



What's On Tap?



Updates from the Front Lines at CSDP

While we are only midway through 2011, we have already experienced a lot of excitement at the CSDP and the King Lab at the University of Chicago.

In mid-January 2011, Dr. King appeared live on our local Chicago affiliate, ABC-7, for a segment on the Health Beat portion with Sylvia Perez. Dr. King discussed evidence-based treatments for smokers who want to quit (see picture to right). The Courage to Quit™ program that Dr. King developed with the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago was also highlighted. Chicago is part of a large CDC-funded initiative, the *Chicago Tobacco Prevention Project (CTPP)*, a large-scale campaign for smoking prevention and treatment.*

In March 2011, Dr. King and Patrick McNamara co-authored a scientific publication on alcohol's effects on brain response to affective images. More information on this research is presented on page 2.

In April 2011, another scientific publication by Dr. King and Patrick was highlighted by several



January 2011 ABC-7 segment. From left: Lauren Brill, ex-smoker, Dr. King, Sylvia Perez, reporter.

radio stations and internet sites. Dr. King was interviewed live on BBC News radio from London, U.K. and she was quoted in a feature article on drinking and health in the London Telegraph.

In short, the study examined persons with a range of drinking patterns and results challenged conventional notions that low response to alcohol or drugs are main predictor of continued use over time. Issues pertaining to the dose of the substance, and at what intervals during drug metabolism responses are measured—and how they

are measured—were pointed out as important factors that should be considered. Dr. King and her team showed their results above and beyond effects such as male gender, family history, education, and impulsive personality.

In late June 2011, Dr. King and several members of the team are heading to Atlanta, GA to present more study findings at a national scientific conference.

*For more information on CTPP, visit this website: www.lungchicago.org

Director's Note



Hello again from the CSDP, and I hope everyone is enjoying the start of this summer season.

In this issue, we update you on our recent media interviews locally and internationally, highlight our brain imaging findings, and provide updates on our April 2011 lottery winners.

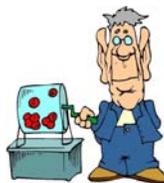
We also introduce you to a new study in our laboratory (pg 2) if you or someone you know might be interested in enrolling. Finally, we wish Katie Foster well in leaving the laboratory to start graduate school soon.

Dr. Andrea King
Principal Investigator

Bi-Annual Raffle Winners

This April, we held our Bi-Annual Follow-Up raffle for all participants who completed an Annual Interview on time between the interval of Oct. 2010 to March 2011.

- First prize: \$100 gift card : #610**
- Second prize: \$20 gift card : #590**
- Third prize (3): \$10 gift card: #414, #604, #616**



The next follow-up raffle will be held in October 2011. Finish your annual follow-up on time to be automatically entered!

CSDP Enters 7th Year

This March, the CSDP entered its 7th Year! Originally starting in 2004, the study now has nearly 300 participants.



Thanks for your continued dedication to the success of the Chicago Social Drinking Project! See the enclosed letter for details on follow-up plans and schedules for your cohort.

Alcohol and Social Signals of Threat

In the March issue of the journal *Neuroimage*, Dr. King and Patrick were co-authors of a publication from a study we conducted using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). Social drinkers viewed images while in the scanner that were validated to express 'threat' (fearful and angry faces) or 'non-threat' (happy faces).

After consuming a beverage that did not contain any substances, the area of the brain called the amygdala, critical in processing fear perception and responding, was activated only during viewing of the threatening faces but not the happy faces. However, when the same participants consumed an intoxicating dose of alcohol, the activation of the amygdala was significantly reduced.

The findings support the theory that alcohol may reduce negative responses, such as stress, tension, and anxiety by dampening fearful and threat processing functions in the brain.

Sripada, Angstadt, McNamara, King, & Phan (2011) Neuroimage 55: 371-380.

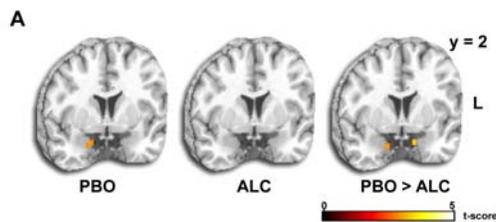


Figure A: fMRI results showing amygdala activation (orange highlight) in the placebo (PBO) condition and nonactivation in the alcohol (ALC) condition, with the last panel displaying the t-maps comparison.

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Concerned about your drinking or substance use or about that of a friend or family member?

Feel free to call Dr. Andrea King directly on a confidential basis for suggestions, feedback, or referrals at tel: **773-702-6181**

Check out past issues of our newsletter, lottery and raffle results, and pictures of study gifts on our website!

<http://socialdrinking.uchicago.edu/>

Good Luck, Katie!



We'd like to thank Katie Foster for her hard work as a research assistant with the Chicago Social Drinking Project. Many of you may have interacted with Katie over the last two years in the lab during screenings and experimental sessions, as well as on the telephone for follow-up interviews. Katie will begin her graduate studies in clinical psychology this fall at the University of Michigan. We wish her the best of luck!

Hormones and Moods Study Begins

Dan Roche, a graduate student working with Dr. King in the Clinical Addictions Research Laboratory, has recently begun enrolling for the Hormones and Mood Study (HAM). The study examines mood and hormonal responses to naltrexone, an FDA-approved drug that is approved for the treatment of opioid and alcohol dependencies. Normal control women (at various stages of their menstrual cycle) and men take part in two experimental sessions where they ingest a tablet (either placebo or naltrexone), answer questionnaires about their mood, and provide blood and saliva samples. Each session lasts about 4-5 hours and starts around 9:00 am at the University of Chicago. Participants receive \$150. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in applying, visit: <http://addictions.uchicago.edu/HAM/>

