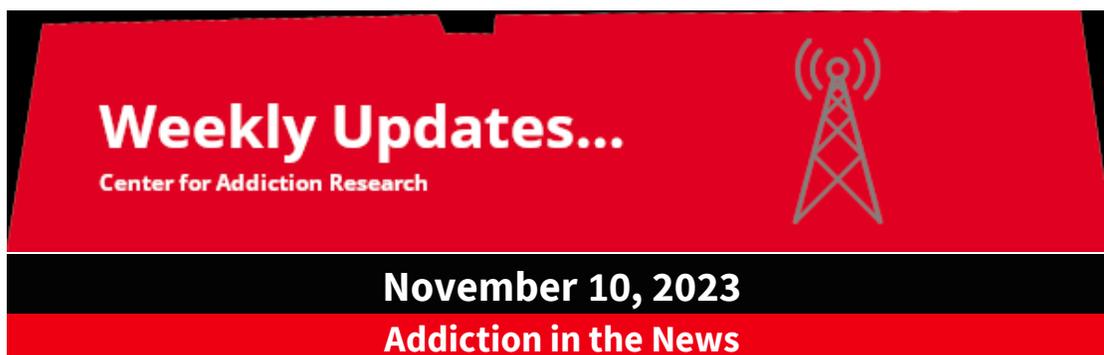


Welcome to the weekly newsletter from the Center for Addiction Research! Each newsletter includes highlights from addiction in the news topics, active funding opportunities offered by NIDA/NIAAA, and information about any new publications from CAR members. Please email Jen Rowe (roweji@ucmail.uc.edu) to change your communication preferences. **Please note that the next weekly newsletter will be published off-cycle on Wednesday, November 22.** Thank you.

Thank you for your interest in the Center for Addiction Research - our mission is to accelerate scientific progress in the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders and their consequences by fostering research collaborations across: 1) UC departments, colleges, and centers including Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center; 2) Local, regional, and state community and governmental partners; and 3) Other academic institutions and industry."



UC/ Regional News

As billions roll in to fight the US opioid epidemic, one county shows how recovery can work

Communities ravaged by America's opioid epidemic are starting to get their share of a \$50 billion pie from legal settlements. Most of that money comes with a requirement that it be used to address the overdose crisis and prevent more deaths. But how? It could mean that places look more like the area around Findlay. Here, conservative Hancock County has built a comprehensive system focused on both treatment and recovery by adding housing, a needle exchange, outreach workers and a community center. "People recover in a community," said Precia Stuby, the official who heads the county's addiction and mental health efforts. "We have to build recovery-oriented communities that support..."

Study identifies varied factors in buprenorphine users and urine drug testing

A study by a team of researchers across the country, including two from the University of Kentucky, is the first to demonstrate a connection between the characteristics of patients receiving buprenorphine for opioid use disorder and the use of urine drug testing. Lindsey Hammerslag, Ph.D., an assistant research professor in the Division of Biomedical Informatics in the UK College of Medicine, and Jeffery Talbert, Ph.D., the director of the Institute for Biomedical Informatics and professor in the UK College of Pharmacy, led the group of researchers from eight other states on the study published in the journal Drug and Alcohol Dependence. Buprenorphine is the first medication approved to...

Almost half of people who use drugs in rural areas were recently incarcerated, new research finds

New research finds that almost half of people who use illicit drugs in rural areas have been recently incarcerated. Results from a survey of almost 3,000 people in eight rural areas nationwide who report using illicit drugs have been published in the journal JAMA Network Open. The study found that 42% had been incarcerated, either in prison or local jails, in the preceding six months. The study was conducted by researchers at Oregon Health & Science University and institutions across 10 states. The findings suggest a prime opportunity to tackle the nation's opioid crisis by expanding addiction treatment to people while they're incarcerated. Currently, access to proven therapies such as...

White House requesting \$86M to fight addiction in Ohio

CLEVELAND, Ohio (WOIO) - The Biden Administration is calling on congress to include Billions in the new House spending bill towards countering fentanyl trafficking and Opioid Response. According to the administration, \$1.2B would go towards countering fentanyl and \$1.5B would go towards how each state responds to the opioid crisis. In a full breakdown of the spending for each state, Ohio would be given \$86M, the third highest out of any state. The grant funding could be used by each state for “addiction treatment, overdose prevention measures, and recover support services,” among other things. The White House believes that this money could really help with the opioid crisis by “addressing...

Families impacted by opioid crisis want more accountability & transparency for Opioid Settlement Funds

COLUMBUS, Ohio (TND) — Billions of dollars in opioid settlement money is flowing to states across the country, and Spotlight on America is looking in-depth at transparency over how all that money is being spent. In this report, National Investigative Correspondent Angie Moreschi looks at concerns over secrecy that came to a head in Ohio when one lawsuit went all the way up to the State Supreme Court. The legal battle is prompting families directly impacted by the opioid epidemic to call for more accountability and a seat at the table. National Investigative Correspondent Angie Moreschi has the latest in Spotlight on America's Opioid Settlement spending series. Here, she focuses on a call for...

4Xylazine Complicating Ohio Valley's Fight Against Drug Addiction

WHEELING — Last winter when Dr. William Mercer and his fellow Project Hope volunteers were offering health care to the homeless, they noticed skin wounds on some people's extremities that were hard to heal. In hindsight, Mercer believes those wounds were likely caused by a drug, Xylazine, being mixed with the usual street drugs such as fentanyl that people were taking locally. Mercer's thinking was confirmed two weeks ago after testing the urine of a homeless man who overdosed and had a seizure. That man is now hospitalized. Xylazine has become a growing

concern in the Ohio Valley for anyone who may be battling drug addiction, regardless of whether that person is housed. It...

The Case for Ibogaine: Kentucky's Opportunity to Lead in the Fight Against Opioid Addiction | Opinion

As the opioid epidemic continues to grip our nation, claiming lives, destroying families, and burdening communities, it is imperative that we explore every viable solution. Among these potential solutions is a powerful, natural, non-addictive substance known as ibogaine. As voices that have served in political and military capacities, we unite in our appeal to the Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission (KYOAAC): Allocate \$42 million for ibogaine research. Kentucky has a unique chance to pioneer a revolutionary approach to combat opioid addiction and pave the way for the entire country. From our collective experiences, whether among our fellow veterans, among our...

National News

Smartphones and smart speakers may be able to detect alcohol intoxication by analyzing voice patterns, says study

Sensors in smartphones and smart speakers could help determine a person's level of alcohol intoxication based on the changes in their voice, according to a new study in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs. Researchers at Stanford Medicine and the University of Toronto conducted a small study of 18 adults, ages 21 and up. Participants were given a weight-based dose of alcohol and randomly assigned a series of tongue twisters—one before drinking, and one each hour up to seven hours after drinking. The participants were asked to read the tongue twister aloud, and a smartphone was placed on...

Young children drinking daily caffeinated soda found more likely to try alcohol within a year

The trend among younger children to frequently drink caffeinated soda may indicate higher risk of alcohol consumption in the future, new research suggests. In a study of over 2,000 US children, aged between just nine to ten, those who reported drinking caffeinated soda daily were found a year later to be twice as likely to state that they had sipped alcohol. Published in Substance Use & Misuse, the results of the study also demonstrate that daily drinkers of caffeinated soda were more impulsive and had a poorer working memory. Each of the findings took into consideration other factors such as family history...

Marijuana use linked with increased risk of heart attack, heart failure

Using marijuana regularly may raise the risk for heart failure, stroke or heart attack even after accounting for other cardiovascular risk factors such as Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity, according to two preliminary studies to be presented at the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2023. The meeting, to be held Nov. 11–13, in Philadelphia, is a premier global exchange of the

latest scientific advancements, research and evidence-based clinical practice updates in cardiovascular science. The use of marijuana, medically known as cannabis, is gaining popularity across the U.S. as more...

E-cigarette use common among young adults

Electronic cigarette use remains common among U.S. adults, with highest prevalence among those aged 18 to 24 years, according to a study published online Nov. 3 in JAMA Network Open. John Erhabor, M.D., from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and colleagues used data from 414,755 participants in the 2021 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey to understand patterns of e-cigarette use following the initial phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. The researchers found that the age-standardized prevalence of current e-cigarette use was 6.9%, with almost half of e-cigarette users using them...

Double-lung transplant, breast implants save life of man who battled vaping-linked illness

"Davey" Bauer hovered on the precipice of death, his lungs damaged by vaping and congested by antibiotic-resistant pneumonia. Doctors saved his life with a jury-rigged artificial lung, a prompt double-lung transplant... and a set of DD breast implants. Doctors at Northwestern Medicine crafted an artificial lung to keep Bauer, 34, alive after removing lungs so heavily infected that "they started to liquify," said Dr. Rade Tomic, medical director of the Northwestern Medicine Canning Thoracic Institute Lung Transplant Program in Chicago. "If you looked at his X-ray, there was nothing left—the lungs were..."

Vaping's Popularity Falls Among U.S. High School Students

THURSDAY, Nov. 2, 2023 (HealthDay News) -- Warnings about the dangers of vaping may be reaching American teens: A new U.S. government report shows e-cigarette use is down among high school students. In fact, use of any tobacco product over the past 30 days declined among this age group during the 2022-2023 school year, from 16.5% to 12.6%. This was driven largely by a decline in e-cigarette use, which dropped from 14.1% to 10%. "The decline in e-cigarette use among high school students shows great progress, but our work is far from over," said Deirdre Lawrence Kittner, director of CDC's...

Online shopping for tobacco products rises with California flavor restrictions

Online shopping for cigarettes and vaping products increased significantly in the weeks following the implementation of SB-793, a 2022 California law prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products. Researchers at the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science at University of California San Diego identified potential loopholes in tobacco control policies due to the absence of explicit regulations on e-commerce sales in retailer licensing programs. Reporting in the journal Tobacco Control on Nov. 7, 2023, researchers assessed the impact of California's statewide...

Rapid high-dose buprenorphine treatment strategy found to reduce opioid withdrawal in individuals using fentanyl

Buprenorphine is a medication approved for pain and opioid dependence. New findings published in *The American Journal on Addictions* indicate that a transmucosal dose (which dissolves in the mouth) of buprenorphine followed by an injection of extended-release buprenorphine (BUP-XR) may be an effective treatment for individuals with opioid use disorder who use fentanyl. The results come from a recent secondary analysis of an open-label study in which 24 participants received a single 4 mg dose of transmucosal buprenorphine followed by an injection of 300 mg of BUP-XR...

Senate bill would permanently extend Covid-era rules on telehealth addiction treatment

A bipartisan group of senators this week introduced a bill that would permanently allow health providers to prescribe buprenorphine, a common medication used to treat opioid addiction, via telehealth. The measure, known as the Telehealth Response for E-prescribing Addiction Therapy Services Act — TREATS, for short — would permanently extend a temporary, Covid-era policy that allowed patients to receive buprenorphine remotely, without an in-person visit. While certain law enforcement officials have expressed concern that buprenorphine prescribed remotely could be misused, addiction...

Methadone access becomes flashpoint in fight over opioid crisis

The five Massachusetts opioid treatment clinics where Ruth Potee works bend over backward to make methadone treatment easy and accessible for the people they serve. But Potee worries it isn't enough. The clinics have doctors on hand 12 hours a day to start new patients on methadone, which is considered the gold standard for opioid use disorder treatment. When possible, they send eligible patients home with the maximum number of take-home doses allowed under the law, rather than having them come to the clinic every day for supervised doses. But not everyone is able to make the frequent...

Opioid disorder treatment: Prediction model can calculate risk of relapse within first three weeks

A newly developed prediction model may be able to calculate the risk of opioid relapse among individuals in the early stages of medication treatment—as early as three weeks into therapy. "Medication treatment for opioid use disorder, contrary to popular belief, is very effective and likely to succeed if patients achieve early treatment success," says Sean X. Luo, MD, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, who developed the model with Daniel Feaster, Ph.D., of the University of Miami. The model, based on data from 2,199 adults...

Mind-altering ketamine becomes latest pain treatment, despite little research or regulation

WASHINGTON (AP) — As U.S. doctors scale back their use of opioid painkillers, a new option for hard-to-treat pain is taking root: ketamine, the decades-old surgical drug that is now a trendy psychedelic therapy. Prescriptions for ketamine have soared in recent years, driven by for-profit clinics and telehealth services offering the medication as a treatment for pain, depression, anxiety and other conditions. The generic drug can be purchased cheaply and prescribed by most physicians and some nurses, regardless of their training. With limited research on its effectiveness against pain, some experts worry the...

Not all overdose-related cardiac arrests are the same, says study

The incidence of overdose-related cardiac arrests more than doubled in King County, Washington, from 2015 to 2021, with the biggest increase among people who had consumed opioids combined with stimulants, according to a new study. That drug profile was also the most lethal among four profiles evaluated. The findings are troubling because emergency medical responses to drug overdoses are surging in communities across the United States, the authors wrote. The paper was published today in JAMA Network Open. "Drug abuse and overdose are expanding public health emergencies. Recent reports...

Researchers identify brain network that is uniquely activated through injection vs. oral drug use

Results from a new clinical trial suggest that a group of brain regions known as the "salience network" is activated after a drug is taken intravenously, but not when that same drug is taken orally. When drugs enter the brain quickly, such as through injection or smoking, they are more addictive than when they enter the brain more slowly, such as when they are taken orally. However, the brain circuits underlying these differences are not well understood. This study offers new information that helps explain what may be causing this difference. The study was published in Nature Communications and led by...

Why are there no treatments for cocaine and meth addiction?

More people in the U.S. are overdosing from cocaine, methamphetamine and prescription stimulants and there's no approved medication to help them get off the drugs. Amid public health warnings about rising stimulant use disorders, the Food and Drug Administration is urging drugmakers to develop treatments for cocaine and methamphetamine addiction. The hope is that it will trigger a rush of clinical trial testing for drug treatments for stimulant use disorder, aiming to fill a major gap in the response to the overdose crisis in the U.S. Although the FDA has never ruled it out, in draft guidance released last...

Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Support Recovery-Ready Workplaces and Strengthen Our Economy

Washington, D.C. – As part of President Biden’s National Drug Control Strategy and Unity Agenda efforts to beat the overdose epidemic and save lives, the Biden-Harris Administration is unveiling resources that will equip businesses and state leaders with tools to expand employment opportunities for the tens of millions of Americans struggling with substance use disorder or in recovery. The new resources announced today will help private businesses, non-profits, unions, trade associations, and state, local, and Tribal governments strengthen their workforce and grow our economy while playing a leading role...

Scientists identify common brain network linked to addiction across multiple substances

Substance use disorders, which include addiction to substances like alcohol, nicotine, cocaine, opioids, and cannabis, are complex and challenging conditions that affect millions of people worldwide. Understanding the underlying brain mechanisms of these disorders is crucial for effective treatment and intervention. A recent study, published in *Nature Mental Health*, sheds light on the common brain network that may be at the heart of various substance use disorders, providing valuable insights for future treatment approaches. Substance use disorders pose a significant public health concern...

Matthew Perry's public struggle with addiction helped alleviate stigma, experts say

A year before his sudden death, "Friends" co-star Matthew Perry appeared on a podcast where he shared that he didn't want to be remembered for his time on the sitcom, but for his work helping others with addiction. When Perry died last month, people did recall his acting work, but also remembered him as an advocate for those with addiction. During his lifetime, Perry was vocal about his own battle with alcohol and drugs, documenting his struggles in his 2022 memoir, "Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing," and serving as a sponsor for others in recovery. These efforts made a difference, according...

Researchers track global smartphone addiction patterns in largest-ever study

Are you addicted to your smartphone? So is most of the world, it seems, based on new research from the University of Toronto. A team of researchers including U of T Mississauga postdoctoral fellow Jay Olson and U of T Scarborough Ph.D. student Dasha Sandra have collected the largest set of data in any study regarding problematic smartphone use. The study, published in *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, involved collecting survey responses from 50,423 participants aged 18 to 90 across 195 countries. The most consistent findings show that among 41 countries with at least 100...

First global review highlights substantial lack of commitment to addressing gambling harm

Globally, governments are still not doing enough to address the health and well-being harm from gambling, according to a world first review led by the University of Glasgow. The article, "Public health approaches to gambling: A global review of legislative trends," published in The Lancet Public Health, found that although gambling harm is increasingly recognized in legislation around the world, there appears to be a lack of willingness among policy makers to address it in a meaningful way. There is also an overwhelming focus on controlling individual consumers, rather than controlling the gambling...

Funding Opportunities



GRANTS & FUNDING

NIH Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information

[RFA-DA-25-027](#)

[The National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network \(UG1 Clinical Trial Required\)](#)

[RFA-DA-24-036](#)

[Rural Community-Centered Drug Misuse Prevention and Harm Reduction Research: Addressing Implementation, Dissemination, and Equity Challenges across the Continuum of Care \(R61/R33 Clinical Trial Only\)](#)

[PAR-24-062](#)

[Phased Research to Support Substance Use Epidemiology, Prevention, and Services Studies \(R61/R33 Clinical Trials Optional\)](#)

[RFA-DA-25-029](#)

[National Drug Early Warning System Coordinating Center \(U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#)

[NOT-AA-24-002](#)

[Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Model Continuums of Care Initiative \(MCCI\) to Advance Health Equity Among Women and Girls in Racial/Ethnic Minority and Other Marginalized Communities \(U34 Clinical Trials Required\)](#)

[PAR-24-053](#)

[Multi-sectoral preventive interventions that address social determinants of health in populations that experience health disparities \(UG3/UH3, Clinical Trial Required\)](#)

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