The BRIDGE-SUD pre-ARC is actively seeking new collaborations with researchers from <u>Computer and Data Sciences</u> to broaden the approaches used to mitigate the individual and societal burdens of persistent and risky substance use.

Bridging Basic and Clinical Science to Reduce the Harms and Consequences of Persistent or Risky Substance Use

An Evans Center Pre-ARC established in 2022 Co-directors: Venetia Zachariou, PhD and Alexander Walley, MD, MSc Pre-Arc Leadership /Preclinical Consultant: Kathleen Kantak, PhD

Mission Statement

The Bridging Basic and Clinical Science to Reduce Consequences of Substance Use (Bridge-SU) pre-ARC addresses consequences of persistent and risky use of drugs and alcohol. We have recruited 47 faculty experts in the genetic, neurobiological and psycho-socio-environmental drivers of substance use who seek to discover new pathways for prevention, harm reduction, and treatment. From across this continuum, we formed four groups of researchers focused on Comorbidities and Consequences, Parent and Child Substance Exposure, Risk Behavior Genotypes and Phenotypes, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Innovations. Objectives of the pre-ARC are to foster synergistic forwardand backward-translational collaborations among basic and clinical science substance use researchers across BUMC, VA, and CRC campuses, and to advance new collaborations with, for example, researchers from Computer and Data Sciences and the Center for Systems Neuroscience to broaden the approaches used to mitigate the individual and societal burdens of persistent and risky substance use. The pre-ARC also will partner with the BU CTSI to build community engagement capacity for substance use researchers.

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