FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE

HISPANIC DRUG ABUSE RESEARCH:

ADVANCING THE FIELD

FUNDED BY
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
14TH & K STREETS, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C.

NOVEMBER 8, 9 AND 10, 2001
The mission of the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse (NHSN) is to foster biomedical and behavioral research on drug use among Hispanics and to facilitate its application to practice and public health.

The NHSN is committed to increasing the rate of scientific discovery and its potential for reducing health disparities between Hispanics and other populations.

The NHSN is committed to increasing the involvement of Hispanic scientists in federally supported drug abuse research through mentoring, training, networking, and technical assistance.
National Steering Committee

José Szapocznik, Ph.D., Chair
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Avelardo Valdez, Ph.D.
Graduate School of Social Work
University of Houston

Nora Volkow, M.D.
Life Sciences Directorate
Brookhaven National Laboratory
7:30 am - 8:30 am  Breakfast and Registration  
*Pre-conference area, lower level*

*All presentations in Hamilton Ballroom unless otherwise noted.*

8:30 am - 9:00 am  **Invocation**  
Reverend Father Máximo J. Ortiz, OSA

**Welcoming Remarks and Overview of the NHSN**  
Dr. José Szapocznik, University of Miami  
Chair, NHSN National Steering Committee

9:00 am - 10:00 am  **Hispanic Drug Abuse Research: Advancing the Field**  
Dr. Alan Leshner, Director  
National Institute on Drug Abuse

10:00 am - 10:30 am  **Break**

10:30 am - 12:00 pm  **Neurobiology of Drug Abuse**  
Dr. Joe Martínez  
University of Texas, San Antonio

Recent rapid progress has been made in identifying genes that are expressed as a result of any environmental experience including the taking of drugs. DNA microarray technology allows the simultaneous assay of up to 60,000 human genes or 32,000 mouse genes on chips that are the size of a nickel. This technology will revolutionize the study of drugs of abuse. Examples of the use of microarray technology will be shown.

12:00 noon - 12:30 pm  **Scientific Opportunities and Current Research in HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse with Hispanics**  
Dr. Henry “Skip” Francis, Director  
Center on AIDS and Other Medical Consequences of Drug Abuse  
National Institute on Drug Abuse

This presentation will highlight scientific challenges and opportunities in HIV and drug abuse research with Hispanic populations. The presentation will also describe current and future HIV research efforts and initiatives with Hispanic populations funded by NIDA.
12:30 - 2:30 pm

**Luncheon Keynote:**
The Role of Research in Shaping National Policy: Advancing the Field of Hispanic Drug Abuse Research
U.S. Representative Ciro Rodriguez (Texas)
First Vice-Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
Chair, Health Committee, Congressional Hispanic Caucus

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Session A: Hamilton Ballroom**

**Strategies for Successful Grant Writing**

Writing a competitive NIH grant, and understanding the grant process can be challenging. The purpose of this presentation is to shed some light, remove the mystery, and provide specific insights into this process. Discussed will be the overall NIH grant process as well as useful strategies for successful grant writing.

**Discussant:** Dr. José Szapocznik
University of Miami

**Presenter:** Dr. Joe Frascella
National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Moderator:** Dr. Avelardo Valdez
University of Houston
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS
(Break 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm)

Session B: Farragut Square, lower level

Advancing Hispanic Drug Abuse Research:  
Strategic Planning on Mentoring the Next Generation

High performing minorities are created when individuals who have high motivation are successfully mentored. Effective mentors spend time with students, interact caringly and professionally, provide technical as well as everyday knowledge about the profession, create stimulating research environments, and prepare students for multitasking and transitions between levels of achievement. How shall we encourage and support the mentoring of the next generation?

Moderator:  Dr. Hortensia Amaro
Boston University

Senior Mentors:
Dr. Joe Martínez
University of Texas, San Antonio

Dr. Rafaela Robles
Universidad Central del Caribe

5:00 pm  
Adjourn

6:30 pm - 11 pm  
Annual Banquet
Reception and Buffet Dinner
NHSN Awards
Entertainment by:
Mariachi “Los Amigos” and DJ by Bialek’s Music
8:00 am - 9:00 am  Breakfast and Registration

9:00 am - 10:00 am  
**A History of Hispanic Drug Abuse Research**
Dr. Felipe Castro  
Arizona State University

10:00 am - 12:30 pm  
**Etiology to Intervention: Advancing the Field of Hispanic Drug Abuse Research**

This panel will explore research on etiology from three disciplinary perspectives. Presenters will discuss implications of etiological findings for the next generation of intervention research. Emphasis will be placed on common mechanisms of major illicit drugs of abuse.

*Panel Coordinator:* Dr. Bryan Page  
University of Miami

*Moderator:* Dr. Adela de la Torre  
University of Arizona

**Biological Basis of Drug Abuse Treatment**

Pharmacotherapies for treatment of drug dependence derive their structure from biological theories of the effects of drugs. Whether the therapy involves agonists, antagonists, withdrawal mediators, or other pharmacological effects, implicit principles of etiology are embedded in the use of these treatments. Research in this conceptual area has stimulated both controversy and optimism for development of future therapies.

*Presenter:* Dr. Ivan Montoya  
Clinical Trials Network  
National Institute on Drug Abuse

10:40 am - 11:10 am  
**Break**
11:10 am - 12:30 pm  
**Etiology to Intervention: Advancing the Field of Hispanic Drug Abuse Research**

What do we know about the development and family treatment of Hispanic adolescent drug abuse?

This presentation will outline the state of the art research on both the development of drug abuse and related behavioral problems, and on the family treatment of these problems in adolescents. It will discuss what is known about high risk and protective factors, core family processes and family treatment issues, particularly as they are related to Hispanic youth and families.

**Presenters:**
Dr. Daniel Santisteban  
University of Miami

Dr. Ana Mari Cauce  
University of Washington

"Using epidemiological research to improve treatment and preventive interventions"

William Vega, Ph.D.
Cultural and community factors in drug use among Hispanics: Beyond immediate social environment

Communities provide cultural and social contexts for drug use in which prevailing attitudes about acceptable behavior, privacy, enforcement of laws, and health shape drug-taking behaviors. Hispanic communities vary in the kinds of cultural and social contexts that they present to their inhabitants, based on presence or absence of youth gangs, availability of and tolerance for street drugs, and linkage among participants in networks. Studies conducted in San Antonio on behavior of street gangs and marginalized youth have characterized a distinctive context in which active drug use and violent behavior operate among Mexican-American youth at risk.

In the effort to understand relationships between drug use and social context, networks of informal social relations provide useful paradigms for links among people outside of the immediate circle of family. Networks among drug users, however, have limitations as analytical frameworks, based on their transitory nature.

Presenters: Dr. Bryan Page  
University of Miami  

Dr. Avelardo Valdez  
University of Houston
The Science of Blending Research and Practice in Drug Abuse Treatment

This panel will review efforts underway at NIDA to improve drug abuse treatment. They will range from the development of novel treatment approaches, to safety and efficacy research, effectiveness, and services research. Emphasis will be given to efforts to blend treatment research and front-line treatment practice.

NIDA officials will review current state-of-the-science research, funding opportunities for future research, and challenges and scientific opportunities in drug abuse treatment. The purpose of this session is to explore avenues for expanding research on drug abuse treatment and services for Hispanics. Therefore, there will be ample time for an exchange of ideas, and for beginning to formulate a strategic plan of action in these areas.

Panel Coordinator: Dr. Daniel Santisteban
University of Miami

Moderator: Dr. Rafaela Robles
Universidad Central del Caribe

Commentator: Dr. Eugenio Somoza
University of Cincinnati

Research on blending empirically based treatment models in clinical settings

Presenter: Dr. Hortensia Amaro
Boston University
2:30 pm - 3:45 pm
(continued)

**The Science of Blending Research and Practice in Drug Abuse Treatment**

*Involving Hispanics in drug abuse treatment research*

**Presenters:**
- Dr. Lisa Onken, Chief Behavioral Treatment Development Branch National Institute on Drug Abuse
- Dr. Betty Tai, Director Center for the Clinical Trials Network National Institute on Drug Abuse
- Dr. Peter Delany, Deputy Director Division of Epidemiology Services and Prevention Research National Institute on Drug Abuse

3:45 pm - 4:00 pm  Break

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Discussant: Eugenio Somoza
Questions and Answers

5:00 pm  Adjourn
Dinner on your own
9:00 am - 12:30 pm  

**National Strategic Plan for Hispanic Drug Abuse Research: Planning Meeting**

**Moderator:** Dr. Hortensia Amaro  
Boston University

The membership will function as the planning committee at large, for the development of a National Strategic Plan for Hispanic Drug Abuse Research to be submitted to the Director of NIDA.

12:30 pm  
Adjourn

“Replacing ideology with science”  
Alan Leshner  
Director, NIDA
Conference Objectives

This conference is designed to identify scientific gaps and opportunities, and has also been designed to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, the movement of basic research on etiology to prevention and treatment, and promote investigation that impacts drug abuse prevention and treatment practice.

The intent of the conference is to increase enthusiasm and interest on drug abuse research with the potential to reduce health disparities affecting Hispanic populations.

Upon completion of the conference participants will be conversant with:
1. The scientific opportunities and gaps in Hispanic drug abuse research.
2. The breadth of research conducted by Hispanic researchers - from neurobiology to anthropology.
3. The science of blending research and practice in drug abuse research.
4. The state of HIV relevant research among Hispanics.

Accreditation

The University of Miami School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

This program is co-sponsored by The Biscayne Institutes of Health & Living, Inc. and the University of Miami Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. The Biscayne Institutes of Health and Living, Inc. is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education to psychologists. The Biscayne Institutes of Health & Living, Inc. maintains responsibility for the program.

Course Hours

The University of Miami School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 14.0 hours in Category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that she/he actually spent in the educational activity.

The Biscayne Institute of Health & Living, Inc. designates this educational activity for 14 credit hours toward continuing education for Psychologists.

Faculty Disclosure

The University of Miami School of Medicine and All Participating Faculty, in accordance with the Standards for Commercial Support of CME, will disclose any significant financial interest or other relationship with the manufacturer(s) of commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation and with any commercial supporter(s) of the activity. All participating faculty are also required to disclose to the audience, during their presentation, any investigational/unlabeled use that is discussed.
Conference Organizing Committee

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Reverend Father Mánimo J. Ortiz, OSA
Delphyn Weber-Martin, Crowne Plaza Hotel
Dr. Daniel Sheehy & Mariachi Los Amigos
Donald Peterson & Bialek’s Music
Sandy Chamma & Sandy’s Flowers
Jeff Kushner & Plants Alive

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