

Tobacco and Alcohol Research Group

March Newsletter 2021

COVID-19 Lockdown Update:

Under the [current national lockdown](#) which took effect on Tuesday 5 January, University of Bristol staff are continuing to work from home unless it is essential to their role that they come to campus.

However, our studies are continuing to operate remotely or online. Please refer to individual study adverts below for more information.

Our priority is to ensure you stay safe and healthy, and thank you for bearing with us as we find ways to continue our research, without risking your health.

Contents

In this newsletter:

Current Studies

[Alcohol Studies](#)

[Smoking Studies](#)

[Recreational Drugs Studies](#)

[Studies Recruiting Children](#)

[News](#)

[Publications](#)

[Other Ways to Engage](#)

Current Studies

We are always looking for more participants to volunteer to be part of our studies.

[Click here for all current studies](#)

Click the button above to find full details of each study on our website, including how to contact the relevant researcher for more information or to sign up as a new participant. Please be aware that unless otherwise stated, you must be aged 18 or over to take part.

You can also see a summary of our current studies below.

Financial reimbursement for your participation

All studies reimburse for your time, mostly at around £7-£12/hr. This does vary depending on the nature of each study, the time commitment required and the funding source so please ask the researcher for details when signing up.

Alcohol Studies

The following studies require participants who drink alcohol.
Click each study title to find out more.



[The impact of media on drink enjoyment](#)

Who can participate? 18 to 40 years old, in good physical and psychiatric health, English as first language or equivalent level of fluency, drink at least one alcoholic drink a week and enjoy drinking lager. You would **NOT** be able to take part in the study if you: drink alcohol with 24 hours of the study sessions (confirmed by breath test), are pregnant or breastfeeding, or have a personal or family history of alcoholism.

Duration: One test session lasting approximately 40 minutes.

Contact: [Laura Brocklebank](#)

Smoking Studies

The studies below require smokers to take part.
Click each study title to find out more.



[Effects of acute smoking on health-related biomarkers](#)

Who can participate? Non-dependent smokers (defined as smoking at least 5 cigarettes per month, but not every day) aged 18-50 who have English as first language or equivalent level of fluency, are in good physical and psychiatric health.

Duration: Two sessions, on days one week apart. At the first session, you will attend the lab for a 15 minute session between 12pm and 3pm. You will then leave the lab for 3 hours and smoke several cigarettes (we will let you know how many). You will then return to the lab for a 30-min session between 3pm and 6pm. At the second session, you will abstain from smoking or using nicotine for at least 12 hours prior to your session and attend the lab for a 30 minute session between 3pm and 6pm.

Contact: [Jennifer Ferrar](#)

Recreational Drugs Studies

The following studies require users of recreational drugs.
Click each study title to find out more.



[Attitudes towards drugs survey](#)

Who can participate? Residents of the United Kingdom who are fluent in English, have normal or corrected-to-normal vision and hearing, and have never taken psychedelic drugs (e.g. LSD, magic mushrooms, DMT).

Duration: 20 minutes (an online survey and a short video).

Contact: [Olivia Maynard](#)

[Drug education evaluation](#)

Who can participate? We are recruiting University of Bristol students who have engaged with Bristol Drug Project's The Drop.

Duration: If you have redeemed a reagent testing kit as part of the scheme, we will ask you to complete a short questionnaire with each use of the kit. Regardless of whether you have used the reagent test kit, we will ask you to complete a one-month follow up questionnaire.

Contact: [Daniel Foster](#)

Studies Recruiting Children

The following studies require children to take part.
Click each study title to find out more.



[Children's experience completing computer tasks that measure brain function](#)

Who can participate? Children aged 7-11 years old who are in good physical and mental health, have English as their first language (or equivalent level of fluency) and who do not have an uncorrected visual or auditory impairment that would affect their ability to complete tasks on a computer.

Duration: Approximately 1 hour.

Contact: [Jennifer Ferrar](#)

TARG News

Below is a selection of recent news stories relating to members of TARG.
Please click the title to read the full news item.



[Underestimation of Drug Use: A Perennial Problem with Implications for Policy](#)



[TARG's top tips for wellbeing and productivity](#)



[A pharmacy resolution for 2021: let's improve the way patients with addiction are treated](#)

[Click here for more TARG news](#)

TARG Publications

Below is a selection of the most recent publications by members of TARG.

[Comorbidity of self-harm and disordered eating in young people: Evidence from a UK population-based cohort](#)

Warne, N., Heron, J. E., Mars, B., Moran, P. A., Stewart, A., Munafò, M. R., Biddle, L. A., Skinner, A. L., Gunnell, D. J. & Bould, H. E., 1 Mar 2021, In: *Journal of Affective Disorders*. p. 386-390 5 p.

[Examining the bidirectional association between emotion recognition and social autistic traits using observational and genetic analyses](#)

Reed, Z. E., Mahedy, L., Jackson, A., Davey Smith, G., Penton-Voak, I., Attwood, A. S. & Munafò, M. R., 2 Mar 2021, In: *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. 9 p.

[Interpretation bias training for bipolar disorder: A randomized controlled trial](#)

Van Meter, A., Stoddard, J., Penton-Voak, I. & Munafò, M. R., 1 Mar 2021, In: Journal of Affective Disorders. 282, p. 876-884 9 p.

[Click here for more TARG publications](#)

Other Ways to Engage

By following us on Facebook and Twitter you can be part of the conversation and engage with our researchers directly, or view our educational videos on YouTube:



Thank you for reading, see you next month.
Yours, TARG.