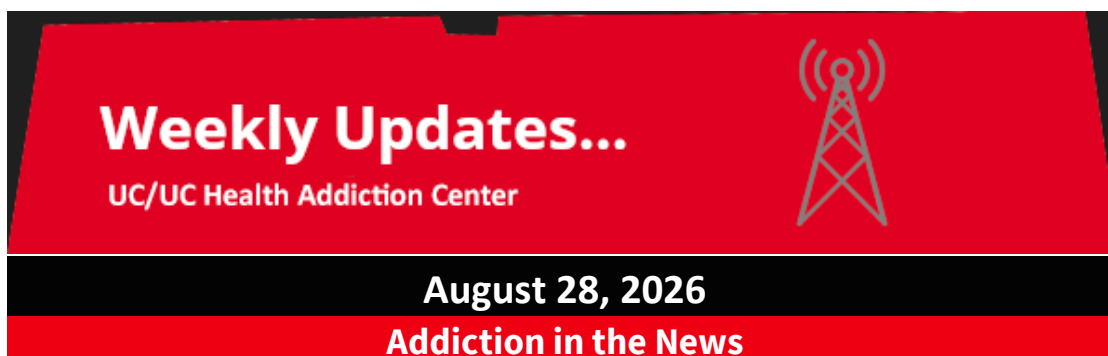


Welcome to the weekly newsletter from the University of Cincinnati/UC Health Addiction Center (UCAC)! Each newsletter includes highlights from addiction in the news topics, active funding opportunities offered by NIDA/NIAAA, and information about any new publications from UCAC researchers. **Please note that the next weekly newsletter will be published Friday, September 11.** Please email Jen Rowe (roweji@ucmail.uc.edu) to change your communication preferences. Thank you.

Thank you for your interest in the UC/UC Health Addiction Center - our mission is to generate new knowledge through innovative research, disseminate that knowledge through education and training, and provide high-quality, evidence-based treatment for individuals affected by addiction and related conditions. We are committed to supporting lifelong recovery and promoting dignity and respect for all individuals on their recovery journey.



UC/ Regional News

Walk The Road To Recovery

Friday, September 11 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM

We recover together, an unfiltered conversation.

Including food and entertainment, a discussion panel, and recovery celebration.

Ohio AG's Office Awards Over \$2.5M to Local Drug Abuse Response Teams

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) — The office of Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson has awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants for the current fiscal year to help communities connect survivors of opioid addiction to treatment and recovery. “Overdose survivors need urgent, hands-on support to break the cycle of addiction,” Wilson said. “These grants empower local law enforcement and healthcare partners to meet people where they are in their most vulnerable moments and guide them toward lasting recovery.” The funding, awarded to 38 law enforcement agencies and local governments through the Drug Abuse Response Team...

South-Central Ohio DART grant expands overdose recovery outreach

The South-Central Ohio Major Crimes Unit will receive \$88,936 to continue its Drug Abuse Response Team outreach to overdose survivors under a new round of grants announced by Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson. According to a community announcement, the Attorney General's Office awarded more than \$2.5 million statewide to support programs that connect people struggling with opioid addiction to treatment and recovery services. The South-Central Ohio Major Crimes

Unit's grant will support Project FORT, a pre-arrest diversion and quick response outreach program that connects individuals to local resources. The Athens...

Meta reaches \$17 billion settlement with states, including Ohio, Kentucky, in teen social media addiction case

Meta has agreed to pay \$17 billion and add child-safety measures to its Facebook and Instagram platforms to end a landmark trial over teen social media addiction and settle claims filed by 47 states, state attorneys general announced Wednesday. Ohio and, Kentucky were among 29 states that sued the tech giant in 2023, but the deal cuts short the trial, which was expected to see CEO Mark Zuckerberg take the stand before a jury in federal court in California. The agreement is worth \$358 million in Kentucky alone, according to Attorney General Russell Coleman. "While Meta is certainly paying for its conduct, this was never...

National News

Isolation drives alcohol consumption through brain circuit that differs by sex

The COVID-19 pandemic tested us in many ways—how we handle crisis, isolation, health, loss, and so much more. Amidst all the conversations about how we cope, one topic came up again and again: alcohol. "This project really started during the pandemic," says Kay Tye, PhD, Salk professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. "Some people said being alone makes them drink less, others said more, so we wondered, is there actually a neural mechanism linking social isolation and alcohol use?" Tye is co-corresponding author of a new study, published in Nature Neuroscience on August 25, 2026, that asks that very...

U.S. Marijuana Smoking at Record High, Cigarettes at Low

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Seventeen percent of Americans say they smoke marijuana, tying Gallup's record high, while cigarette smoking matches its record low of 11%. Vaping is steady at 9%, and 4% of U.S. adults say they use nicotine pouches. When it comes to nonalcoholic beverages, coffee is the most popular of the five tested. About half of U.S. adults (49%) drink coffee every day, while 21% drink tea and 20% drink caffeinated soda daily. Fewer consume energy drinks (9%) or caffeine-free soda (6%). In describing their diets, only 5% say they are vegetarian and 2% vegan. These findings are from the July 1-19 update of Gallup's annual...

The Way You Use Weed Could Be A Red Flag For Addiction, Study Finds

MONDAY, Aug. 24 2026 (HealthDay News) — The way you use weed might be a red flag for heavy use or addiction, a new study says. People who use weed in nearly every form — smoking, vaping, eating and dabbing — are nearly three times as likely to get stoned every day or have cannabis use disorder, researchers reported in the journal Addictive Behaviors. "Our findings suggest that using cannabis in multiple forms may be a red flag for heavier use and symptoms of addiction," said lead researcher Dr. Omar El-Shahawy, an assistant professor of population health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine in New York...

Vapes help more people quit smoking than other methods

Nicotine e-cigarettes are more effective in helping people quit smoking than many conventional methods such as nicotine gums and patches and quitting with behavioural support or no support at all, an updated Cochrane review finds. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable disease and death, resulting in more than seven million deaths per year, including 1.6 million non-smokers who are exposed to second-hand smoke, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The analysis, part of an ongoing living systematic review that is updated as new evidence becomes available, examined 80 randomized controlled...

Major review finds clear link between vaping and respiratory problems in young people

A major review of the effects of vaping on children and young people has found clear links between vaping and respiratory health problems, as well as strong evidence that young people who vape are more likely to go on to smoke cigarettes. The review, led by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), was co-authored by Professor Will Carroll, honorary professor of child health at Keele, and Dr. Fran Gilchrist, reader and honorary consultant in pediatric respiratory medicine. Both are also pediatric consultants at University Hospitals of North Midlands (UHNH) NHS Trust. The study is published in the journal...

Illicit fentanyl use is more than double medical use in US

The largest study to date to quantify and compare medical and illicit fentanyl use in the United States suggests that illicit use is more than twice as common as medical use. The analysis also shows that the risk of a nonfatal overdose is up to threefold higher among illicit users than among patients exposed to fentanyl in a medical setting or through a prescription. Overall, the study found that illicit-source fentanyl exposure is linked to a significantly higher risk of opioid-related harmful outcomes than medical-source exposure. Almost 300,000 people from a dataset of 300 million patients were divided into two groups based...

Researchers to lead \$3.3 million project to study opioid treatment during breastfeeding

The increase in opioid use disorder (OUD) among women of reproductive age demonstrates an urgent need for safe and effective treatment strategies for women who are breastfeeding. This population is rarely, if ever, studied — but researchers at the Binghamton University, State University of New York School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SOPPS) aim to change that. “I started to think about what we can do to enhance drug safety in this population,” said Associate Professor and Director of the Pharmacokinetics and Bioanalysis Facility Tao Zhang. “In new drug development, those populations are often not included...

For Opioid Overdose Survivors, One Treatment May Reduce Risk of Death Over Another

For opioid overdose survivors, starting methadone was associated with a reduced risk of death during the subsequent year compared with starting buprenorphine-naloxone, a retrospective cohort study from Canada suggested. Using a target trial emulation among over 5,800 individuals with past-year opioid overdose, 5.6% of those who started methadone died within 1 year compared with 7.1% of those who started buprenorphine-naloxone (HR 0.78, 95% CI 0.63-0.95, P=0.01), reported Robert A. Kleinman, MD, MSc, of the Center for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, and co-authors. Of the 375 individuals who died within...

Justice Department Announces Emergency Scheduling of Three Potent Opioid Compounds

The Department of Justice today announced the emergency scheduling of three highly potent opioid compounds that pose an imminent hazard to public safety: mitragynine pseudoindoxyl, commonly known as MGPI, and two synthetic compounds known as MGM-15 and MGM-16. "The Justice Department is acting before these dangerous compounds become a broader threat," said Attorney General Todd Blanche. "These are potent opioids being manufactured and sold in consumer products, often under labels that obscure their true risks. This action will protect our nation's children and communities from the dangers..."

FDA Expands Label of Oral HIV Drug to Newborns

The FDA expanded the approval of dolutegravir tablets for oral suspension (Tivicay PD) to include newborns with HIV infections younger than 4 weeks of age, the agency announced on Tuesday. In combination with other antiretroviral therapies (ARTs), the once-daily treatment is indicated for babies weighing at least 2 kg (~4.4 lbs) who are naive to an integrase strand transfer inhibitor (INSTI). The approval was supported by the phase I IMPAACT 2023 study and pharmacokinetic modeling data. The open-label trial included 48 newborns who received dolutegravir in addition to standard ART for up to 6 weeks. With 16 weeks of follow-up...

Researchers Could Pay \$100M to Comply With NIH Publishing Policy

NIH-funded researchers could pay journal publishers as much as \$104 million per year in additional fees to comply with NIH's updated policy that requires manuscripts to be publicly available as soon as they are published. That's the total estimated by assessing about 24,000 manuscripts associated with NIH grants in 2024 that would likely have to pay to comply with the policy, Ryan Huebinger, MD, of the University of New Mexico, and colleagues reported in a research letter in JAMA Internal Medicine. "We can't say exactly how much it would cost because we don't know how much many of these publishers could be charging" under...

Funding Opportunities



GRANTS & FUNDING

NIH Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information

Notice of NIH Updates to Career Development (K) Award Programs (NOT-OD-26-098)

Request for Information (RFI) on Proposed Changes to Reporting Outcomes from NIH Peer Review (NOT-OD-26-088)

Request for Information (RFI): Input on Potential NIH Funding Approaches to Support the Development of Future Clinical Trial Investigators (NOT-OD-26-095)

Other Funding Opportunities:

Justice Department Announces Funding Opportunities for Substance Use Disorder and Behavioral Health

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice has released funding opportunities designed expand substance use and mental health treatment. Together, these opportunities will support state, local, Tribal, and community-based efforts to improve outcomes for people involved in the criminal legal system. Below are several opportunities available through federal initiatives, including the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program (COSSUP), Second Chance Act, and the Public Safety and Mental Health Initiative (formerly the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program [JMHCP]).

BJA FY 2026 Second Chance Act Family-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program **Opportunity ID O-BJA-2026-172700**

Deadline: Grants.gov - September 24, 2026, 11:59 pm Eastern

Deadline: Application JustGrants - October 1, 2026, 8:59 pm Eastern

BJA FY 2026 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program **Opportunity ID O-BJA-2026-172702**

Deadline: Grants.gov - September 24, 2026, 11:59 pm Eastern

Deadline: Application JustGrants - October 1, 2026, 8:59 pm Eastern

BJA FY 2026 Public Safety and Mental Health Initiative
Opportunity ID O-BJA-2026-172676

Deadline: Grants.gov - September 25, 2026, 11:59 pm Eastern

Deadline: Application JustGrants - October 2, 2026, 8:59 pm Eastern

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