

## *Curriculum Vitae*

**Taylor A. Ochalek, B.A.**

**University of Vermont**  
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### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**2011-2013**

University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC  
Bachelor of Arts with Honors Work in Psychology  
Honors Thesis: *Effects of ketamine and sensitivity to reinforcement delay under a rapid acquisition procedure: Implications for impulsive behavior*  
Advisor: Raymond C. Pitts, Ph.D.

**June 2014-present**

University of Vermont, Burlington, VT  
Ph.D. Program in Experimental Psychology  
NIDA Predoctoral Fellow  
Masters of Arts in Experimental Psychology,  
in progress, degree expected in August, 2017  
Masters Thesis: *Initial acceptability of an mHealth application for increasing HIV and hepatitis knowledge in waitlisted opioid-dependent individuals*  
Advisor: Stacey C. Sigmon, Ph.D.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**2013**

#### **HONORS THESIS IN PSYCHOLOGY**

Institution: University of North Carolina Wilmington  
Advisor: Raymond C. Pitts, Ph.D.

**June 2014-present**

#### **GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

Institution: University of Vermont  
Advisor: Stacey C. Sigmon, Ph.D.

Past studies:

**Interim Treatment: Leveraging buprenorphine + technology to bridge waitlist delays**

*R34 DA037385-01*

**Voucher-based incentives to promote smoking abstinence among patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder**

*Pilot study*

Current Studies:

**Detecting fentanyl use among patients in medication-assisted therapy**

*P20GM103644 and T32DA007242*

**Vermont Center on Regulatory Tobacco Studies**

*1P50DA036114*

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed Articles

1. Sigmon, S.C., Meyer, A.C., Hruska, B., **Ochalek, T.**, Rose, G., Badger, G.J., Brooklyn, J.R., Heil, S.H., Higgins, S.T., Moore, B.A., & Schwartz, R.P. (2015). Bridging waitlist delays with Interim Buprenorphine Treatment: Initial feasibility. *Addictive Behaviors*, 51, 136-142.
2. Sigmon, S.C., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Meyer, A.C., Hruska, B., Heil, S.H., Badger, G.J., Rose, G., Brooklyn, J.R., Schwartz, R.P., Moore, B.A. & Higgins, S.T. (2016). Interim buprenorphine vs. waiting list for opioid dependence. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 375(25), 2504-2505.

### Submitted and In Preparation

3. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Parker, M.A., Sigmon, S.C., Higgins, S.T. (submitted). Fentanyl use among patients in opioid maintenance treatment. *JAMA Psychiatry*.
4. Ochalek, T.A., Sigmon, S.C., Meyer, A.C., & Hruska, B. (in preparation). Initial acceptability of a novel *mHealth* application for increasing HIV and hepatitis C knowledge in waitlisted opioid-dependent individuals.
5. Parker, M.A., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C. (in preparation). Comparing interactive voice response reports and timeline follow-back reports in opioid-maintained adults.
6. Parker, M.A., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C. (submitted). Illicit drug use may be associated with increased cigarette smoking during buprenorphine treatment.
7. Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Meyer, A.C., Hruska, B., Teneback, C.C., Dixon, A.E., Heil, S.H., Badger, G.J., Higgins, S.T., & Sigmon, S.C. (in preparation). Smoking cessation among patients with COPD: A novel extension of evidence-based treatment.

### Other Scholarly Writing

8. **Ochalek, T.A.** (March 2017). Taking the road less traveled: Navigating alternative careers. Article published in the American Psychological Association Science Directorate's Psychological Science Agenda. <http://www.apa.org/science/about/psa/2017/03/road-less-traveled.aspx>

## PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. **Ochalek, T.A.** (October 2013). The effects of ketamine on sensitivity to reinforcement delay under a rapid acquisition procedure: implications for impulsive behavior. Poster presented at the Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis (SEABA) Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC and the Fall Creativity Undergraduate Research Showcase, Wilmington, NC.
2. **Ochalek, T.A.** (August 2014). Improving access to opioid treatment in rural America. Talk presented at the annual Behavioral Pharmacology Scientific Retreat, Vergennes, VT.
3. Meyer, A.C., Patrick, M.E., Hruska, B., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Streck, J., Teneback, C., Dixon, A., Higgins, S.T., Sigmon, S.C. (August 2014). Pilot study to reduce cigarette smoking among patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Poster presented at the annual Behavioral Pharmacology Scientific Retreat, Vergennes, VT.

4. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Patrick, M., Meyer, A.C., Badger, G., Hudziak, J., Higgins, S., Sigmon, S. (October 2014). Investigating a genetic marker of vulnerability for stimulant abuse. Poster Presented at the annual Behavior Change, Health and Health Disparities Conference, Burlington, VT.
5. Meyer A.C, Hruska B., **Ochalek T.A.**, Streck J., Teneback C., Dixon A., Higgins S., and Sigmon S. (October 2014). Using financial incentives to promote smoking abstinence in patients with pulmonary disease. Poster presented at the annual Behavior Change, Health and Health Disparities Conference, Burlington, VT.
6. Meyer, A.C., Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B.J., Teneback, C.C., Dixon, A.E., Higgins, S.T. & Sigmon, S.C. (February 2015). Using contingency management to promote smoking abstinence among patients with pulmonary disease. Presented at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, Philadelphia, PA.
7. Meyer, A. C., Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B., Teneback, C. C., Dixon, A. E., & Sigmon, S. C. (June 2015). Financial incentives promote smoking abstinence among patients with pulmonary disease. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, AZ.
8. **Ochalek, T. A.**, Meyer, A. C., Hruska, B., Streck, J. M., & Sigmon, S. C. (June 2015). An mHealth application for increasing HIV and hepatitis knowledge in waitlisted opioid abusers. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, AZ.
9. Sigmon, S. C., Meyer, A. C., Hruska, B., **Ochalek, T.**, Heil, S. H., Higgins, S. T., & Schwartz, R.P. (June 2015). Interim buprenorphine treatment: Leveraging technology to bridge waitlist delays. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Phoenix, AZ.
10. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B., Streck, J.M., Sigmon, S.C. (July 2015). Characterizing baseline HIV and Hepatitis C knowledge deficits in waitlisted opioid abusers. Poster presented at the annual Behavioral Pharmacology Scientific Retreat, Vergennes, VT.
11. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C., Hruska, B.J., Heil, S.H., Higgins, S.T., Rose, G., Moore, B.A., Schwartz, R.P. (October 2015). Interim buprenorphine treatment for reducing illicit opioid use during delays to treatment: Between- and within-group effects. Poster presented at the annual Behavior Change, Health and Health Disparities Conference, Burlington, VT.
12. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Pusey, J., Hruska, B., Heil, S.H., Higgins, S.T., Rose, G., Moore, B.A., Sigmon, S.C. (June 2016). Within-subject evaluation of interim buprenorphine vs. waitlist on illicit opioid use. Poster presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, CA.
13. Sigmon, S.C., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B., Heil, S.H., Higgins, S., Rose, G., Moore, B.A. (June 2016). Interim buprenorphine treatment for reducing illicit opioid use during treatment delays. Talk presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, CA.
14. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Streck, J.M., Sigmon, S.C. (June 2016). Using contingency management to promote smoking abstinence among patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Talk presented at the Meeting on the College on Problems of Drug Dependence 22nd Annual Contingency Management Working Group, Palm Springs, CA.
15. Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B.J., Pusey, J.D., and Sigmon, S.C. (June 2016). Improvements in psychiatric symptoms during Interim Buprenorphine Treatment. Poster presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Palm Springs, CA.

16. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B., Heil, S.H., Higgins, S.T., Rose, G., Moore, B.A., Schwartz, R.P., Sigmon, S.C. (August 2016). Interim buprenorphine treatment for reducing illicit opioid use during delays to treatment. Poster presented at the 124th American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
17. Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Hruska, B.J., Pusey, J.D., and Sigmon, S.C. (August 2016). Effects of Interim Buprenorphine Treatment on psychiatric symptoms among waitlisted opioid abusers. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
18. **Ochalek, T.A.** Interim buprenorphine treatment for reducing illicit opioid use during treatment delays: Between and within-group effects. (August 2016). Talk presented at the annual Behavioral Pharmacology Scientific Retreat, Vergennes, VT.
19. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C., Parker, M.A., Higgins, S.T. (October 2016). Undetected fentanyl use among patients receiving methadone or buprenorphine treatment. Poster presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Behavior Change, Health and Health Disparities Conference, Burlington, VT.
20. Parker, M.A., **Ochalek, T.A.**, & Sigmon, S.C. (October 2016). Illicit drug use is associated with increased smoking among buprenorphine-maintained adults. Poster. Poster presented at the 4th annual Behavior Change, Health and Health Disparities Conference, Burlington, VT.
21. Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Badger, G., Pusey, J.D., and Sigmon, S.C. (October 2016). Improvements in psychiatric symptoms during Interim Buprenorphine Treatment. Poster presented at the Annual Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, New York City, NY.
22. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C., Parker, M.A., & Higgins, S.T. (June 2017). Undetected illicit fentanyl use among patients receiving opioid agonist treatment. Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada.
23. Parker, M.A., **Ochalek, T.A.**, & Sigmon, S.C. (June 2017). Illicit drug use is associated with increased cigarette smoking among buprenorphine-maintained adults. Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada.
24. Streck, J.M., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Badger, G.J., & Sigmon, S.C. (June 2017). Gender differences in effects of Interim Buprenorphine Treatment on psychiatric symptoms. Abstract accepted for poster presentation at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada.
25. **Ochalek, T.A.**, Sigmon, S.C., Higgins, S.T. (August 2017). An HIV+HCV mHealth application for increasing knowledge in opioid-dependent adults. Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the 2017 Annual American Psychological Association Convention, Washington D.C., United States.
26. Parker, M.A., **Ochalek, T.A.**, Rose, G.L. & Sigmon, S.C. (August 2017). Phone-based vs. in-person self-report of drug use during Interim Buprenorphine Treatment. Abstract accepted for oral presentation at the 2017 Annual American Psychological Association Convention, Washington D.C., United States.

#### INVITED ADDRESSES

- November 2014**      Invited speaker, psychology graduate school panel, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT.
- August 2016**      Invited panelist, UVM Honors College  
Seminar on the Challenge of Illegal Drugs and Criminalization

**June 2017** Undetected illicit fentanyl use among patients receiving opioid agonist treatment. Invited to present at the media forum at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Montreal, Canada.

### AWARDS AND HONORS

**2013** Psi Chi-*Psychology Honors Society*  
Undergraduate Research Scholar  
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society-*consists of seniors who rank at top 10 % of their class*  
Dean's and Chancellor's List  
Magna Cum Laude Honors  
Williams-Kowal Award in Basic Science Research

**2014-present** NIDA Pre-doctoral Training Fellowship  
*T32 DA007242*

**2016** APA Student Travel Award

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

**2013** Student affiliate, Southeastern Association of Behavior Analysis

**2014-present** Student member, American Psychological Association

**2014-present** Student member, Division 28: Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse, American Psychological Association

**2015-present** Member in-training, College on Problems of Drug Dependence

**2016-2018** American Psychological Association, Science Student Council,  
*Behavioral Neuroscience Representative*

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

**UVM Farm-to-Clinic Program** – Despite the demonstrated efficacy of medication-assisted treatment for opioid dependence, one potentially adverse side effect may include weight gain and/or high sugar consumption, which may be mediated by pharmacologic changes to taste preference. Starting in July 2015, our lab collaborated with Burlington's Intervale Community Farm to bring a weekly subscription of healthy, free produce to patients maintained on buprenorphine or methadone at the Chittenden Clinic. I helped coordinate and run the UVM Farm-to-Clinic stand initiative to distribute fresh, locally-grown produce to patients from the clinic waiting room every Tuesday from July-November 2016.

### EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

#### Co-Reviewer for Scientific Journals

*Clinical Nutrition*

*Drug and Alcohol Dependence*

*Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*

*Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*

*Nicotine and Tobacco Research*

*Preventive Medicine*