

C-VENT Newsletter Issue 2_2024

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University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**



Welcome to the second issue of the Colorado Vaping, E-Cigarettes, Nicotine and Tobacco research program (C-VENT) Newsletter. Below we feature research from University of Colorado researchers on tobacco, nicotine and vaping, highlight some tobacco and nicotine news, and we present a few current extramural funding opportunities.

Our efforts to identify people studying nicotine, vaping and tobacco around the institution has generated a mailing list with 60 researchers and clinicians. I am so appreciative of your willingness to meet and tell me about your work. As we launch C-VENT, we would like to extend our gratitude to a few individuals who are supporting us in this effort. First, we have an Executive Committee offering guidance on the development of this new community of tobacco and nicotine researchers. Thank you to our Executive Committee Members Dr. Sara Cooper from the Colorado School of Public Health, Dr. Chad Morris from Department of Psychiatry, and Dr. Jamie Studts from the University of Colorado Cancer Center. Check out their bios and other program updates in our [C-VENT webpage](#). We also want to recognize the support and advice provided by our Senior Advisors Dr. Mark Earnest, Division of General

Internal Medicine, Dr. Sharon Pine, Thoracic Oncology Research Institute, and Dr. Jon Samet, Colorado School of Public Health.

While the newsletter is our first step to creating some community and shared identity as University of Colorado investigators who study tobacco, nicotine and vaping, the second step is a retreat. We hope you will be joining us at the **Inaugural C-VENT Research Retreat on Friday, June 28, 2024 at 12:00pm – 3:45pm in the Anschutz Health Science Building**, featuring keynote presentation speaker Dr. Li-Shiun Chen, Professor of Psychiatry at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, presenting “Can We Clear the Smoke? Genomic Insights for Personalized Care” (streaming available). The retreat will include opportunities for multidisciplinary speed networking and an interactive discussion on mission/vision for C-VENT. There will also be a social hour at T-Street Kitchen in the Health Science Building after the event adjourns for further mingling.

To see full event details visit the Anschutz Event Calendar or [click here](#).

To register [click here](#)

Gina Kruse, MD, MPH

Director of C-VENT Research Program

Associate Professor

A promotional graphic for the C-VENT Research Retreat. The background features a cityscape with various buildings under a clear sky. The text "C-VENT Research Retreat" is prominently displayed at the top in a large, bold, black font. Below it, the date and time "6/28/24 12:00pm" are shown in a smaller, bold, black font. On the right side, there is a portrait of Dr. Li-Shiun Chen, a woman with dark hair wearing a white lab coat. Below her portrait is a QR code with the text "Register Here" and an arrow pointing to it. A black text box on the left side of the graphic contains the following text: "Keynote presentation: *Can we clear the smoke? Genomic Insights for Personalized Care* By Li-Shiun Chen M.D., M.P.H., Sc.D."

INVESTIGATOR SPOTLIGHT



Christine M. Steeger, Ph.D.



Dr. Steeger is an Associate Research Professor in the Prevention Science Program in the Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her research background and expertise are in Developmental Psychology and Prevention Science.

Her research interests are in prevention science, developmental psychopathology, etiology of youth problem behaviors, parenting and family processes, tobacco and cannabis use, and individual-, family-, school-, and community-based interventions. Her primary research areas include: 1) social-ecological risk and protective factors that may contribute to healthy development or development of externalizing, internalizing, and substance use problem behaviors; 2) tobacco and cannabis research across the lifespan; 3) translation of basic research into applied preventive interventions for youth and young adults, and 4) rigorous methodological evaluation standards for designing and analyzing interventions through the Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development online clearinghouse of evidence-based interventions.

Dr. Steeger currently leads a large-scale cluster randomized trial testing the effectiveness of a high school-based preventive intervention to prevent or reduce adolescent substance use and related problem behaviors (study protocol paper: [Substance use prevention during adolescence: Study protocol for a large-scale cluster randomized trial of Botvin High School LifeSkills Training](#)). She is also leading a pilot project focused on understanding disparities in nicotine and cannabis vaping among youth, and associations between vaping use types and psychosocial outcomes. Her other current tobacco-related research interests include sociodemographic differences in vaping prevalence and patterns of use, health outcomes of vaping, and consequences of flavored tobacco use (article link: [Longitudinal associations between flavored tobacco use and tobacco product cessation in a national sample of adults](#)).

NEWS AND POLICY

Nicotine Trend Spreading on TikTok Packs a Potentially Dangerous Punch

CU Anschutz Medical Campus News

Lauren Kelley

March 4, 2024

Expert says pouch influencers are spreading false claims of product that presents serious health risks.

The latest nicotine trend touted on social media could be the stealthiest and most dangerous yet. TikTok influencers are targeting teenagers with promises that nicotine pouches, a discreet way of getting a nicotine jolt, can do everything from enhancing masculinity to providing a powerful “buzz.”

[Visit Source](#)

Medscape Caves In on Courses Funded by Tobacco Giant Philip Morris, While Medics Fear Global Push Into Medical Education

The BMJ

Hristio Boytchev, investigations reporter

April 26, 2024

The medical education provider Medscape has bowed to pressure and agreed to permanently remove a series of accredited medical education courses on smoking cessation funded by the tobacco industry giant Philip Morris International (PMI), The BMJ and The Examination have found. Medscape has acknowledged its

“misjudgment” in a letter to complainants and says that it will not accept funding from any organisation affiliated with the tobacco industry in the future.

The move comes after a BMJ investigation revealed the PMI deal and widespread protests among doctors and academics in reaction to the partnership.

[Visit source](#)

World No Tobacco Day Empowers Youth to Stand Up to Big Tobacco Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Yolonda C. Richardson, President and CEO of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
May 31, 2024

On this World No Tobacco Day, the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids joins the World Health Organization (WHO) and youth around the world in urging governments to protect young people from the deadly tactics of the world’s largest tobacco companies.

[Visit Source](#)



We want to highlight your presentations at Scientific Conferences and meetings and to help schedule University of Colorado dinners at the meetings many of you attend. Please help us by letting us know what conferences you attend for your tobacco, nicotine and vaping research using the link below.

Abstracts for the 2025 SRNT conference are due 8/11/24. Let us know if you are attending.

[Behavior Genetics Association](#) (June 26-29, 2024, London, England)

[Academy Health Annual Research Meeting](#) (June 29-July 2, 2024, Baltimore, MD)

[Public Health in the Rockies](#) (September 24-26, 2024, Keystone, CO)

[ASAM State of The Art, Course in Addiction Medicine](#) (October 17- 18, 2024, Baltimore, MD)
[American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#) (Oct 27-30, 2024, Minneapolis, MN)
[World Conference on Lung Health](#) (The Union) (Nov 12-16, 2024, Bali, Indonesia)
[Society of Behavioral Medicine](#) (March 26-29, 2025, San Francisco, CA)
[American Society of Preventive Oncology](#) (April 6-8, 2025, Philadelphia, PA)
[Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco](#) (March 12-15, 2025, New Orleans, LA)
[American Society of Addiction Medicine](#) (April 24-27, 2025, Denver, CO)
[Society for Prevention Research](#) (May 27-30, 2025, Seattle, WA)
[Thomas L. Petty Aspen Lung Conference](#) (June 3-6, 2025, Aspen, CO)
[American Thoracic Society](#) (May 16-21, 2025, San Francisco, CA)

Where do you present your tobacco/nicotine related work?

[Click here to let us know!](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

To share the great work around campus we have created a search to identify the new tobacco and nicotine research published by University of Colorado researchers. Please send us additional papers to highlight, it will help us to refine our search!

Morean ME, **Rajeshkumar L**, Krishnan Sarin S. "Development and Psychometric Evaluation of a Novel Measure of Nicotine E-cigarette Withdrawal for use with Adolescents and Young Adults." Nicotine Tob Res. 2024 May 2:ntae095. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntae095. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38695371.
<https://academic.oup.com/ntr/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ntr/ntae095/7661127?login=true>

Kruse G, Samet J, Barnoya J. "Electronic cigarettes: beneficial for smoking cessation but harmful to public health?" Emerg Med J. 2024 Apr 22;41(5):283-284.

doi: 10.1136/emmermed-2024-213940. PMID: 38531657.

<https://emj.bmj.com/content/41/5/283>

Lindbloom A, Radi R, Lyon C. “Puffing to Persistent Smoking Cessation.” J Am Board Fam Med. 2024 Mar-Apr;37(2):354-356. doi: 10.3122/jabfm.2023.230470R0. PMID: 38740478. <https://www.jabfm.org/content/37/2/354>

Davis DR, **Rajesh Kumar L**, Morean ME, Kong G, Bold KW, Krishnan-Sarin S, Camenga DE. “Why young adults use tobacco-free nicotine E-cigarettes: An analysis of qualitative data.” Addict Behav. 2024 Mar;150:107925. doi: 10.1016/j.addbeh.2023.107925. Epub 2023 Nov 24. PMID: 38056193; PMCID: PMC10842804.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306460323003209?via%3Dihub>

Rezk-Hanna M, **Rossman MJ, Ludwig K**, Sakti P, Cheng CW, Brecht ML, Benowitz NL, **Seals DR.** “Electronic hookah (waterpipe) vaping reduces vascular endothelial function: the role of nicotine.” Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol. 2024 Mar 1;326(3):H490-H496. doi: 10.1152/ajpheart.00710.2023. Epub 2023 Dec 22. PMID: 38133618. <https://journals.physiology.org/doi/full/10.1152/ajpheart.00710.2023>

Cardenas HL, Evanoff NG, **Fandl HK, Berry AR, Wegerson KN, Ostrander EI, Greiner JJ**, Dufresne SR, Kotlyar M, Dengel DR, **DeSouza CA, Garcia VP.** “Endothelial-derived extracellular vesicles associated with electronic cigarette use impair cerebral microvascular cell function.” J Appl Physiol (1985). 2023 Aug 1;135(2):271-278. doi: 10.1152/jappphysiol.00243.2023. Epub 2023 Jun 22. PMID: 37348012; PMCID: PMC10393369.

<https://journals.physiology.org/doi/full/10.1152/jappphysiol.00243.2023>

Steege CM, Combs KM, Buckley PR, **Brooks-Russell A**, Lain MA, Drewelow K, Denker HK, Zaugg S, Hill KG. “Substance use prevention during adolescence: Study protocol for a large-scale cluster randomized trial of Botvin High School LifeSkills Training.” Contemp Clin Trials. 2023 Feb;125:107049. doi: 10.1016/j.cct.2022.107049. Epub 2022 Dec 12. PMID: 36521631.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1551714422003755?via%3Dihub>



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NOT-AA-21-028 Notice of Special Interest: Public Policy Effects on Alcohol-, Cannabis-, Tobacco-, and Other Drug-Related Behaviors and Outcomes

This announcement encourages applications to conduct research on the effects of public policies on health-related behaviors and outcomes associated with alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, prescription drugs, and other substances. The purpose of the Notice is to advance understanding of how public policy may serve as a tool for improving public health and welfare through its effects on behaviors and outcomes pertaining to alcohol and other drugs. This Notice is intended to support innovative research to examine policy effects that have the potential to lead to meaningful changes in public health. Research projects that may be supported include, but are not necessarily limited to: causal analyses of the effects of one or multiple public policies; evaluations of the effectiveness of specific public policies as tools for improving public health through their effects on alcohol-, cannabis-, tobacco-, and other substance-related behaviors and outcomes; studies of disparities in policy effects and the role of policy in exacerbating or potentially reducing health disparities; and research to advance methods and measurement used in studying relationships between public policies and alcohol-, cannabis-, tobacco-, and other substance-related behaviors and outcomes.

For more information visit: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-AA-21-028.html>

Explore other funding opportunities

- [Funding Landscape | Research Development and Strategy \(cuanschutz.edu\)](#)
- [Funding Focus Newsletter | CU Anschutz](#)
- [Research Grant Process | American Cancer Society](#)
- [Tobacco Regulatory Science Program Funding Opportunities | ODP \(nih.gov\)](#)
- [Funding Opportunity Announcements | Smoking and Tobacco Use | CDC](#)
- [Tobacco education, prevention and cessation grant program | Department of Public Health & Environment \(colorado.gov\)](#)

- [Funding Opportunities, Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs \(health.mil\)](#)
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We want to hear your feedback. Let us know where you present your tobacco/nicotine research or suggest content for future newsletter using the link below.

[Click here to provide feedback](#)

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Colorado Vaping, E-cigarettes, Nicotine and Tobacco Research Program (C-VENT)

Contact us
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