

Vicki Nejtek, PhD
Institute for Healthy Aging
Pharmacology & Neuroscience
School of Biomedical Sciences
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Area of Expertise

My laboratory is interested in studying how people with mild brain trauma, mood problems, medical diseases, and/or addiction problems will react to treatments and how their responses to treatment might differ among others without such problems. We are also interested in studying the brain and biology of those with mild brain trauma, mood problems, medical diseases, and/or addiction problems as we look for clues to identify the people who might be more at-risk for developing Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease than others.

Active research includes longitudinal outcomes research, matched-control cross-sectional biomarker studies to predict risks for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, community-based program effectiveness, and treatment response research in the following populations: co-occurring disorders, addiction, veterans with mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) with and without posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), veteran spouses and their children, and at-risk grade school children with adverse childhood experiences.

Qualifications

BA in Psychology, University of Texas at Dallas

MS in Cognitive Neuroscience, University of Texas at Dallas

PhD in Cognition Behavioral Neuroscience, University of Texas at Dallas

Recent Publications

Premature cognitive decline in specific domains found in young veterans with mTBI coincide with elder normative scores and advanced-age subjects with early-stage Parkinson's disease

Nejtek, V. A., James, R. N., Salvatore, M. F., Alphonso, H. M. & Boehm, G. W., Nov 2021, In: PLoS ONE. 16, 11 November, e0258851.

Is there a Neurobiological Rationale for the Utility of the Iowa Gambling Task in Parkinson's Disease?

Salvatore, M. F., Soto, I., Alphonso, H., Cunningham, R., James, R. & Nejtek, V. A., 2021, In: Journal of Parkinson's Disease. 11, 2, p. 405-419 15 p.

Blood-based inflammation biomarkers of neurocognitive impairment in people living with HIV

Swanta, N., Aryal, S., Nejtek, V., Shenoy, S., Ghorpade, A. & Borgmann, K., 1 Jun 2020, In: Journal of NeuroVirology. 26, 3, p. 358-370 13 p.

GFR- α 1 Expression in Substantia Nigra Increases Bilaterally following Unilateral Striatal GDNF in Aged Rats and Attenuates Nigral Tyrosine Hydroxylase Loss following 6-OHDA Nigrostriatal Lesion

Kasanga, E. A., Owens, C. L., Cantu, M. A., Richard, A. D., Davis, R. W., McDivitt, L. M., Blancher, B., Pruett, B. S., Tan, C., Gajewski, A., Manfredsson, F. P., Nejtek, V. A. & Salvatore, M. F., 16 Oct 2019, In: ACS Chemical Neuroscience. 10, 10, p. 4237-4249 13 p.

Prolonged increase in ser31 tyrosine hydroxylase phosphorylation in substantia nigra following cessation of chronic methamphetamine

Salvatore, M. F., Nejtek, V. A. & Khoshbouei, H., Jul 2018, In: NeuroToxicology. 67, p. 121-128 8 p.

A pilot mobile integrated healthcare program for frequent utilizers of emergency department services

Nejtek, V. A., Aryal, S., Talari, D., Wang, H. & O'Neill, L., 1 Nov 2017, In: American Journal of Emergency Medicine. 35, 11, p. 1702-1705 4 p.

Ageing-related limit of exercise efficacy on motor decline

Arnold, J. C., Cantu, M. A., Kasanga, E. A., Nejtek, V. A., Papa, E. V., Bugnariu, N. & Salvatore, M. F., Nov 2017, In: PLoS ONE. 12, 11, e0188538.

Roles of disease severity and post-discharge outpatient visits as predictors of hospital readmissions

Wang, H., Johnson, C., Robinson, R. D., Nejtek, V. A., Schrader, C. D., Leuck, J. A., Umejiego, J., Trop, A., Delaney, K. A. & Zenarosa, N. R., 10 Oct 2016, In: BMC Health Services Research. 16, 1, p. 1-10 10 p., 564.

Homelessness and ED use: Myths and facts- the author's reply

Wang, H., Nejtek, V. A. & Robinson, R. D., 1 Feb 2016, In: American Journal of Emergency Medicine. 34, 2, p. 307-308 2 p.

The role of charity care and primary care physician assignment on ED use in homeless patients

Wang, H., Nejtek, V. A., Zieger, D., Robinson, R. D., Schrader, C. D., Phariss, C., Ku, J. & Zenarosa, N. R., 1 Aug 2015, In: American Journal of Emergency Medicine. 33, 8, p. 1006-1011 6 p.

Sponsored Projects

Academy 4 Leadership Demonstration Project for At-Risk Children

Nejtek, V.

Texas Academy 4

15/07/14 → 31/08/16

Blood Biomarker Links Mild Traumatic Brain Injury to Alzheimer's Risk - Phase II

Nejtek, V.

J. E. S. Edwards Foundation

1/09/16 → 31/08/18

Effectiveness of Psychological & Cognitive Program Interventions in Veterans, Veteran Women, and Their Families

Nejtek, V.

Recovery Resource Council

1/02/15 → 31/08/20

Examining Risk Markers in People Vulnerable for TIA

Nejtek, V.

Intramural Research(UNTHSC)

1/10/14 → 30/09/15

Health Navigation Incentives for Dual Diagnosis Patients (Medicaid Waiver 1115)

Walters, S., Nejtek, V., Thombs, D. & Spence-Almaguer, E.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

28/05/13 → 31/01/18

Homeless Needs Assessment and Program Evaluation Project

Nejtek, V.

Fort Worth Foundation

1/08/12 → 30/11/13

Identifying Client Needs and Improving Outcomes Using an Integrated Behavioral Health & Primary Care Program Evaluation Model

Nejtek, V.

Recovery Resource Council

1/02/13 → 30/09/15

Linking Biomarkers & Cognitive Functioning in Veterans with Mild TBI to Risks for Alzheimer's Disease

Nejtek, V.

Intramural Research(UNTHSC)

1/09/16 → 31/08/17

MedStar Acute Crisis Intervention Effectiveness Project

Nejtek, V.

MedStar Mobile Healthcare

15/12/14 → 31/08/16

Prescribing patterns treating veterans (For: Scott Vicenzi)

Nejtek, V.

Intramural Research(UNTHSC)

5/06/17 → 31/05/18

Program Evaluation of the Project Towards No Drug Abuse Ground Zero Program

Nejtek, V.

Recovery Resource Council

1/12/17 → 30/09/20

Rainbow Day's Curriculum-Based Support Group (CBSG®) Program

Nejtek, V.

Rainbow Days, Inc.

1/08/13 → 31/08/16

Reforming and Integrating Policies for Hospital Discharge, Continuum of Care, and Social Services for People Who Are Homeless with Co-Occurring Mental and Medical Illness in Tarrant County

Nejtek, V. & Spence-Almaguer, E.

Hogg Foundation For Mental Health

1/02/13 → 31/01/15

Six and Twelve Month Outcome Effectiveness of Cognitive Program Interventions in Veterans

Nejtek, V.

Recovery Resource Council

1/09/17 → 31/12/18

Texas Center for Minority Health Education, Research and Outreach - Research Core, Project 1

Ghorpade, A. & Nejtek, V.

NIMHD: Natl Institute on Minority Health

16/07/12 → 31/05/17