

Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Centers (TPRC)

The following are the Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Centers (TPRC) currently part of the NNP. These abstracts are derived from the NIH CRISP query system. More information is available through CRISP at <http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/> and through the Principal Investigator.

CDART - Center for Drug Abuse Research Translation

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The CDART, University of Kentucky, is distinguished by thematic integration around the construct of novelty/sensation (N/S) seeking. The theme is a broad and in-depth focus on N/S seeking behavior in the onset and development of drug abuse, and in applying this information for the development of more focused and effective prevention efforts. The three projects are: (1) Animal Laboratory: Individual Differences in Drug Response: An Animal Model. (2) Human Laboratory: Drug Abuse Liability and Sensation Seeking Status. (3) Human Laboratory: Examining mechanisms of persuasion by which high sensation value messages influence behavior, and identifying/developing PSAs that specifically target dimensions of personality related to drug use.

Keywords: Drug abuse prevention, substance abuse related behavior, behavioral /social science research

Duke Trans-Disciplinary Prevention Research Center

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The Duke University TPRC is focusing on findings that show that youth proliferate drug-use attitudes and behavior in contexts with deviant peers and that these deviant influences play a major role in adolescent drug use. Despite this, government interventions often aggregate deviant peers in alternative schools, or special classrooms without the adequate supervision needed to avoid deviant peer contagion. The Center brings together interdisciplinary teams from Duke and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study three levels of peer influence: 1) Cognitive and emotional processes that operate intrapersonally but are influenced by peers; 2) The social psychology of interpersonal peer interaction in dyads and small groups; and 3) Institutional peer effects at a macro-level. Keywords: Adolescence (12-20), behavioral /social science research, drug abuse prevention clinical research

Drug Abuse Prevention During Developmental Transitions

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The Rutgers TPRC is investigating how individuals, transitioning key developmental phases (including drug use stages), acquire and integrate information about substance use behavior into their behavioral repertoire; then, the research team will apply that knowledge to the design of prevention interventions. Specifically, RTPRC themes include developing knowledge on: (1) Basic self-regulatory and learning processes relevant to the development of substance use; (2)

Transitional stages in drug use; (3) Transitional phases in normative human maturation and development; (4) Identifying potentially malleable risk and protective factors related to use behaviors; and (5) Applying all of this knowledge to model interventions and outcomes. Keywords: Drug abuse prevention, growth /development, socioenvironment, substance abuse related behavior behavioral /social science research tag, clinical research, human subject

Center for Drug Abuse Prevention in the Child Welfare System

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The Center will continue the work of the OSLC TPRC to systematically integrate and extend prevention science to the CWS with an aim towards the following: a) Specify conceptual models to inform the development of interventions for CWS children and their families; b) increase the implementation of evidence-based interventions into routine CWS practice; and c) reduce the incidence of drug abuse and related problems in CWS populations. The Center will provide shared resources, leadership, and oversight to integrate and extend knowledge from CWS studies; facilitate collaborations with CWS researchers to support 7-10 pilot studies; and facilitate the professional development of early career scientists. The Center will also provide infrastructure to incorporate new key areas related to CWS drug abuse prevention into future studies. Keywords: Child foster care /adoption, child welfare, drug abuse prevention, parent offspring interaction, behavioral /social science research, clinical research

USC Transdisciplinary Drug Abuse Prevention Research Center

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The USC TPRC integrates strategies and theories from multiple scientific disciplines to gain a more complete, comprehensive understanding of the cognitive, affective social, and cultural influences on drug abuse and its prevention among adolescents and young adults. The team is applying basic research in memory, implicit cognition and network analysis theory to tailor prevention programs. Project 1 is evaluating effects of key curricula from a nationally recognized, successful prevention program on memory and implicit cognition processes in high-risk youth. Project 2 is using network analysis theory to tailor a nationally recognized effective substance abuse prevention program (TND), to determine whether TND can be made more effective by using social network data to structure classroom based workshops, and to determine how peer influence moderates or mediates the effectiveness of substance abuse prevention programming among a high-risk population. Keywords: Drug abuse prevention, education evaluation /planning clinical research