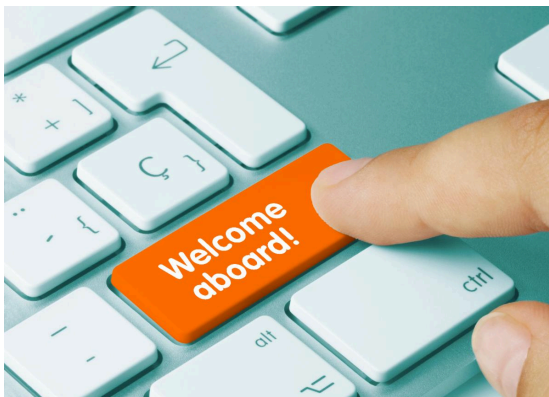


July & August 2026 E-Newsletter



Notable Mentions

What a bummer, it's the end of the summer!



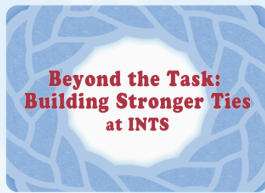
Welcome to the Team

Please join us in welcoming **Luis Zavala Arciniega**, who has joined INTS as a Post Doc working with Jamie Tam. We also want to congratulate **Caitlin Weiger** on her new title as Assistant Professor at the Rutgers School of Nursing, and **Meagan Robichaud** for her new title as Instructor at the Rutgers School of Nursing!



RSMj Annual Conference

From July 17-19, INTS members presented at the Research Society on Marijuana (RSMj) Conference in Albuquerque, highlighting research on cannabis products, marketing, and use behaviors. **Julia Chen-Sankey**, **Allison Glasser**, **Lauren Pacek**, and **Annie Mullin** presented findings on cannabis marketing and intoxicating hemp-derived products on Instagram, blunt use and cannabis policy exposure among young adults, cannabis use disorder and mental health across age groups, and trends in cannabis products and brands collected in U.S. schools.



Joy at Work Inaugural Potluck Event

The inaugural Joy at Work Potluck on August 12 was a huge success! INTS members brought a variety of sweet and savory dishes to share while enjoying time to connect, chat, and relax with colleagues. It was a wonderful way to kick off this new series of events and strengthen our INTS community. To stay up to date on weekly team walks and future Joy at Work activities, make sure you have access to the [Joy at Work channel](#) in Microsoft Teams. Thank you to **Heather Jordan-Tse** and **Evelyn Blas** for leading this initiative!



Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute Resource Fair

Caitlin Uriarte and **Paige Gerald**s represented INTS at the Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute Resource Fair at YMCA Camp Mason in Hardwick, NJ, on August 26! More than 100 students stopped by the INTS table to learn about our mission and ongoing research initiatives, including the Youth Product Monitoring Project for CRST and the Eye-Tracking Study. Students asked thoughtful questions, showed genuine interest in our research, and explored opportunities to get involved in future studies.

New Faculty & Member Highlights



Sean Regnier, PhD, is joining the INTS team as a core faculty member on September 1! Dr. Regnier is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine (DOM), Division of General Internal Medicine, at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS). He earned his PhD in Behavior Analysis from Western Michigan University. His research focuses on substance use disorder treatment and smoking cessation among people with disabilities, primarily intellectual and developmental disabilities, with broader interests in behavioral pharmacology and understanding and reducing health disparities. As a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, he integrates clinical and research experience to develop accessible, tailored interventions for underserved populations. Dr. Regnier collaborates with community and disability service organizations to improve access to evidence-based care and is committed to advancing inclusive approaches to prevention and treatment.



Join us in welcoming our new Associate Member, **Brianna Altman, PhD**, Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Psychology at Rutgers University, to INTS! Dr. Altman received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY). She completed her predoctoral internship at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University and her postdoctoral training at the Addiction Health Behavior Center (AHBC) within the Department of Psychology at Rutgers University under the mentorship of Drs. Samantha Farris and Teresa Leyro.

Dr. Altman's program of research focuses on identifying transdiagnostic affective and behavioral mechanisms that contribute to co-occurring substance use and internalizing pathology. A central goal of this work is to explore how these vulnerabilities operate both inter- and intra-individually and interact with real world contexts to influence substance use behavior. Ultimately, this work aims to identify modifiable, proximal mechanisms that can inform the development and implementation of targeted, context-sensitive interventions for individuals with comorbid substance use and internalizing disorders.

Her current research is supported by a five-year, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) K23 Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award. This project uses both qualitative approaches and ecological momentary assessment to examine how internal states and contextual factors influence individuals' momentary distress intolerance and subsequent use of combustible cigarettes.

Grants & Awards



Congratulations to the following faculty members on their recent awards!

Dr. Michael Steinberg received a new Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Services grant from the New Jersey Department of Health Division of Health Promotion for the project titled, "*Evidence-based Clinical Support, Technical Coordination and Quality Assurance for the NJ Quitcenter Programs.*" This project will run from 7/01/2026 to 6/30/2027.

Dr. Julia Chen-Sankey received a new R21 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R21DA064954) titled "*Youth Appeal of Hemp-derived Intoxicating Cannabis Product Marketing on Social Media.*" This project will run from 8/01/2026 to 7/31/2028.

Upcoming Events & Important Reminders



SPH-Epidemiology Virtual Lecture with Brittney Keller-Hamilton

Monday, September 14

1:00 PM

The SPH Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology welcomes Dr. Brittney Keller-Hamilton, Associate Professor of Epidemiology at The Ohio State University College of Public Health, as a guest speaker in the department's lecture series. Dr. Keller-Hamilton will be presenting her research on nicotine pouches via Zoom on **September 14 at 1:00 PM.**

For more information and to view the lecture flyer, [click here.](#)

Zoom Link: <https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/98756431223?pwd=xKYjLLHRnSRxjwI4liMwlsHeA4jS.1>

Passcode: 0914

INTS in the News



INTS members were featured in several media outlets this month:

- **Mary Hrywna** was quoted in an [NPR](#) article on the risks of marketing nicotine pouches as "lower risk" products.
- **Jamie Tam** and **Sarah Skolnick** were interviewed for a [Respiratory Therapy](#) commentary on the lifesaving potential of reducing nicotine levels in cigarettes.
- **Kevin Schroth** authored an [NJ.com](#) opinion piece examining the FDA's regulation of e-cigarettes and its implications for New Jersey's flavored vape ban.
- **Stefanie Gratale** was featured on [WHYY](#) discussing nicotine's growing presence in popular culture.

Recent Publications



Below are the most recent publications from INTS faculty and staff:

Chen-Sankey J, Mercincavage M, La Capria K, Jeong M, Strasser AA, Delnevo CD, Wackowski OA. Assessing the impact of a reduced chemical exposure claim in advertisements for US Food and Drug Administration-authorized e-cigarette products among youth and young adults. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026 Jun 23;28(7):1247-1256. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag040. PMID: 41721733; PMCID: PMC13053007.

Cummings KM, Roberson A, Randol CW, Smith TT, Levy DT, Mok Y, Cook S, **Meza R.** Trends in adult exclusive and dual use of combustible and non-combustible tobacco products in the United States. *JNCI Cancer Spectrum*. 2026 Jul 7;10(4):pkag062. doi: 10.1093/jncics/pkag062. PMID: 42503418.

Diaz D, Bover-Manderski MT, Wackowski OA. Understanding the role of numeracy and education in perceptions of e-cigarette harm and chemical exposure. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026;28(7):1257-1262. doi:10.1093/ntr/ntag031.

Donaldson SI, DeJesus A, Wang E, Dreyfus J, Ganz O, Chen-Sankey J, Allem JP. Direct-to-consumer e-mail marketing from tobacco brands: Content analysis. *Tobacco Control*. 2026 Jul 30:tc-2026-060252. doi: 10.1136/tc-2026-060252. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42532827.

Donaldson SI, Robichaud MO, Wang E, DeJesus A, Dreyfus J, Ganz O, Chen-Sankey J, Allem JP. Evaluating anti-tobacco mass media campaigns in the digital age: Scoping review. *Tobacco Control*. 2026 Jul 27:tc-2026-060091. doi: 10.1136/tc-2026-060091. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42508825.

Fung LC, Joseph B, Ofori-Amanfo K, Lo T, Wang P, Trinder M, Barnabas G, Nikaido-Landry T, Durney CH, Tawara A, Ong S, Lam S, **Meza R, Myers R, Lockwood WW, McGuire A, Naso JR, Lim EL.** Clinical and molecular correlates of digitally quantified anthracosis in lung tissue slides: Utility of an automated quantitative workflow. *The Journal of Pathology: Clinical Research*. 2026 Jul;12(4):e70110. doi: 10.1002/2056-4538.70110. PMID: 42473194; PMCID: PMC13382156.

Heckman CJ, **Ganz O, Tomaino M, Wackowski OA, Mitarotondo A, Kennedy M, Gundersen D, Bover-Manderski MT, Stepanov I, Hatsukami DK, Steinberg MB.** Prevalence and correlates of cigar relighting: A national survey. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026 Aug 20:ntag183. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag183. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42623278.

Johnson AL, Avila JC, Fahey MC, Kathuria H, Kleykamp BA, Kuluk JA, Rigotti NA, **Villanti AC**, Williams B, Rojewski AM; Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) Treatment Research Network. Recommendations for reporting adult ages in tobacco research: A product of the Treatment Research Network from the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026 Aug 20;ntag169. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag169. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42623507.

La Capria K, Kowitt SD, Wagoner KG, **Ganz O**, **Meng S**, **Chen-Sankey J**. Associations between noticing product features in cannabis vape product advertisements and product use perceptions among young adults: A heatmap experiment. *Substance Use & Addiction Journal*. Published online June 24, 2026. doi:10.1177/29767342261453196.

La Capria K, **Meng S**, Padon AA, Tillett KK, **Donaldson SI**, **Allem JP**, Rossheim ME, LoParco C, Berg CJ, Jackson KM, **Chen-Sankey J**. Marketing features of derived intoxicating cannabinoid product brands on Instagram: A content analysis. *Addiction*. 2026 Aug 19;10.1111/add.70576. doi: 10.1111/add.70576. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42615270; PMCID: PMC13492497.

Leavens ELS, Pebley K, Smith TT, Ahluwalia JS, Bello MS, Bold KW, Cantrell J, Carpenter MJ, Cioe PA, Felicione NJ, Havard A, Hawk LW Jr, Kaye JT, Klemperer EM, Kleykamp BA, Lindson N, McClure EA, McRobbie H, Murphy CM, Rigotti NA, Walker NK, **Yang MJ**, Rojewski AM, Johnson AL; Members of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, Treatment Research Network, Harm Reduction Workgroup. Nicotine e-cigarettes for cigarette smoking cessation: Recommendations to US-based clinicians. *JAMA*. 2026 Jul 30. doi: 10.1001/jama.2026.13087. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42530900.

Lee DN, **Villanti AC**, Stevens EM. Tailoring e-Cigarette health messages by vaping status: How source and message presentation type shape young adults' perceptions. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026;28(7):1163-1170. doi:10.1093/ntr/ntag002.

LoParco CR, Rossheim ME, **Chen-Sankey J**, Tillett KK, Thakkar S, Speer M, Cui Y, Johnson M, Cavazos-Rehg PA, Berg CJ. Perceptions of cannabis vaping advertising messages and warnings among US young adults. *Substance Use & Addiction Journal*. 2026;47(3):805-814. doi:10.1177/29767342261429618.

Ozga JE, **Jensen JK**, **Chen-Sankey J**, Pérez A, Stanton CA. New versus continued e-cigarette use and cigarette reuptake among US adults who formerly smoked cigarettes. *Addictive Behaviors*. 2026;178:108677. doi:10.1016/j.addbeh.2026.108677.

Ra CK, **Villanti AC**, **Bover-Manderski MT**, **Mercincavage M**, **Steinberg MB**. Sleep difficulties and their associations with smoking abstinence among adults seeking tobacco cessation treatment. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 2026 Aug;71(2):108342. doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2026.108342. Epub 2026 Mar 18. PMID: 41856213; PMCID: PMC13356954.

Robichaud MO, **Schroth KRJ**, **Steinberg MB**, **Delnevo CD**. Unauthorized therapeutic claims on e-cigarette and nicotine pouch company websites in the USA. *Tobacco Control*. 2026 Jul 28;35(4):556-558. doi: 10.1136/tc-2025-059338. PMID: 40368581; PMCID: PMC12353531.

Russell AM, Acuff SF, Litt DM, Kelly JF, Colditz JB, Valdez D, **Allem JP**. Parents use online communities to seek guidance on child substance use, parental use, and family substance use challenges: A content analysis of Reddit posts. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*. 2026 Jul;87(4):793-800. doi: 10.15288/jsad.25-00310. Epub 2026 Jan 2. PMID: 41480924; PMCID: PMC12797200.

Salgado MV, Cao P, Jeon J, Boyeras I, Mejia R, **Meza R**. Benefits and harms of lung cancer screening strategies in Argentina: A modeling study. *Lancet Regional Health - Americas*. 2026;59:101476. Published 2026 Apr 21. doi:10.1016/j.lana.2026.101476.

Skolnick SR, Brouwer AF, Cheng C, **Tam J**. Impact of reducing nicotine in cigarettes on mortality, economic costs and major depression in the USA. *Tobacco Control*. Published online July 15, 2026. doi:10.1136/tc-2025-059896.

Stewart MS, Hoyt AE, Fernandez S, Sweitzer MM, **Pacek LR**, McClernon FJ. Beyond quitting: Uncovering gaps in reporting dual use in trials of e-cigarettes for smoking cessation. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026 Aug 19;ntag180. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag180. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42616123.

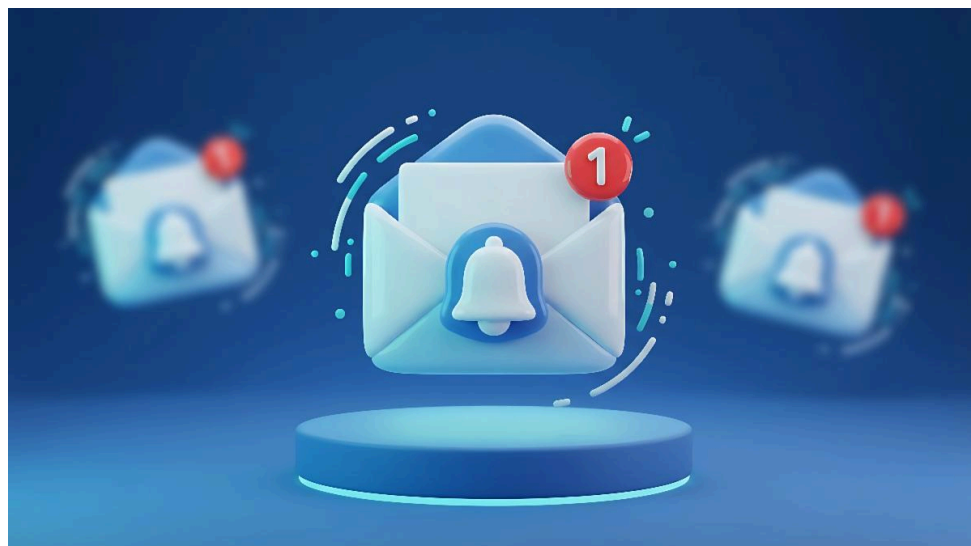
Vassey J, Unger JB, **Chen-Sankey J**. Influencer-driven lifestyle and wellness framing of intoxicating hemp products may normalize youth cannabis use. *International Journal of Drug Policy*. Published online July 16, 2026. doi:10.1016/j.drugpo.2026.105425.

Villanti, AC, Farrington, ML, Peasley-Miklus, CE, Schafrick, NH, Shaw, JG, Meyer, MC, Ryer, J, Smith, ML, Tuo, Y, Peck, KR, Heil, SH, Sigmon, SC, & Harder, VS. (2026). Engaging rural practitioners and community collaborators in substance use disorder needs assessments: Recruitment approaches across 4 states. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice : JPHMP*, 32(5), 748–757. <https://doi.org/10.1097/PHH.0000000000002381>.

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Marketing and Communication Update



Important Update: All Marketing & Communications materials are now being housed in the Box folder titled "**Marketing & Communications Materials & Resources**." To ensure consistency and version control, please use this folder as the primary source for all marketing and communications assets. If you have marketing materials stored in other Box folders or are using materials located

elsewhere, please contact the Marketing & Communications team so we can review and relocate any relevant resources to the centralized folder. This will help ensure that all users have access to the most up-to-date materials.

Communications Strategies



Do you have any ideas or important items to share each month? Reach out to **Paige Gerald**s, the Marketing and Communications Coordinator, to share your items and ideas or if there is anything we want to consider for wider promotion. Additionally, help us grow by following INTS on **LinkedIn**, **Twitter (X)**, and **Bluesky**, and interacting with us on social media!

Follow us on social media!



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