



Prevention Research Center

A National Center for the Study
of Environmental Approaches
to Prevention of Alcohol-Related
Problems



PRC's multidisciplinary approach to prevention research emphasizes theoretical integration across multiple levels of explanation in the behavioral and social sciences. We aim to enhance our understanding of the impacts of environments on problems, enabling the development and application of feasible and effective policies and programs to reduce health-related problems.

Our research includes studies of families, the workplace, drinking venues, and communities, as well as global studies of the impacts of state and national policies. We collaborate with colleagues across the U.S. and internationally. We encourage opportunities for mentoring new investigators and have an established NIAAA-funded postdoctoral program with the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. To facilitate effective collaboration, PRC is able to provide virtual and physical infrastructure to support our staff and research.

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The Prevention Research Center is home to a team of research scientists, including sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, criminologists and epidemiologists, who work collaboratively across disciplines to investigate how the environment (including laws, economies, social circumstances and normative settings) affects health behaviors. PRC's primary focus is on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; and how their use can result in short- and long-term harm to individuals and communities. The goal of our research is to identify aspects of the environment that can be changed to improve health.

Our research focuses on understanding how family, school, work, and community environments shape personal health behaviors. A primary goal is to develop, implement, and evaluate programs and policies at local, tribal, state and national levels.

Methodological Expertise at PRC

- Survey Design, Administration, and Research
- Mixed Methods Study Design
- Community Based Participatory Research
- Ecological Momentary Assessment
- Geographical Ecological Assessment
- Policy Analysis
- Geospatial Analysis
- Mathematical Ecological Modeling
- Social Network Analysis
- Content Analysis
- Qualitative Research



Current Research at Prevention Research Center

Grant Title	Funder	PIs/Component Directors
NIAAA National Center Grant		
Center Grant: Environmental Approaches to Prevention	NIAAA	Paul Gruenewald
Center Grant: Social Mechanisms of Early Alcohol and Substance Use Initiation and Progression to Problems	NIAAA	Sharon Lipperman-Kreda/Joel Grube
Center Grant: Mexican American Drinking Contexts On and Away from the U.S./Mexico Border	NIAAA	Raul Caetano/Patrice Vaeth
Center Grant: Social Ecological Contexts of Heavy Drinking and Alcohol Use Disorders	NIAAA	Paul Gruenewald
Center Grant: Framework for Behavioral Risk Models of Alcohol-Related Problems	NIAAA	Stina Mair/Paul Gruenewald
Center Grant: Education and Dissemination in Support of Community Action	NIAAA	Sue Thomas
Alcohol		
Web-based Family Prevention of Alcohol and Risky Sex for Older Teens	NIAAA	Brenda Miller
Group-based Intervention for Alcohol, Drugs and Aggression among Club Patrons	NIAAA	Brenda Miller
A Multidimensional Community-Based Strategy for Preventing Underage Drinking	NIAAA	Joel Grube (subcontract from ORI)
Impacts of Off-Premise Alcohol Outlets on Local Neighborhood Alcohol Problems	NIAAA	Juliet Lee
Environmental Drinking Contexts & Intimate Partner Violence	NIAAA	Carol Cunradi
Strategies for Preventing Underage Drinking and Other Substance Use in Native American Tribal Communities	NIAAA	Roland Moore
Explaining Local Impacts of Off-Premise Alcohol Outlets on Problems	NIAAA	Juliet Lee (subcontract from U of Pittsburgh)
Prevention Science Research Training Program (postdoctoral fellowship program jointly administered with UC Berkeley)	NIAAA	Joel Grube
Changing Environmental Influences on Adolescent Alcohol Use and Risk	NICHD	Hilary Byrnes
Assessing Changes in Child Maltreatment Due to the Sacramento Neighborhood Alcohol Prevention	NIAAA	Jennifer Price-Wolf (subcontract from OSU)
Tobacco		
LGBT Adults and Tobacco Stigma: A Qualitative Study	NCI	Tamar Antin
Barriers and Supports for Smoking Cessation: Latinos in Addiction Treatment	CA TRDRP	Anna Pagano
Youth Activity Spaces and Exposure to Tobacco Outlets	CA TRDRP	Sharon Lipperman-Kreda
Dual Use of Marijuana and Tobacco: Social Media and Youth	CA TRDRP	Juliet Lee
Tobacco Cessation and Prevention for Underserved Arab Americans: Pilot Study	CA TRDRP	Juliet Lee
Associations of Youth E-Cig and Tobacco Use: Ecological Momentary Assessment	NIDA	Melissa Abadi
Marijuana, Opioids and Other Drugs		
Intervening to Prevent Youth Access to Marijuana Phase II	NIDA	Robert Saltz (subcontract from Klein Buendel)
Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and Opioid-Related Harm	NIDA	Paul Gruenewald (subcontract from NYU)
Mental and Physical Health		
Technical Assistance Provider for the Native American Implementation Pilot Projects	CA D Public Health	Roland Moore
Native Connections: Suicide Prevention	SAMHSA	Roland Moore (subcontract from IHC)
Tundra Gifts: Harvesting Local and Regional Resources to Prevent Obesity Among Alaska Native Children In Remote, Underserved Communities	USDA	MJ Paschall (subcontract from UAA)
School-based Health Clinics: Effects on Youth and Young Adult Sexual Behavior	NICHD	Melina Bersamin