

NATIONAL
HISPANIC
SCIENCE
NETWORK

**Biological and Social Determinants of Drug Use: Addressing Hispanic
Health Inequities in the Age of COVID**

September 28 – 30, 2022



guidebook

Download the digital program to view:

Abstracts

Session Descriptions

Presenter/Speaker/Chair Bios

Event Locations with Maps

<https://guidebook.com/g/nhsn2022/>

Welcome from the Conference Scientific Chairs

On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee and the Steering Committee of the National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN), we welcome you to the 22nd Annual International Conference of the NHSN. Our theme this year is “Biological and Social Determinants of Drug Use: Addressing Hispanic Health Inequities in the Age of COVID,” in recognition of COVID-19’s exposure of the deep and enduring health inequities that negatively impact minority communities.

The pandemic has highlighted biological and social determinants of health, such as predisposition to disease as well as access to prevention, treatment, and health care. We have also observed how biological and social determinants of illness intersect via trends and patterns found in the distribution and utilization of vaccines by high-risk groups, ethno-racial identity, socioeconomic status, sex, and sexuality, for example.

As we continue to face compounding challenges posed by new variants of COVID-19, pandemic fatigue, and differing public health responses to the virus, we as a committee sought to focus on current, cutting-edge research on drug use, drug dependence, and health inequities. You will notice our speakers touch on these issues through the lens of their expertise which range from bench science to public health approaches to policy making. Our goal, as always, is to 1) focus on the science; 2) highlight promising new scientific and methodological approaches, treatments, and models; and to 3) further our understanding of Hispanic substance use and abuse.

At this conference, we look forward to meeting again in person, to reconnect and to make new connections with colleagues driven by our shared goals of improving the lives of neglected communities via science, to mentor the next generation of scientists, and to celebrate the achievements of our members.

This year we are joined by plenary speaker, Dr. Marietta Vazquez, Professor of Pediatrics at Yale University School of Medicine. The title of her talk is “**Health Equity in Times of COVID-19.**” Dr. Vazquez will discuss the nature of health inequity as avoidable inequities. Lack of access to adequate housing and education, for example, produce divergent health outcomes between groups of people. Her talk will highlight several social conditions which result in health risk using a case-based approach of a Latino child with covid-19.

The conference at large will cover pressing issues and recent advancements in substance use research during 3 scientific sessions focusing on 1) Alcohol Use and Abuse in the Age of Covid, 2) Opiates: Intersections of Race, Class, and Gender in a Global Pandemic, and 3) Elucidating the Unique Factors Driving Increases in Marijuana and Nicotine Vaping. These scientific sessions will feature a diverse, interdisciplinary group of distinguished researchers who have made significant contributions to their respective areas of expertise.

Dr. Angela Holmes (Diversity and Disparities Program Officer, Office of Diversity and Health Disparities, National Institute on Drug Abuse) will be leading a breakout session with a presentation titled *NIH/NIDA Funding Opportunities, Diversity Initiatives, and Updates* to discuss the NIH grant submission process, NIDA funding opportunities, application strategies, and diversity initiatives. This valuable session will be particularly targeted to pre-doctoral students, post-doctoral students, and junior faculty. In the spirit of the conference theme, there

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will also be a breakout session on *Telehealth, Digital Health, and the Threat of Science Misinformation*. This timely discussion will be important as we consider the different ways in which the pandemic has affected minority communities. We also continue our commitment to provide a dedicated space for our early career members to share their exciting work at our Poster Sessions as well as in our *New Investigators in Drug Abuse Research* panel.

The planning committee co-chairs depend on a network of individuals who volunteer their time and energy to the NHSN. We would like to give a special thanks to the conference planning committee: Drs. James Anthony, Wanda Lipscomb, Lisa Lowery, Tara Bautista, Danielle Levitt, Arturo Zavala, Alejandra Fernandez, Carlos Bolanos-Guzman, Flavia Souza-Smith, Margarita Alegria, Cho-Hee Shrader, Flavia Barbano, Heidi Villalba, Diana Sheehan Delgado, Felipe Gonzalez-Castro, Ruben Parra-Cardona, and Eric Achtyes. A special thanks as well to those members who volunteered their time to assist with abstract reviews and other preparations for the meeting. We want to give special recognition to Melissa Prestwood who provided invaluable, professional and timely support and guidance to the conference chairs and committee throughout the planning process.

It is with pleasure that we acknowledge our funders: the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), and National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in addition to Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

We look forward to reconnecting at this exciting conference.

Conference Chairs:

Ian A. Mendez, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Pharmacy, The University of Texas at El Paso

Robert L. Peralta, PhD, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Conflict Management, University of Akron, Department of Sociology, Akron, Ohio.

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

11:00 AM (Secchia Center Atrium)

Registration begins

11:45 AM (Secchia Room 110)

Welcome

Speaker: **Rosalynn Bliss**, Mayor of Grand Rapids, MI

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (Secchia Room 110)

PODS Mentoring Luncheon

Chair: **Cho Hee Shrader, PhD**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Columbia University

Featuring: **NHSN Veterano Honoree**

Avelardo Valdez, PhD, Cleofas and Victor Ramirez Professor of Practice, Policy, Research and Advocacy for the Latino Population, School of Social Work, University of Southern California

1:20 PM – 2:50 PM (Secchia Room 120)

West Michigan: Local Perspectives on Underserved Communities

Co-Chairs: **James C. (Jim) Anthony, PhD**, Professor, Epidemiology & Biostatistics, College of Human Medicine, Michigan State University

Wanda Lipscomb, PhD, Senior Associate Dean, Diversity and Inclusion, College of Human Medicine, Michigan State University

Lisa Lowery, MD, MPH, CPE, FAAP, FSAHM, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Human Development, Assistant Dean for Diversity & Cultural Initiatives, College of Human Medicine, Michigan State University

Presenters: **Martin Aramburu, MD**, Trinity Health, Clinica Santa Maria

Underserved Perspectives: Clinical Santa Maria and Trinity Health

Laura Vander Molen, DO, Medical Director, Exalta Health

Exalta Health – Caring for the Non-Insured and Under-Insured Latinx/Hispanic Population in West Michigan

Gabriela Cordova, BA, Organizational Relations Coordinator, Hispanic Center of Western Michigan

Elizabeth Hickell, MBA, Communications and Development Coordinator, Hispanic Center of Western Michigan

Lola la Luchadora

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM (Secchia Room 120)

Scientific Session: Alcohol Use and Abuse in the Age of COVID

Co-Chairs: **Danielle Levitt, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Exercise Physiology, Texas Tech University
Robert L. Peralta, PhD, Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Akron

Presenters: **Patricia Molina, MD, PhD**, Richard Ashman, PhD Professor and Head, Department of Physiology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans

Impact of At-Risk Alcohol Use on Comorbidities in Persons Living with HIV



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Michele Ybarra, PhD, President and Research Director, Center for Innovative Public Health Research

Adolescent Alcohol Use in the Time of COVID – Implications for Acquisition and Disease Course

Raimee Eck, PhD, MPH, MPAS, Associate Professor, Department of Health, Behavior and Society, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Sonrisa Solutions

Alcohol-Focused Policy Approaches to Reducing Risk and Saving Lives

Discussant: **Cristina Bares, PhD**, Associate Professor of Social Work, University of Michigan

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM (Secchia Center Atrium)

Poster Session

Organizers: **Veronika Espinoza, MA**, Graduate Student, University of Texas at El Paso

Mercedes Hernandez, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Texas Austin

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

ECLC Mixer

Location: City Built Brewing – 820 Monroe Ave NW #155, Grand Rapids
Nacho Bar and 2 drink tickets per guest

Thursday, September 29, 2022

8:00 AM (Secchia Center Atrium)

Registration begins

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM (Secchia Room 120)

Scientific Session: Opiates: Intersections of Race, Class and Gender in a Global Pandemic

Chair: **Flavia Barbano, PhD**, Staff Scientist, Neuronal Networks Section, Intramural Research Program, National Institute on Drug Abuse

Presenters: **Avelardo Valdez, PhD**, Cleofas and Victor Ramirez Professor of Practice, Policy, Research and Advocacy for the Latino Population, School of Social Work, University of Southern California
Past, Present and Future Implications of Opioid Use Among Mexican Origin Populations in the West

Camila Gelpi-Acosta, PhD, Associate Professor, Social Sciences Department, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Hidden Health Disparities Affecting Puerto Rican People Who Inject Drugs (PWID): The Urgent Need to Disaggregate Latin HIV, HCV, and Overdose Data

Janani Prabhaker, PhD, Program Officer, Division of Neuroscience and Behavior, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health

Research Gaps and Opportunities in the Study of Race and Gender on Opioid Use Disorder

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM (Secchia Room 120)

Plenary Presentation: Health Equity in the Times of COVID-19

Presenter: **Marietta Vazquez, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics, Yale University School of Medicine

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM (Secchia Room 120)

Membership Luncheon

12:45 – 2:15PM (Secchia Room 120)

Scientific Session: Elucidating the Unique Factors Driving Increases in Marijuana and Nicotine Vaping and Dependence

Co-Chairs: **Ian Mendez, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy, The University of Texas at El Paso
Alejandra Fernandez, PhD, Assistant Professor, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, The University of Texas Health Sciences Center of Houston School of Public Health

Presenters: **Brandon Henderson, PhD**, Associate Professor, Joan C Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University

Flavors Enhance Nicotine Addiction-Related Behavior by Altering Dopamine Neurons

Elisa Trucco, PhD, Associate Professor, College of Arts, Sciences & Education, Florida International University

Understanding Etiological Processes in the Emergence of Electronic Cigarette Use

Denise Vidot, PhD, Associate Professor, Public Health Sciences, University of Miami

Changes in Cannabis Smoking, Vaping and Edible Consumption amid the COVID-19 Pandemic by Race/Ethnicity in the United States

Discussant: **Catalina Lopez-Quintero, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, University of Florida

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

Session A1 – Negotiating a Job in Academia (Secchia Room 130)

Chair: **Heidi Villalba, PhD**, Research Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University, School of Veterinary Medicine

Presenter: **Edward Castañeda, PhD**, Professor, Psychology Department, The University of Texas at El Paso
Negotiating a Job in Academia

Session B1 – Neuroscience Datablitz (Secchia Room 120)

Chair: **Sergio Iñiguez, PhD**, Professor of Psychology, The University of Texas at El Paso

Arturo Zavala, PhD, Professor of Psychology, California State University, Long Beach

Presenters: **Claudia Aguirre, MA**, Doctoral Student of Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles

Roles of Ventrolateral Orbitofrontal Cortex, Basolateral Amygdala and Anterior Cingulate Cortex in Flexible Action-Based Learning

Gustavo Angarita, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Yale University

Examining Synaptic Density in Opioid Use Disorder: A Pilot Study Using ¹¹C-UCB-J PET

Priscilla Giner, BS, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso

Assessing the Efficacy of Pharmacotherapeutic Agents on Reducing the Excessive Nicotine Intake Observed in Diabetic Rats

Tiffany Gonzalez-Gutierrez, MA, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso

5-HITB Receptor Activation Attenuates the Acquisition of Nicotine Reward in Adolescent Male Rats

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Minerva Rodriguez, MA, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso
Long-Term Effects of Fluoxetine Exposure on Autophagy and Tau Phosphorylation in the Prefrontal Cortex and Hippocampus of Male Mice

Gizelle Verduzco, Undergraduate Student of Psychology, California State University, Long Beach
Liraglutide Attenuates Methamphetamine Preference in Female Adolescent Rats

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

Session A2 – Grant Writing (Secchia Room 130)

Chair: **Tara Bautista, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychological Sciences, Northern Arizona University

Presenter: **Angela Holmes, PhD**, Diversity and Disparities Program Officer, Office of Diversity and Health Disparities, National Institute on Drug Abuse
NIH/NIDA Funding Opportunities, Diversity Initiatives, and Updates

Session B2 – Telehealth, Digital Health and the Threat of Science Misinformation (Secchia Room 120)

Co-Chairs: **Margarita Alegria, PhD**, Chief, Massachusetts General Hospital; Professor, Harvard Medical School

Eric Achtyes, MD, MS, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Michigan State University

Speakers: **Sara VanBronkhorst, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Michigan State University; Child Psychiatrist, Network 180

Telehealth, Digital Health and the Threat of Science Misinformation

Regan Stewart, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Medical University of South Carolina

Tackling Mental Health Inequities Among Youth through the Use of Telehealth Technology: Lessons Learned from the Implementation of Trauma-Informed, Evidence-Based Interventions via Telehealth in the US and Puerto Rico

Rebecca Tuinstra, MLP, PhD Doctoral Candidate, Western Michigan University; Meredith Psychological and Testing Services

Experiences in Telehealth Assessments and Therapy with Spanish Speaking Patients

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM (Secchia Center Atrium)

Poster Session

Organizers: **Anapaula Themann, MA**, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Awards Dinner Dance

Location: Embassy Suites, Widdicomb Ballroom

Friday, September 30, 2022

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM (Secchia Room 120)

New Investigators in Drug Abuse Research

- Co-Chairs:** **Israel Carachure Garcia, MA**, Doctoral Candidate, The University of Texas at El Paso
Alejandra Fernandez, PhD, Assistant Professor, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, The University of Texas Health Sciences Center of Houston School of Public Health
- Presenters:** **Sarah Chavez, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Brown University
Let's Talk About the "Other" Adversities Experiences by LatinX Populations: A Need to Re-Examine Ace-Substance Use Research
- David Lopez Sanchez, BA**, Graduate Student, California State University, San Bernardino
Effects of Repeated Fentanyl Treatment on the Locomotor Activity of Adolescent and Adult Rats
- Tural Mammadli, MSW**, Graduate Student, University of Maryland School of Social Work
"Bad Hombres": Racialized Immigration Policies as Social Determinants of Health Among Latino Immigrant Day Laborers
- Alejandra Guadalupe Torres**, Graduate Student, Oklahoma State University
Brain-derived Neurotrophic Factor and Gut Microbiota are Modified in a Model of Oxycodone Intoxication Under Social Isolation

10:40 AM – 11:40 AM (Secchia Room 120)

Mentoring the Mentor

- Co-Chairs:** **Cho-Hee Shrader, PhD**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Columbia University
Flavia Souza-Smith, PhD, Assistant Professor of Physiology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans
- Presenters:** **Laura Lunsford, PhD**, Professor of Psychology and Assistant Dean, Campbell University
Effective Mentorship: Research & Practice
- Ulrike (Ulli) Klenke, PhD**, Director, Amgen Scholars at NIH Program, and Special Programs Coordinator, National Institute of Health Office of Intramural Training & Education
Mentoring to Support Resilient Scientists

11:50 AM – 1:20 PM (Secchia Room 120)

Scientific Session: Experimental Options for Mental Health Treatment: Promising Treatments via Psychedelic and Dissociative Drugs

- Co-Chairs:** **Carlos Bolaños, PhD**, Professor, Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, Texas A&M University
Miguel de Leon, Graduate Student, The University of Mississippi
Arturo Zavala, PhD, Professor of Psychology, California State University, Long Beach
- Presenters:** **Miguel de Leon**, Graduate Student, The University of Mississippi
A Brief History of Psychedelic Research
- Albert Garcia-Romeu, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Revisiting Psychedelics as Addiction and Mental Health Treatments

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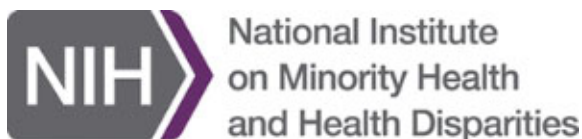
Javier Gonzalez-Maeso, PhD, Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Virginia Commonwealth University

Molecular Target and Mechanisms of Psychedelic-Induced Plasticity

1:20 PM

Closing (Secchia Room 120)

Boxed lunches available to-go (Secchia Center Atrium)



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