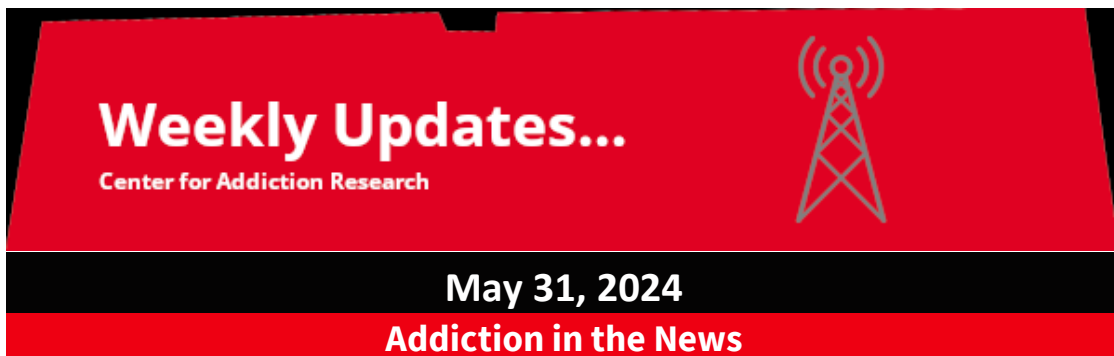


Welcome to the weekly newsletter from the Center for Addiction Research! Each newsletter includes highlights from addiction in the news topics, active funding opportunities offered by NIDA/NIAAA, and information about any new publications from CAR members. Please email Jen Rowe (roweji@ucmail.uc.edu) to change your communication preferences. 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

Center for Addiction Research Upcoming 2024 Summer Speaker Series

Back by popular demand, the Center for Addiction Research will hold its first 2024 virtual Summer Speaker Series event, Wednesday, June 12 at 12pm on "Risk Reduction in Human Trafficking and Substance Use Disorders: Bringing Education, Testing and Treatment to the Community", with presenter, CAR member, and CAR Core Co-Leader Population Health and Health Services, Caroline Freiermuth, MD, MHS. The series, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by Center for Clinical & Translational Science & Training. **(PDF flyer attached)**

>> Register for any of the presentations

enCompass: Comprehensive Training on Navigating Addiction

Monday, June 24, 2024 - 9 am - 5pm ET

Join this free virtual training designed as a resource for family members trying to navigate addiction and help a loved one recover. The training includes in-depth information about substance use disorders, treatment options, communication strategies, and self-care tips for caregivers. This state-wide, virtual training is offered in partnership with RecoveryOhio and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

New Ohio County App Could Save Lives of Drug Overdosers

(TNS) — A staggering number of Cuyahoga County residents are dying from opioid overdoses while using drugs alone, without a companion to call for help if something goes wrong. But a recently launched mobile app could bridge the gap

between isolation and safety. The Cuyahoga Overdose Prevention Network (COPN) app is designed to keep drug users safe, by connecting them with a monitor, who stays on the line with them until they're out of danger of overdosing. While other harm reduction campaigns have been effective at reducing the number of overdose deaths, many of these efforts — like the lifesaving overdose reversal drug naloxone and education on how to recognize the signs of an overdose — rely on someone...

IN opioid overdoses decrease, other drugs may reverse trend

Drug overdoses are decreasing in Indiana. The data is encouraging, but too late for one mother who lost her son to a heroin overdose. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say the state saw a nearly 18% drop in drug use over a one year span starting in December 2022. Founder and CEO of the nonprofit Overdose Lifeline, Justin Phillips said after she lost her son she channeled her pain towards one of advocacy, education, and support for others affected by addiction. "I learned that hydrocodone and heroin were the same drug with different chemical makeup, and all of this stuff that I - as a fairly educated person - didn't know," said Phillips. "So, I knew I had to do something with my grief and loss." A...

National News

Researchers urge immediate alcohol regulation to curb violence against women, kids

Community organizations and researchers working in violence prevention and alcohol harm reduction are meeting this week to discuss the role of alcohol in violence against women and children and the policy and program responses needed to address this. A review study published this month in Global Health Action on the impact on women from men's alcohol use, led by Dr. Ingrid Wilson, will be the focus of a roundtable discussion hosted by the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) in Perth on Wednesday 29 May. Community organizations and researchers are advocating for changes to alcohol...

Tobacco industry aims to hook new generation on vapes, WHO says

LONDON, May 23 (Reuters) - Tobacco companies still actively target young people via social media, sports and music festivals and new, flavoured products, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday, accusing companies of trying to hook a new generation on nicotine. Amid ever-stricter regulation targeting cigarettes, big tobacco companies and new entrants have begun offering smoking alternatives such as vapes, which they say are aimed at adult smokers. But the WHO and industry watchdog STOP said in a joint report these products are often marketed to youth, their design and fruity flavours...

Nicotine use rises among young adults in England, but cigarette smoking continues to decline

Overall nicotine use has risen among adults in England since disposable vapes started becoming popular, due to a rapid increase in vaping among young adults

coupled with a modest overall decline in smoking, finds a new study by University College London (UCL) researchers. Importantly, the declines in smoking were most pronounced in age groups with the largest increases in vaping. The study, published in *The Lancet Regional Health—Europe*, found that the proportion of 18- to 24-year-olds who vaped had tripled since disposable e-cigarettes entered the market, rising from 9% in May 2021 to 29% in May 2023. Smoking...

Study shows two neural pathways involved in fentanyl addiction

A team of neuroscientists at the University of Geneva, working with a colleague from the University of Strasbourg, Institute for Advanced Study, and another from Université de Montpellier CNRS, reports that there are two neural pathways involved when people become addicted to fentanyl. In their study published in the journal *Nature*, the group tested the brains of mice administered fentanyl and again as they underwent withdrawal from the drug. Prior research has shown that the opioid fentanyl is highly addictive and that the pleasurable feeling users get is due to dopamine being released in the midbrain. Less is known...

Analysis finds racial inequities in naloxone administration during fatal overdoses

Pennsylvania has been disproportionately affected by the opioid epidemic, having the fourth highest number of overdose deaths in the country in 2020. Also, the rate of overdose deaths among Black persons is significantly higher than that of white persons in the state. A recent analysis published in *Addiction* reveals that compared with white people in Pennsylvania, Black individuals are less likely to receive naloxone—a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. In the analysis of 2019–2021 data collected from death certificates and the State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System, investigators found that...

Study reveals decline in long-term prescription opioid use after hospital or ED visit

A large, linked data study has detailed the scale of prescription opioid use—such as oxycodone, morphine, or tramadol—after a hospital or emergency department (ED) visit, while giving insight into how often people then go onto long-term and potentially problematic use of these medicines in NSW. The study from UNSW's National Drug & Alcohol Research Center (NDARC) and the Medicines Intelligence Center of Research Excellence found the proportion of hospital or ED visits where people started opioids and remained on them long-term was small and declined over the 2014–2020 period. "Australia has looked on...

Gangs mix another potent sedative into U.S. street drugs causing 'mass overdoses'

Public health officials say Mexican cartels and drug gangs inside the U.S. are mixing a dangerous chemical sedative called medetomidine into fentanyl and other drugs sold on the street. The combination triggered a new wave of overdoses that began

in late April and have accelerated in May. "The numbers reported out of Philadelphia were 160 hospitalizations over a 3 or 4-day period," said Alex Krotulski who heads an organization called NPS Discovery that studies illicit drugs sold in the U.S. Medetomidine, most often used by veterinarians as an animal tranquilizer, but also formulated for use in human patients, has also been linked...

Booker, Braun Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Combat Opioid Crisis, Increase Access to Care

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senators Cory Booker and Mike Braun (R-IN) introduced legislation to establish a pharmacy-based addiction care pilot program. The Substance Use Prevention and Pharmacy Oriented Recovery Treatment Prescription Act (SUPPORT Rx) would increase access to lifesaving addiction services provided by pharmacies, including low-barrier treatment and buprenorphine, a medication used for opioid use disorder. The opioid crisis continues to escalate, with drug overdose deaths reaching alarming levels. Synthetic opioids like fentanyl have exacerbated the crisis, contributing to over 82% of all...

Researchers investigate non-abstinent recovery for people with cocaine use disorder

A coalition of researchers at The University of New Mexico have just taken a huge step forward for addiction research, in emphasizing a recovery process that has long been needed for a specific drug. This comes from the minds of Center on Alcohol, Substance use, And Addictions (CASAA) Director Katie Witkiewitz, UNM alumna and McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School Clinical Psychology Intern Victoria Votaw and Psychology Doctoral Students Felicia Tuchman and Hanna Hebden. These four women just published the study, "Examining cocaine use reductions and long-term outcomes in two clinical trials of continuing care..."

California pays meth users to get sober

Here in the rugged foothills of California's Sierra Nevada, the streets aren't littered with needles and dealers aren't hustling drugs on the corner. But meth is almost as easy to come by as a hazy IPA or locally grown weed. Quinn Coburn knows the lifestyle well. He has used meth most of his adult life, and has done five stints in jail for dealing marijuana, methamphetamine, and heroin. Now 56, Coburn wants to get sober for good, and he says an experimental program through Medi-Cal, California's Medicaid program, which covers low-income people, is helping. As part of an innovative approach called "contingency..."

More Medicaid needed for incarcerated individuals with substance abuse disorders, according to study

A new study examining how state Medicaid programs are helping people with substance use disorders (SUD) uncovered the need to expand the programmatic features to assist individuals who are transitioning in and out of the criminal justice

system. The study, "State Medicaid Initiatives Targeting Substance Use Disorder in Criminal Legal Settings, 2021," was published in the American Journal of Public Health and was cowritten by Faye Taxman, director of the Advancement for Correctional Excellence (ACE!) at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. In 2021, a survey was sent to all 50...

Psychoactive drugs like ketamine and MDMA are having a moment. The FDA will soon weigh in.

Lori Tipton is among the growing number of people who say that MDMA, also known as ecstasy, saved their lives. Raised in New Orleans by a mother with untreated bipolar disorder who later killed herself and two others, Tipton said she endured layers of trauma that eventually forced her to seek treatment for crippling anxiety and hypervigilance. For 10 years nothing helped, and she began to wonder if she was "unfixable." Then she answered an ad for a clinical trial for MDMA-assisted therapy to treat post-traumatic stress disorder. Tipton said the results were immediate, and she is convinced the drug could help a lot of...

Funding Opportunities



[NOT-DA-22-084](#)

[Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Research on the Impact of Policy Changes and Emerging and Evolving Public Health Crises on NIDA Populations of Interest](#)

[NOT-DA-24-029](#)

[Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): High-Priority Interest to Enhance Data Science Research Training in Addiction Research](#)

[NOT-DA-24-027](#)

[Notice of Extension of the Expiration Date for PAR-21-282, "Blueprint Medtech: Small Business Translator \(U44 Clinical Trial Optional\)"](#)

Other Funding Opportunities:

FY24 Comprehensive Program for Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Sites (COSSUP)

Grants.gov Deadline: July 1, 2024, 8:59 pm ET

Application JustGrants Deadline: July 8, 2024, 8:59 pm ET

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the Department of Justice (DOJ), has released the FY24 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based

Program funding opportunity. This grant is designed to establish comprehensive initiatives aimed at combatting the overdose crisis and addressing the adverse effects of illicit opioids, stimulants, and other substances. For further details regarding eligibility criteria and application procedures for the different categories, refer to the program's solicitation available [here](#). A [webinar](#) to provide more details on this funding opportunity will be held on June 5 at 2:00 pm ET.

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