

# **Biological Subtype of Alcoholism with specific treatment**

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University of Pennsylvania**

# Disclosures

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**Consultant to**

**Embera (Research)**

**Alkermes (Depot Naltrexone)**

**Astra (drug development)**

# Alcohol: desired drink

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- **Common Disorder, 10-15% prevalence**
- **Barely covered in medical school**
- **50-60% genetic**
- **Polygenic**
- **223 Billion costs per year**
- **90,000 deaths**
- **30% of liver transplants**
- **Should be diagnosed and treated in  
PRIMARY CARE**

**Ethanol:**

**a drug with complex effects on  
multiple neurotransmitter systems**

# Alcohol reward

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## Partial list

- GABA
- Serotonin
- AMPA, Glu-rec
- NMDA
- Neuropeptide Y
- Glycine
- Opioid-  $\mu$ ,  $\kappa$ ,  $\delta$

# Treatment of Alcoholism in USA

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**<10% receive treatment**

- **Medications only for treatment of withdrawal**
- **Relapse prevention medication rare**
- **Relapses very common**

# FDA Approved Medications

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- Disulfiram (Antabuse)
- Naltrexone (generic)
- Acamprosate (Campral)
- Depot Naltrexone (Vivitrol)
- Nalmefene (approved in Europe)
- Topiramate (used off label)

**DETOXIFICATION IS NOT TREATMENT**

# Arguments against medications

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- They are just a “crutch”
- You have to work the program yourself – no chemical aids
- They get in the way of the 12 steps
- I’ ve been sober for 10 years and I never took medication
- They have side effects
- You’ ll become addicted to them
- Etc...



# True Translational Story: Naltrexone for Alcoholism

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- Animal lab  
to
- Randomized clinical trials  
to
- FDA approval for clinical practice  
to  
?? Standard practice

# Endogenous Opioid System

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Opiate Receptors

Simon 1973

Pert & Snyder 1973

Terenius 1973

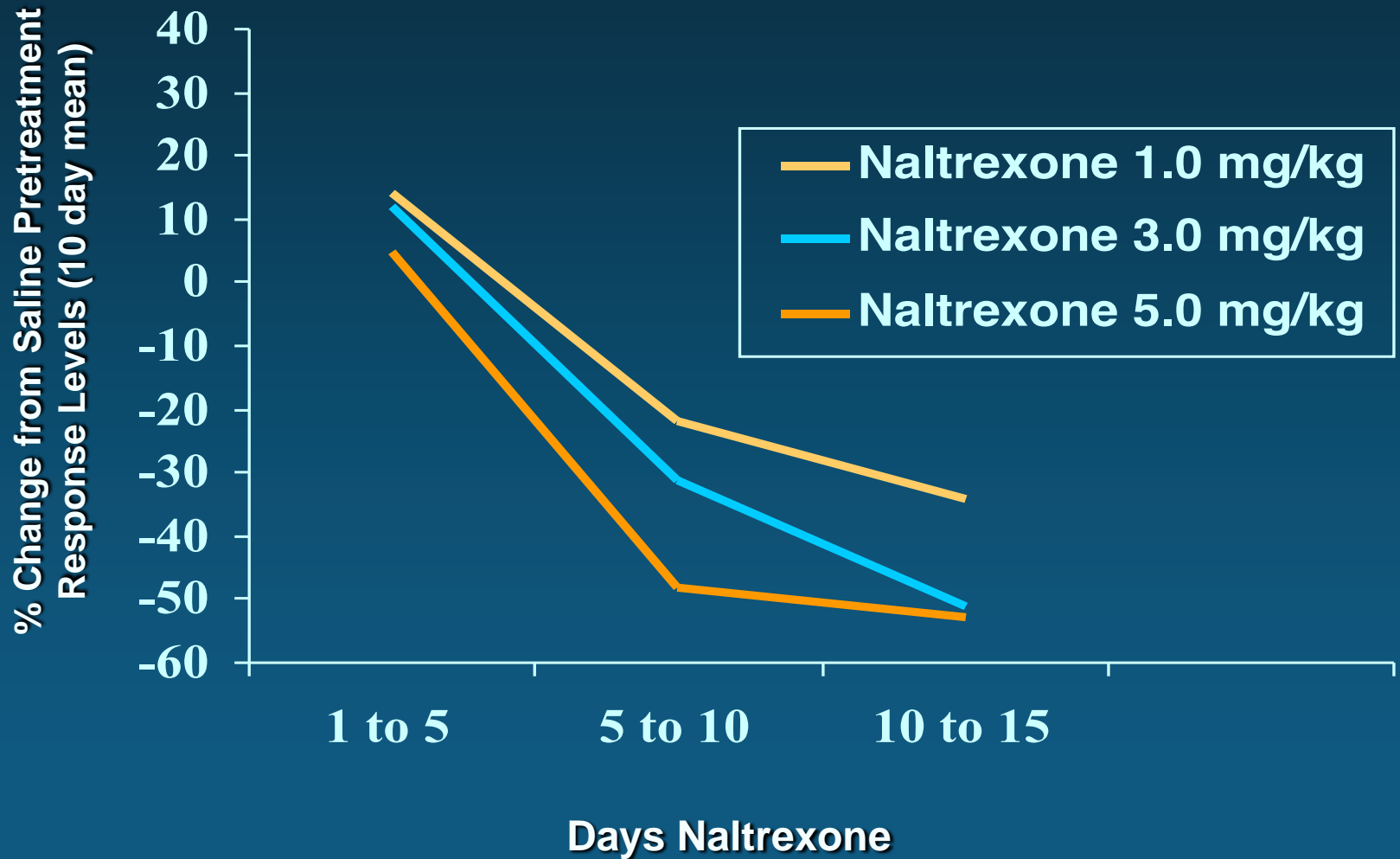
Enkephalin 1975  $\delta$

B-Endorphin  $\mu$

Dynorphin  $\kappa$

Nociceptin OFQ/NOC 1990s

# Naltrexone decreases Alcohol preference\*

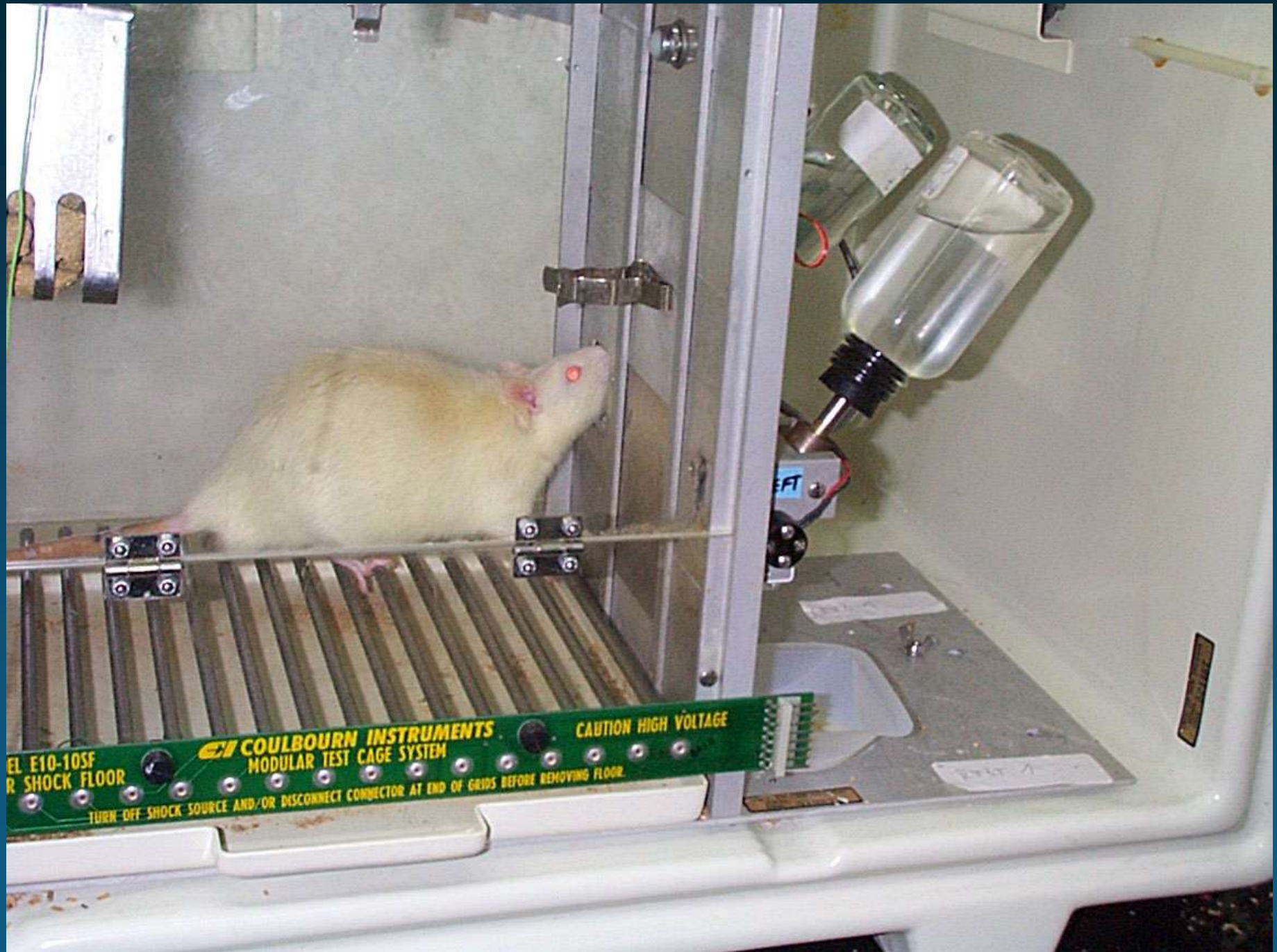


\* Altshuler 1980



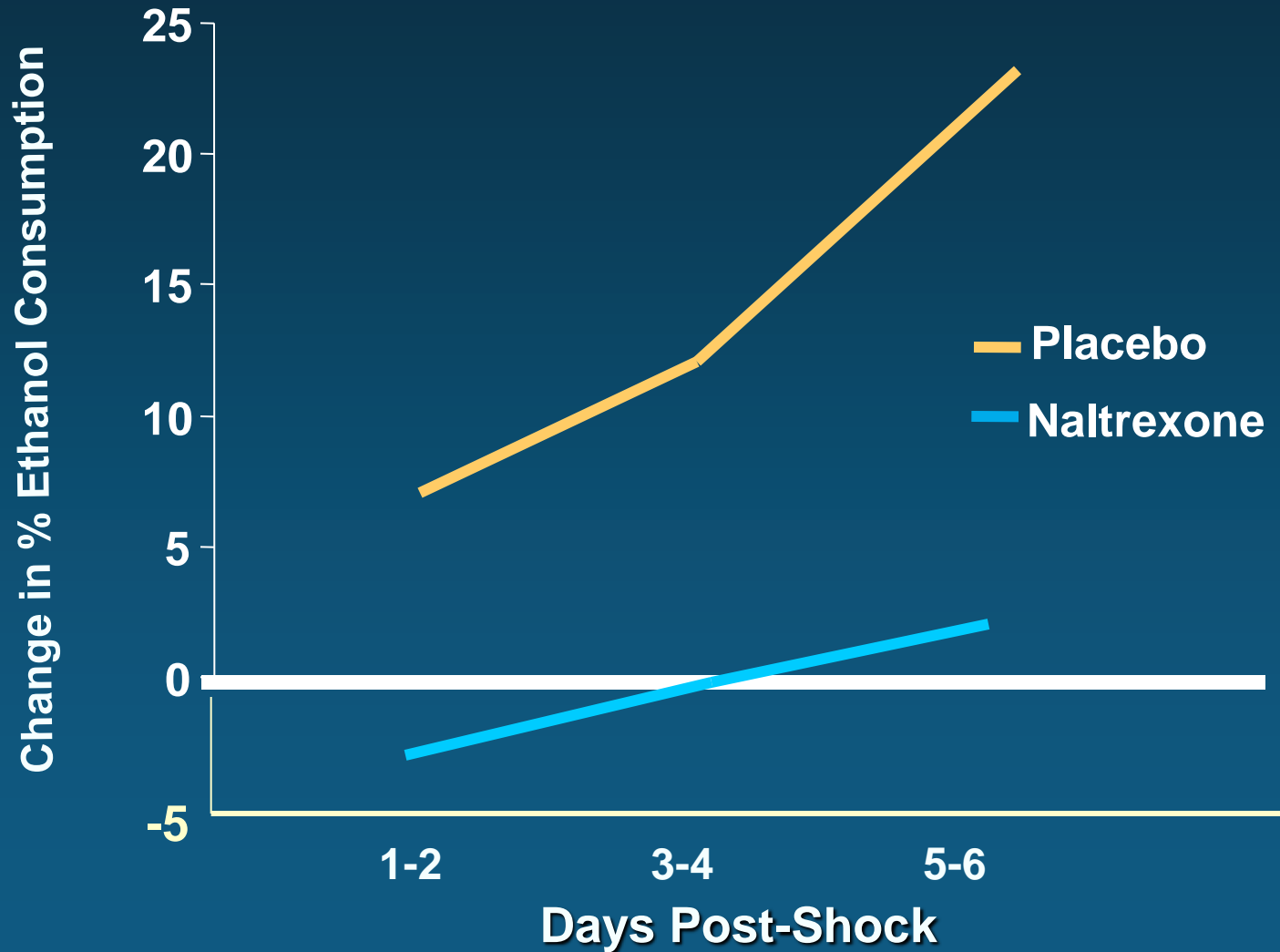






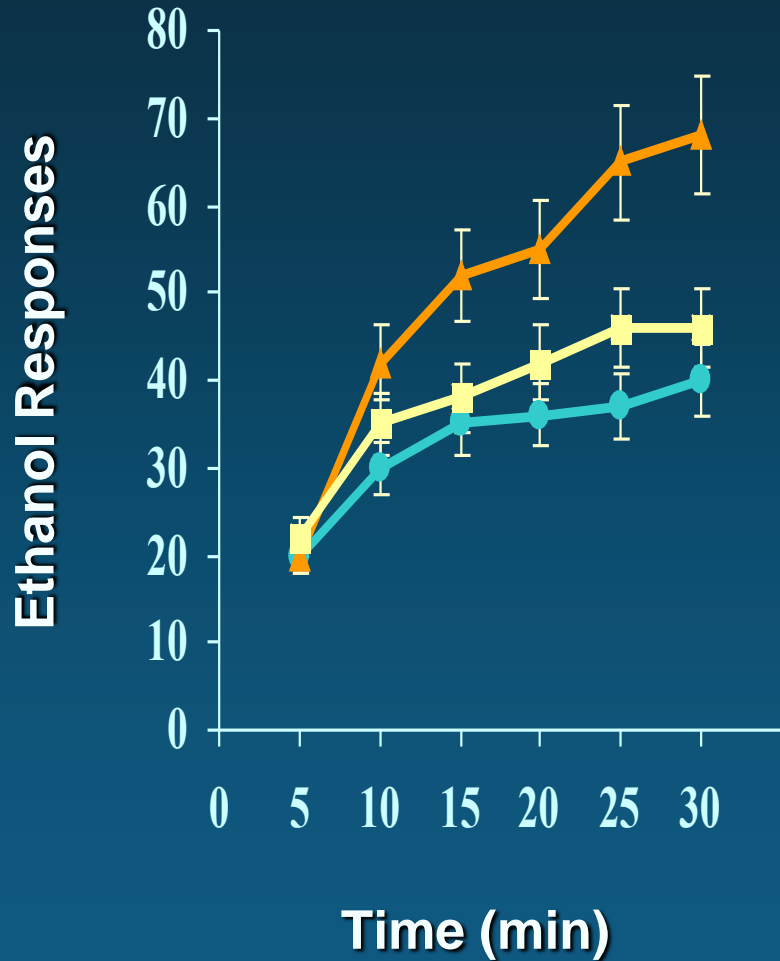
# Post-Shock Drinking

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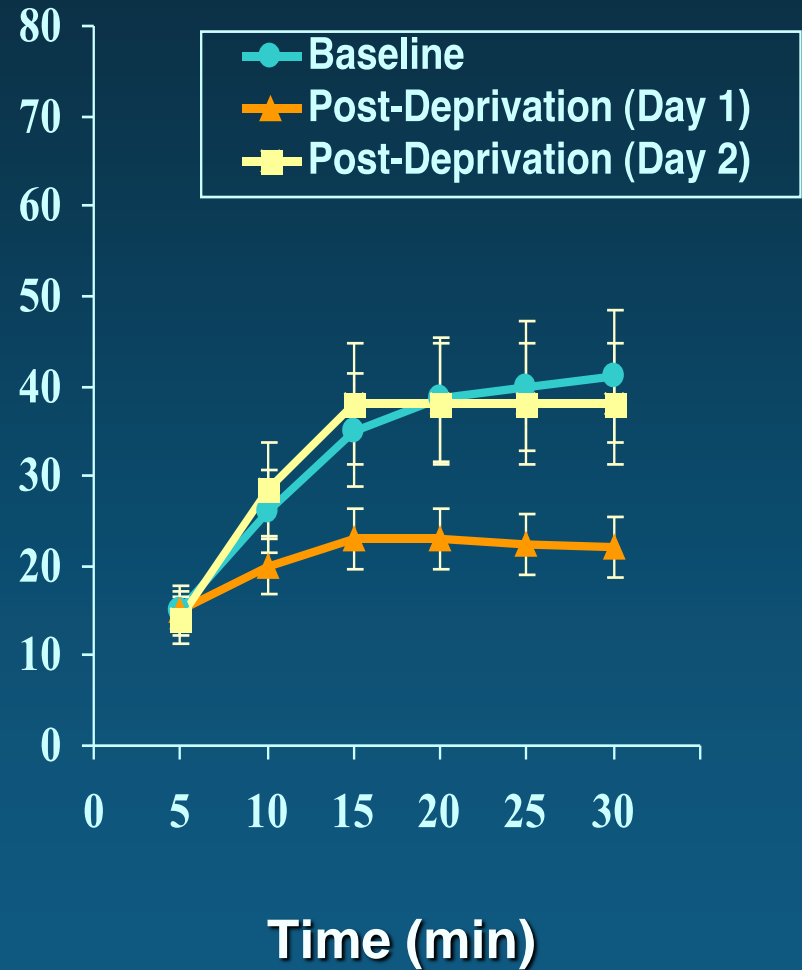




## Saline



## .25 mg/kg Naltrexone



# Hypothesis: alcohol releases endogenous opioids

In vivo evidence: only indirect evidence in brain, direct evidence in plasma

In vitro evidence: direct measures in lymphocyte cultures, HIV effects of alcohol blocked by naltrexone.

Wen Ze Ho et al, 2006

Molecular mechanism unknown

# IND 1983

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Open studies

Range of doses

Minimal side effects

IRB approval

# Protocol 1986

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Self report + breathalyzer 5x per week

Endpoint = Relapse to heavy drinking

“Slips” recorded, not as endpoint

Craving recorded

RECRUITMET OBSTRUCTIONS

Joe Volpicelli started fellowship

# Series of Lucky Coincidences

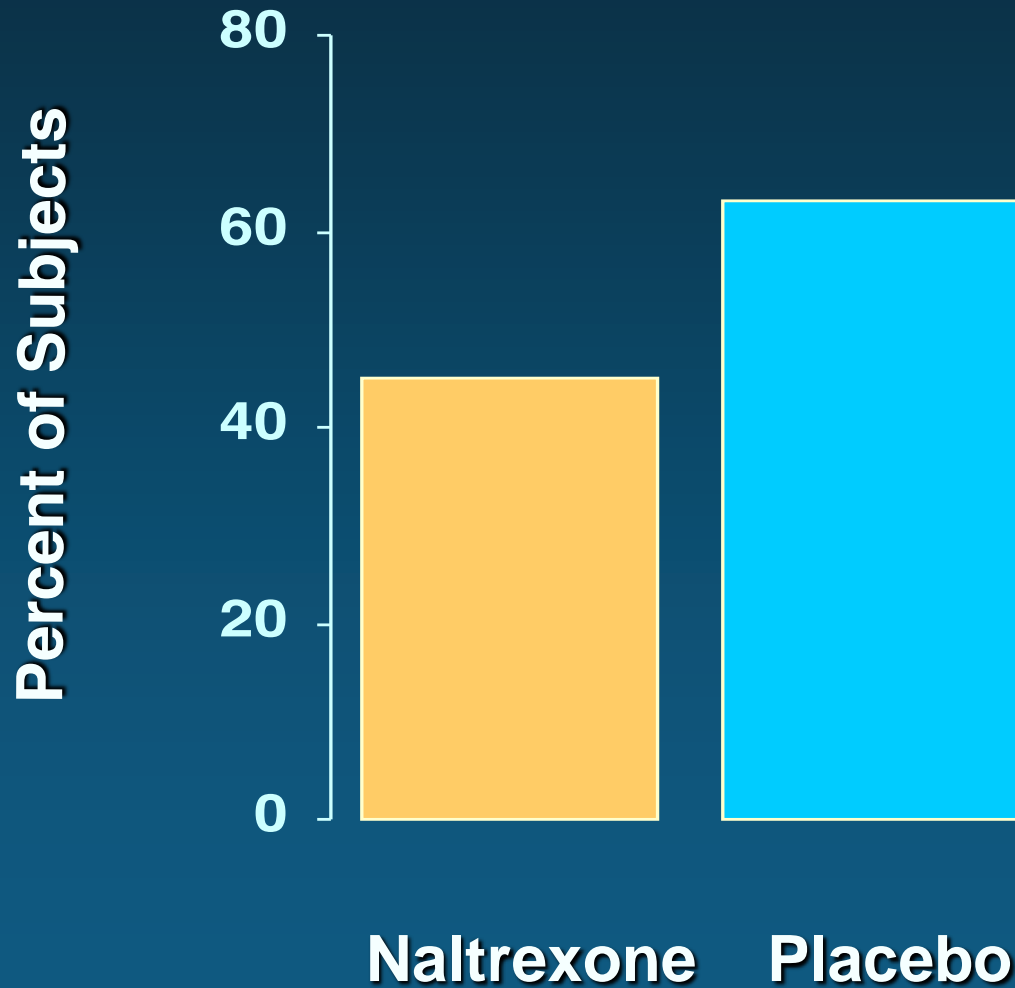
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- 1. Altshuler poster at CPDD
- 2. Joe Volpicelli decides on Fellowship



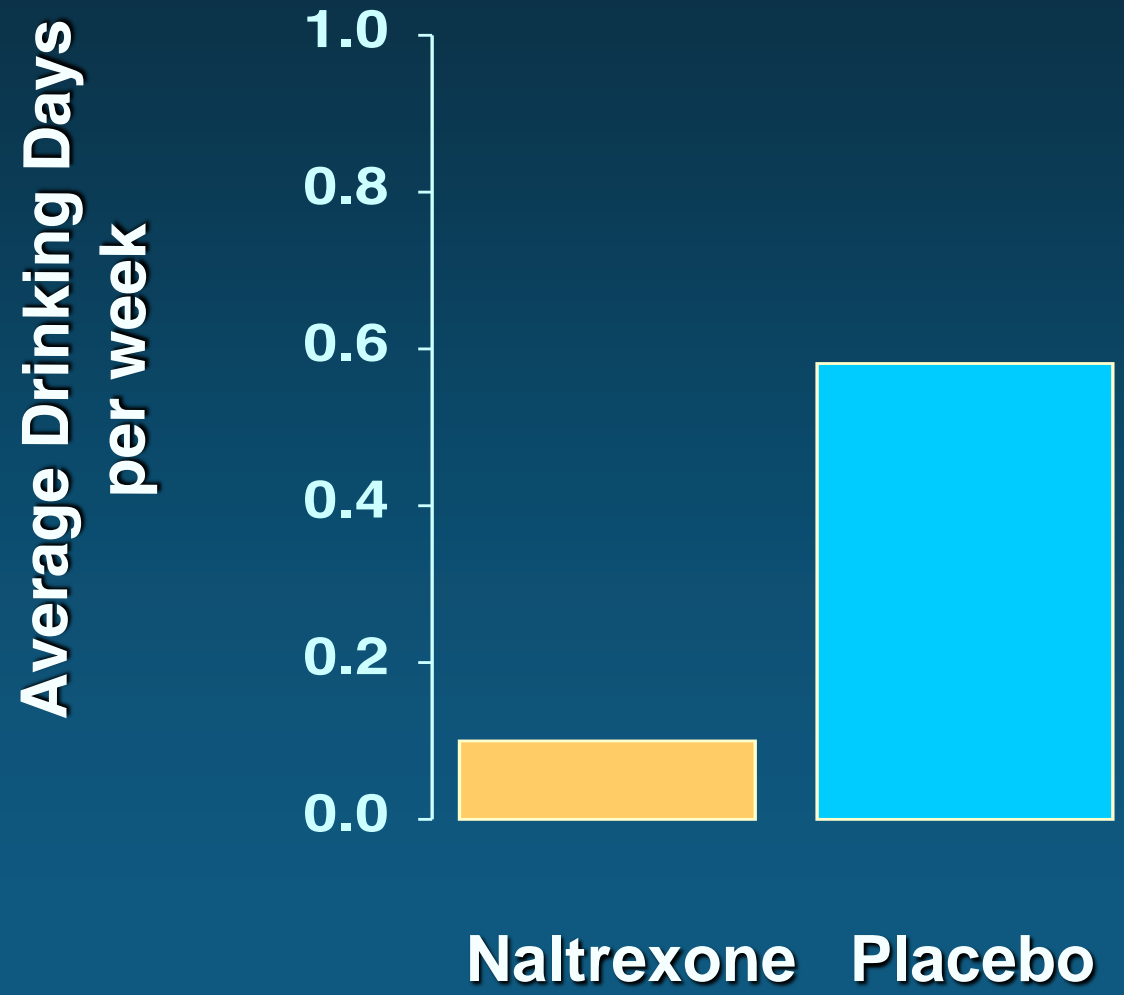
# Any Alcohol Drinking

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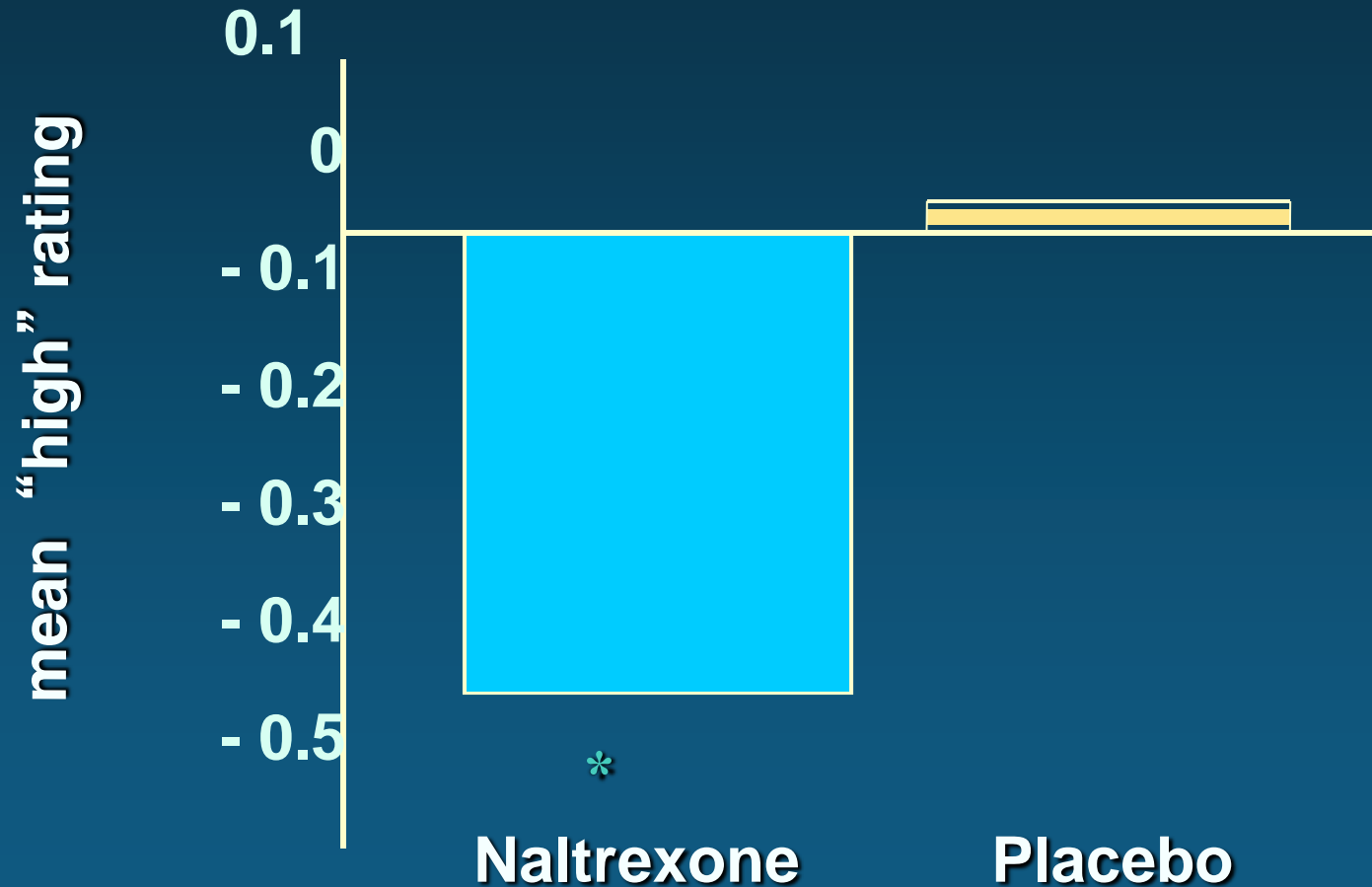


# Days Drinking

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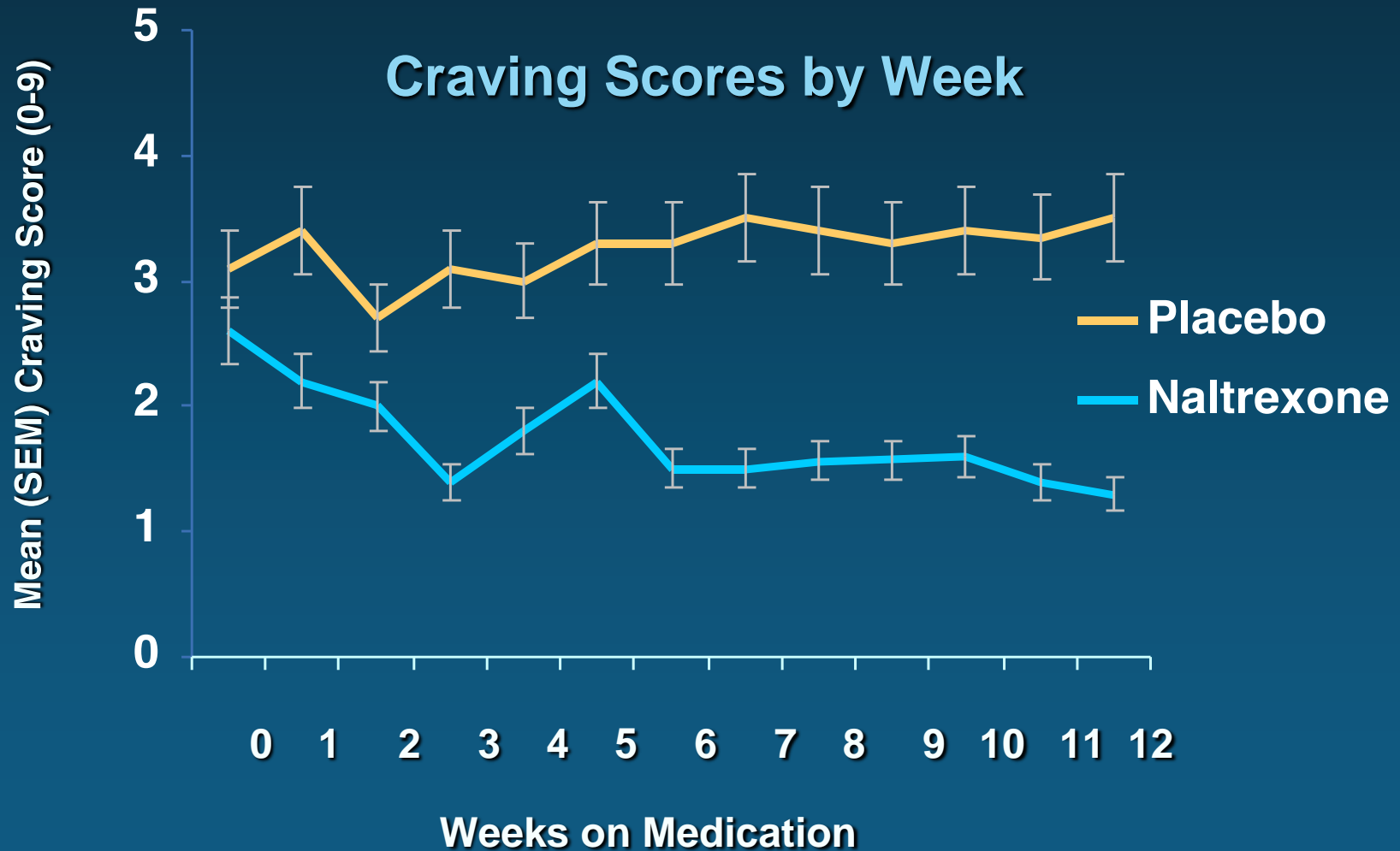
# Subjective “high” in Naltrexone and Placebo Subjects



\*  $p < .05$



# Pharmacological Treatments for Alcoholism



# Alcohol Relapse

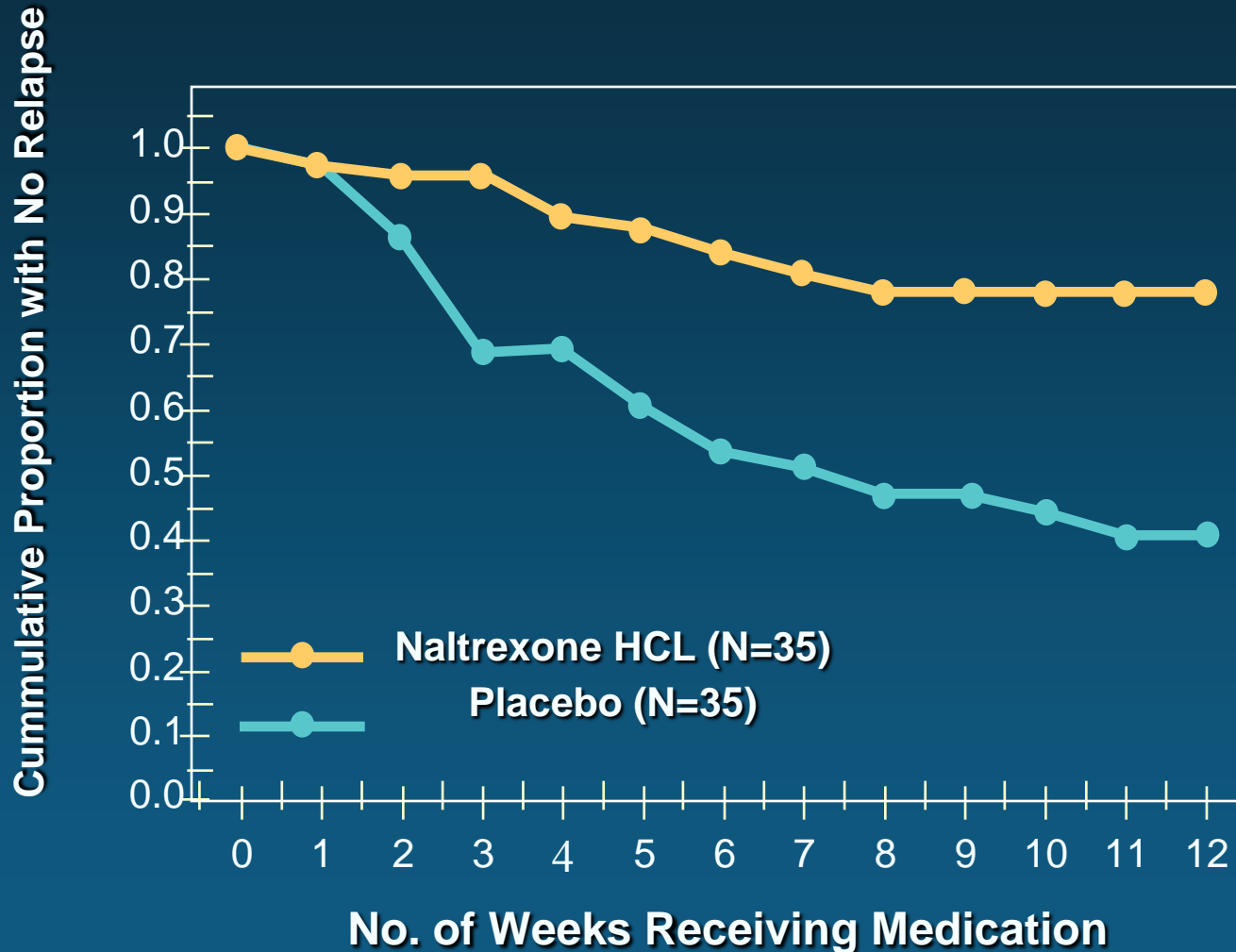
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**A.** coming to treatment appointment  
with a blood alcohol concentration  
> 100 mg%  
or

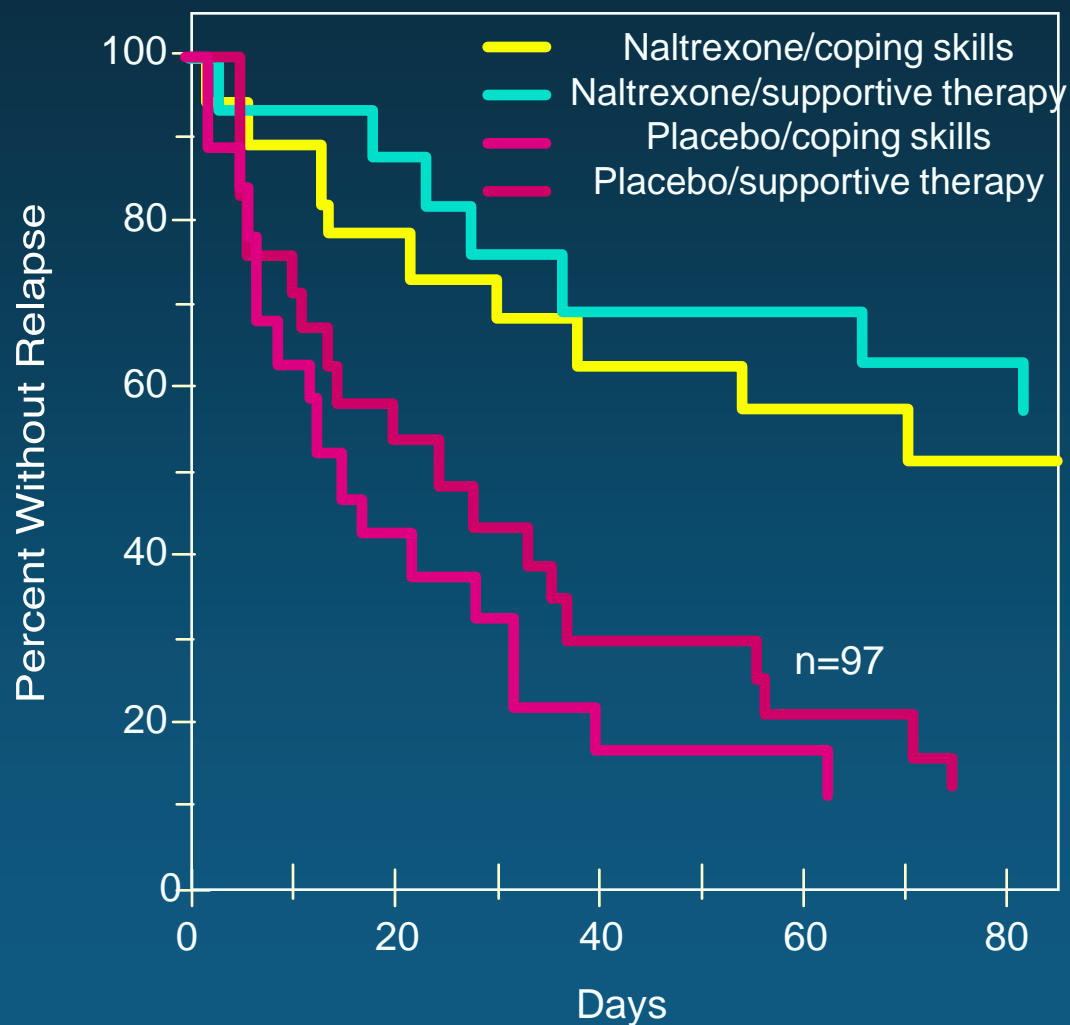
**B.** self report of drinking five or more  
days within one week  
or

**C.** self report of five or more drinks during  
one drinking occasion

# Non-relapse “Survival”



# Rates of Never Relapsing According to Treatment Group (n=97)



Studies supporting efficacy			Studies not supporting efficacy		
Study	# Ss	Notes	Study	# Ss	Notes
Volpicelli, et al 1992	70	None	Kranzler, et al 1999	183	None
O' Malley, et al 1992	97	None	Krystal, et al 2002	627	None
Mason, et al 1994 [Nalmefene]	21	None			
Oslin, et al 1997	44	Elderly			
Volpicelli, et al 1997	97	None			
Mason, et al 1999 [Nalmefene]	105	None			
Kranzler, et al 1998	20	Depot			
Anton, et al 2000	131	None			
Chick, et al 2000 (UK)	169	Adherence			
Monterosso, et al 2001	183	None			
Morris, et al 2001 (Australia)	111	None			
Heinala, et al 2001 (Finland)	121	Nonabstine nt			
Lee, et al 2001 (Singapore)	53	None			
Kiefer et al 2003 (Germany)	160	None			

## Studies supporting efficacy

## Studies not supporting efficacy

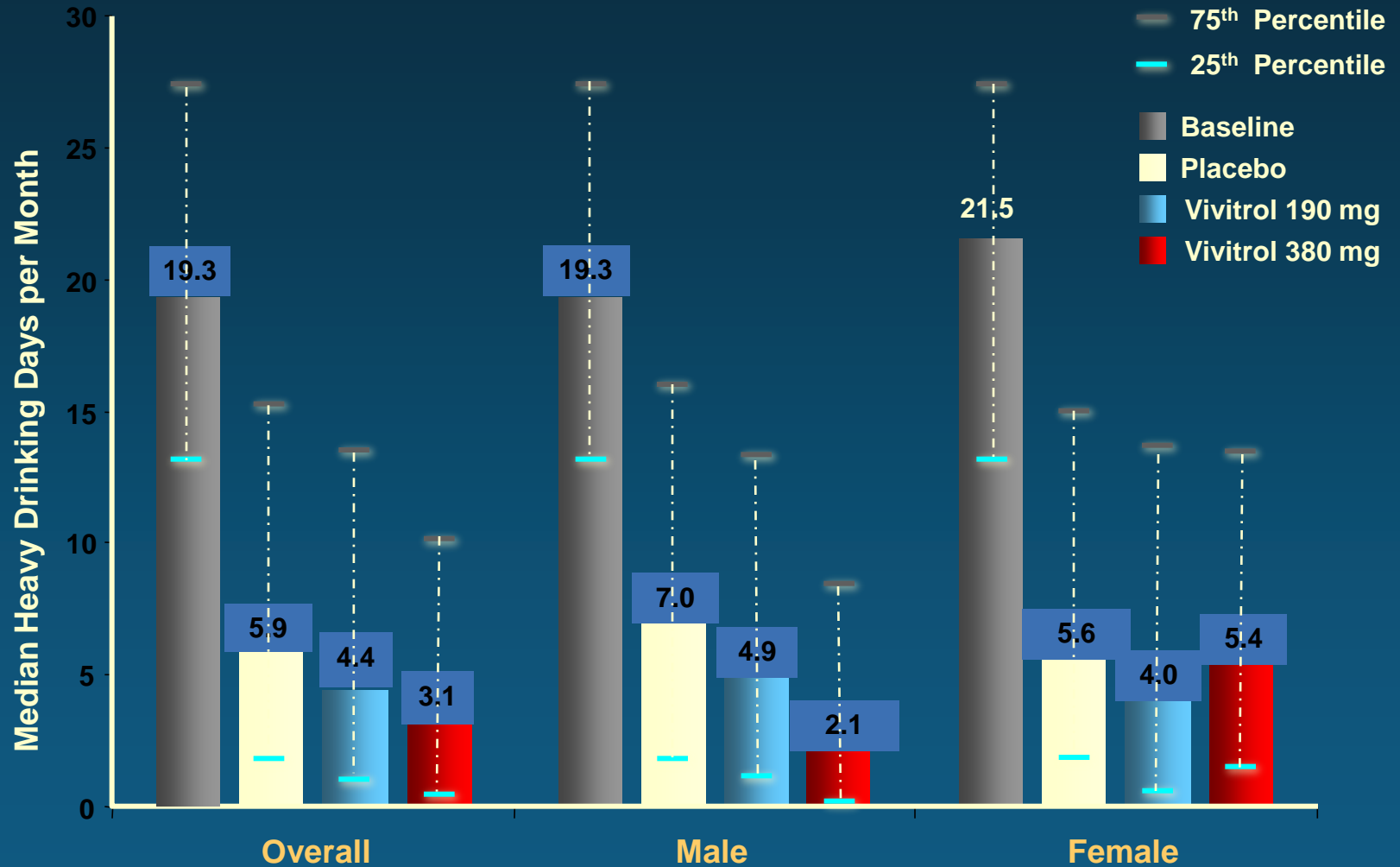
Study	# Ss	Notes	Study	# Ss	Notes
Latt et al 2002	107	Family Prac			
Balldin et al 2003	118	None			
Feeney et al 2001	50	Hist. cont			
Rubio et al 2001	157	v. Acamp.			
Rubio et al 2002	30	Cont. Drink.			
Gastpar et al 2002	105	Neg. in self report Pos. GGT	Gastpar et al 2002	105	Neg. in self report Pos. GGT
Guardia et al 2002	202	Relapse			
Kranzler et al 2003	153	Heavy drinkers			
O' Malley et al 2002	18	Human lab			
Anton et al 2006	1383	RCT, depot			

# Compliance Improved

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- Extended release depot preparation
- Injection q 30-40 days
- Pharma sets price at \$800 per injection

# Results: Heavy Drinking Days





## **Europe 2012**

**3 Large clinical trials**

**~1,000 alcoholics each**

**Nalmephehene v placebo**

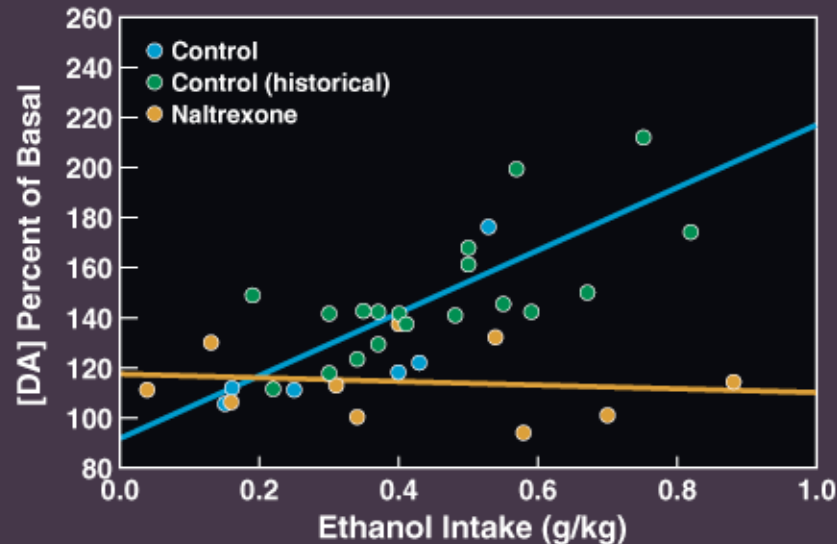
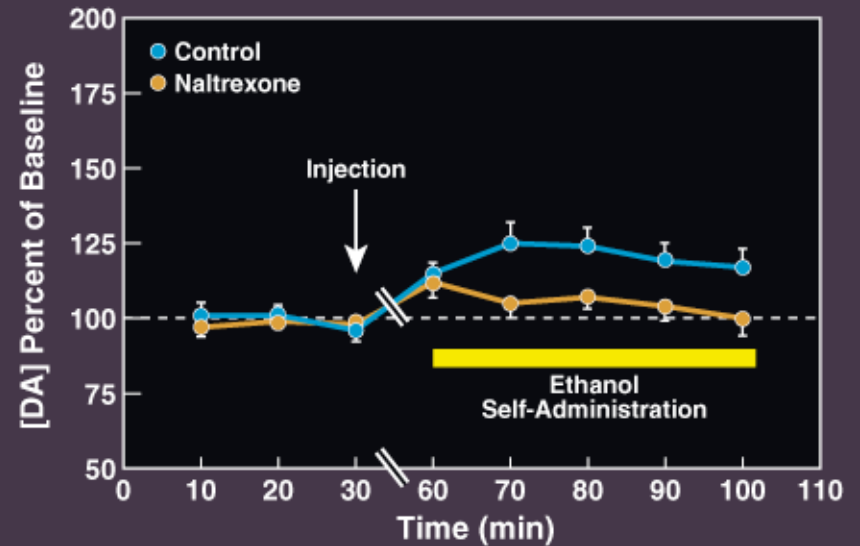
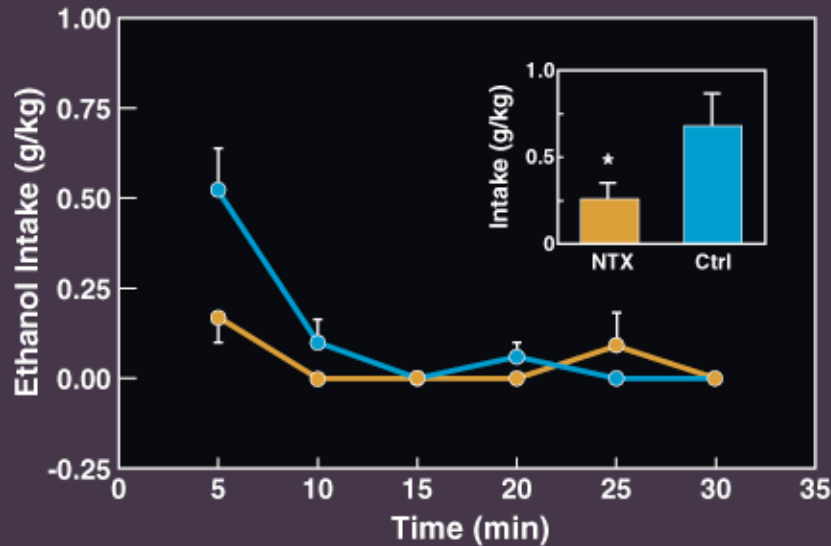
**prn**

**All positive**

**Approved 2013: EMA**

**Assumption: alcohol causes the release of endogenous opioids which are “required” for DA release in response to alcohol?**

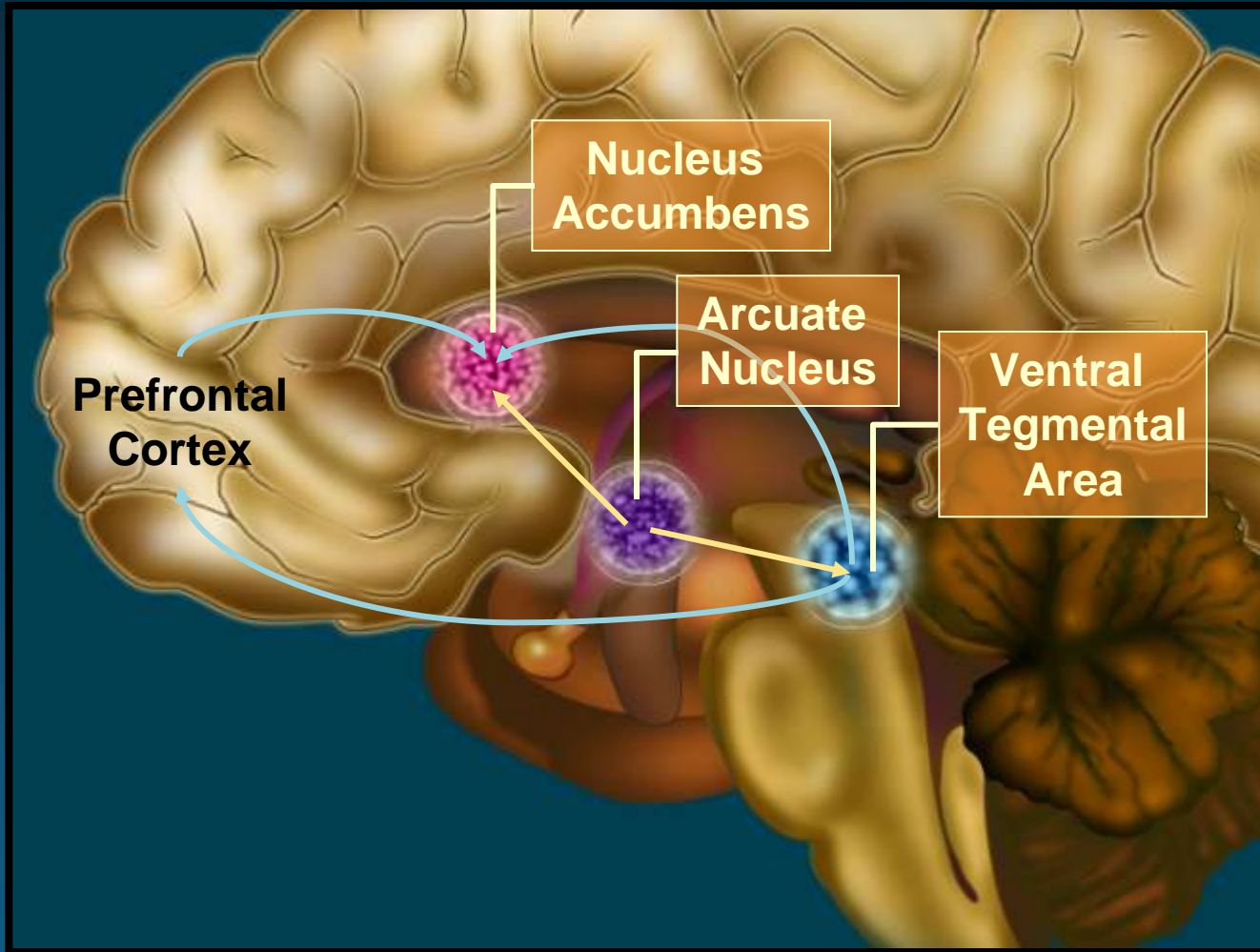
# Naltrexone Concurrently Antagonizes EtOH-Induced Accumbal DA Release and EtOH Self-Administration



**Assumption: alcohol causes the release of endogenous opioids which are “required” for DA release in response to alcohol?**

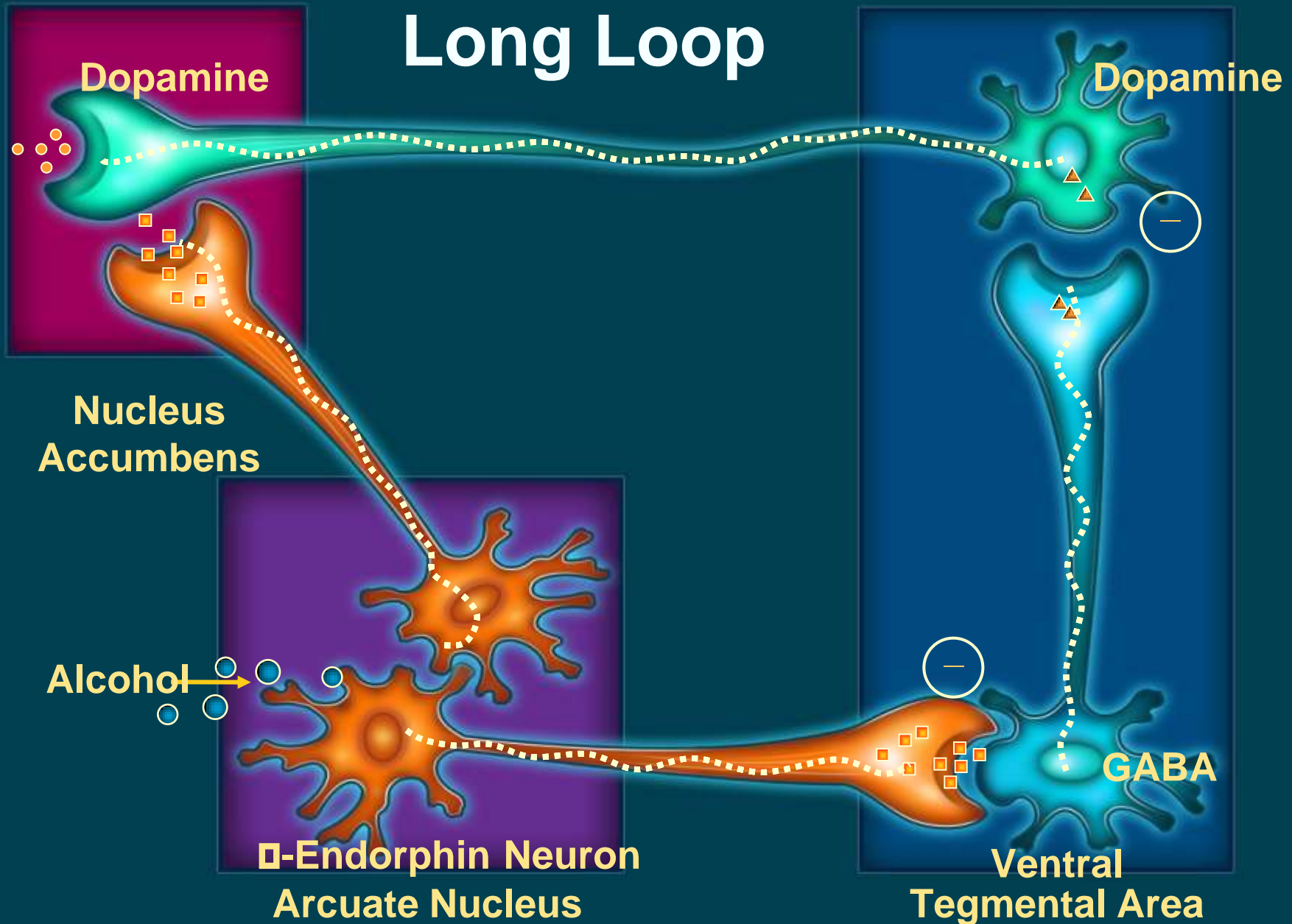
# Brain Reward System

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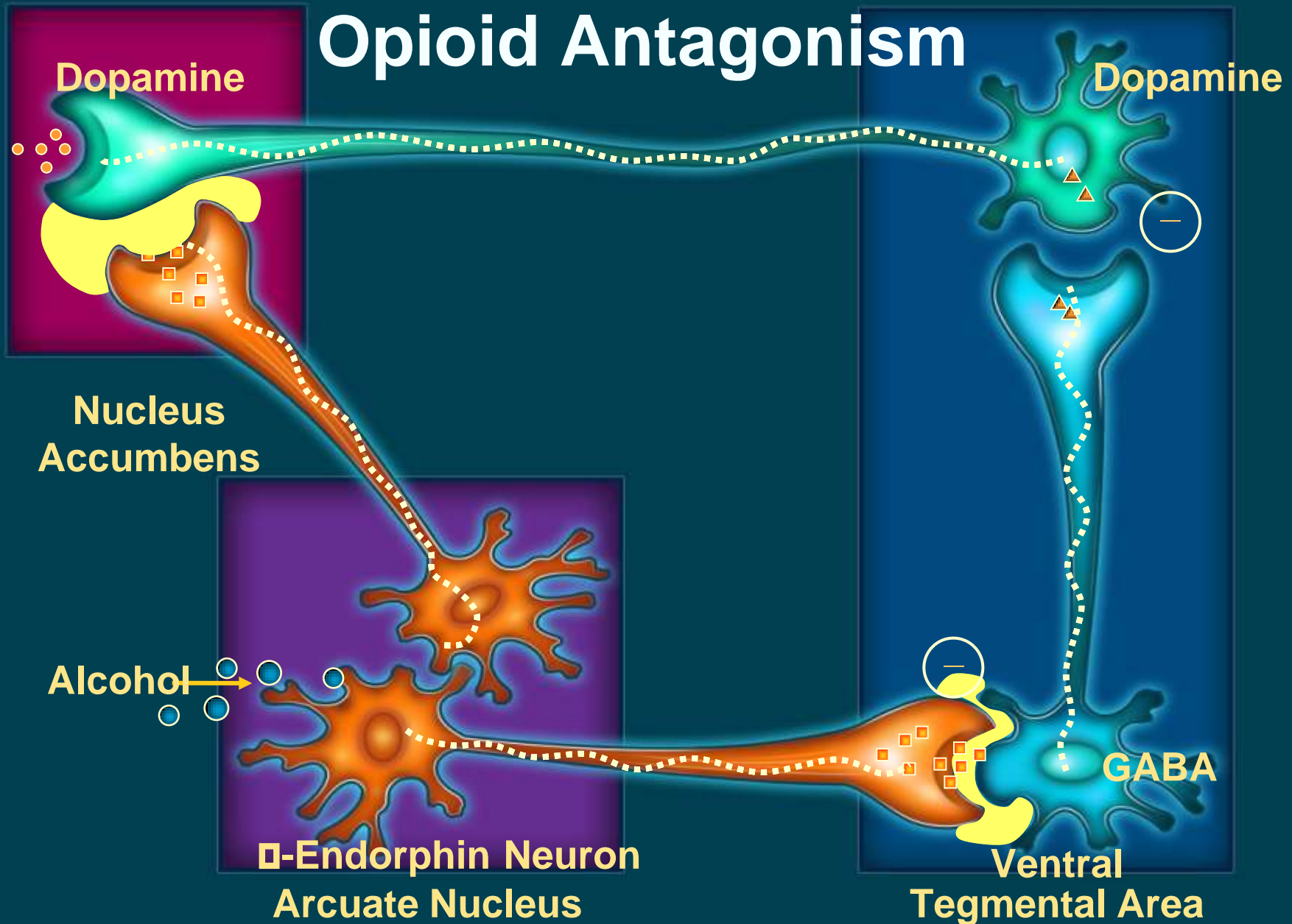


Nestler and Malenka. The Addicted Brain. Scientific American. March, 2004.

# Long Loop



# Opioid Antagonism

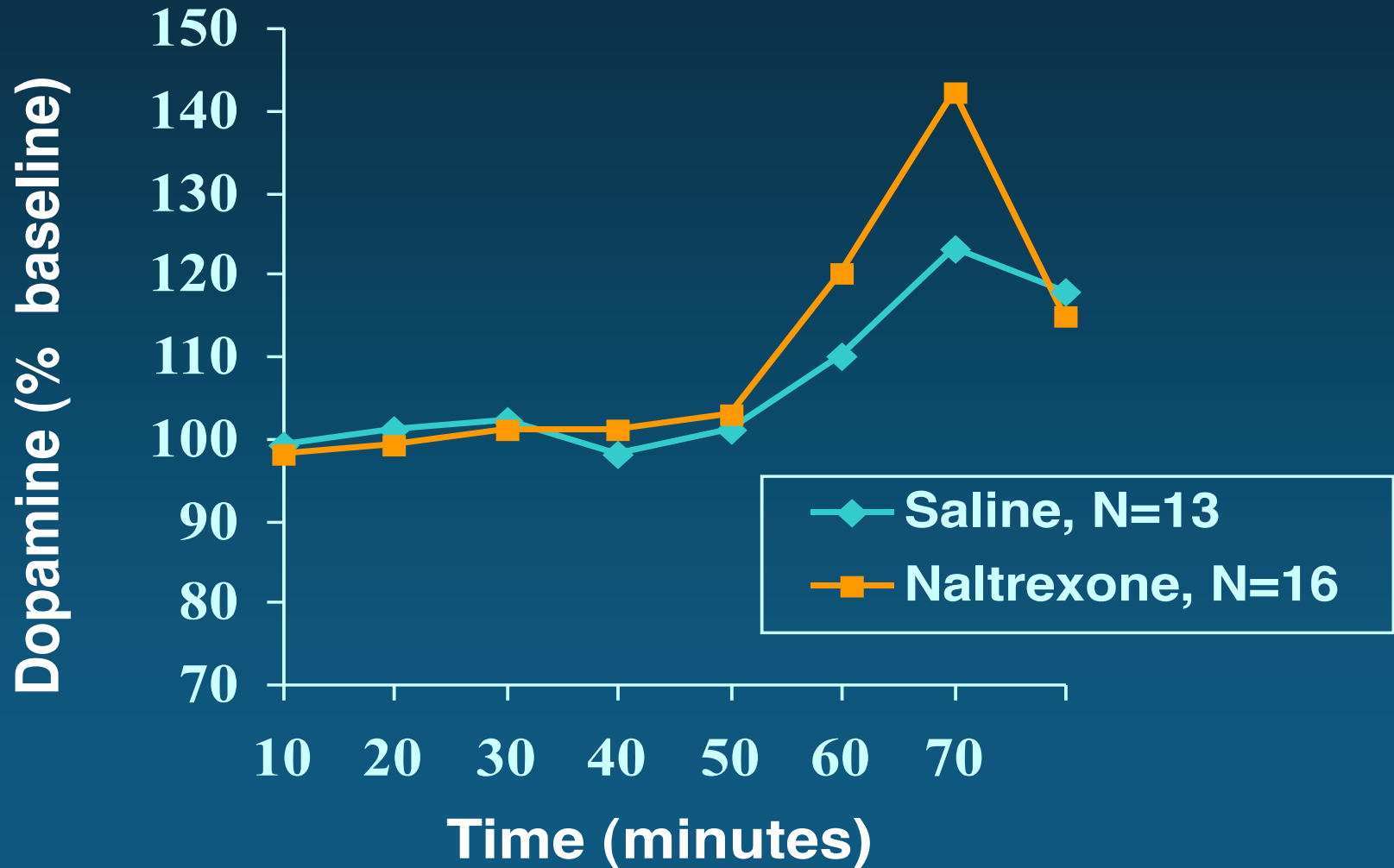


**Alcohol effects become conditioned to environmental cues**

**Naltrexone blocks cue induced relapse better than stress induced**



# Pre-Alcohol “Craving”



# Examples of the various visual cues from Normative Appetitive Picture System (NAPS)

Alcohol (A)



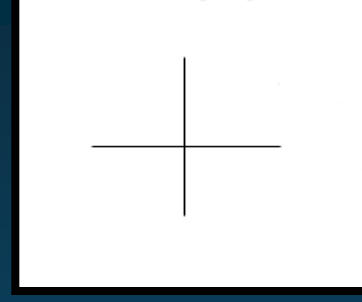
Beverage (B)



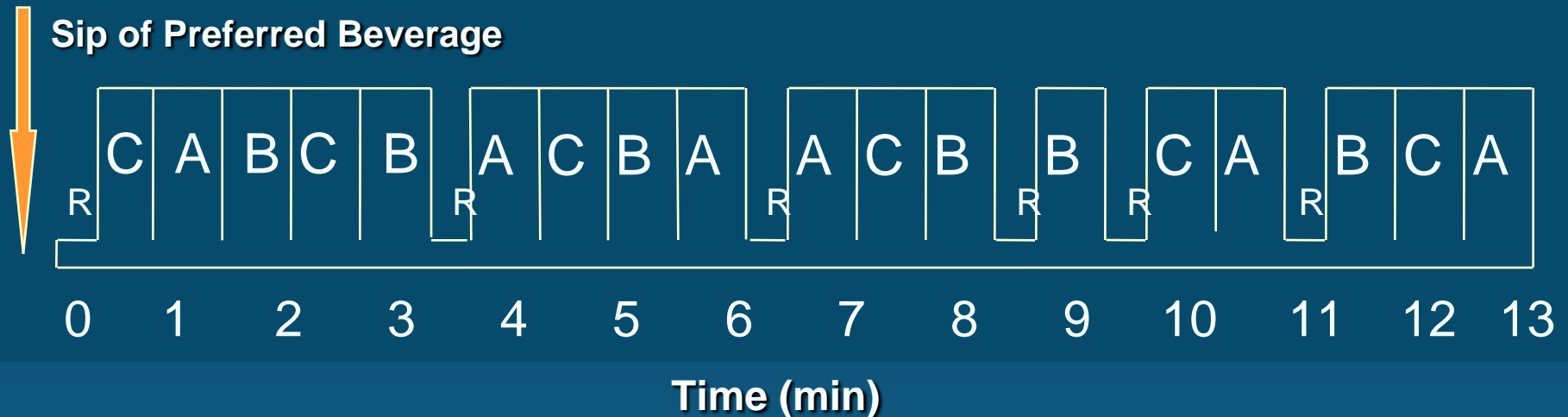
Visual Control (C)



Rest (R)



## Time Course of the Presentation of Stimuli During fMRI

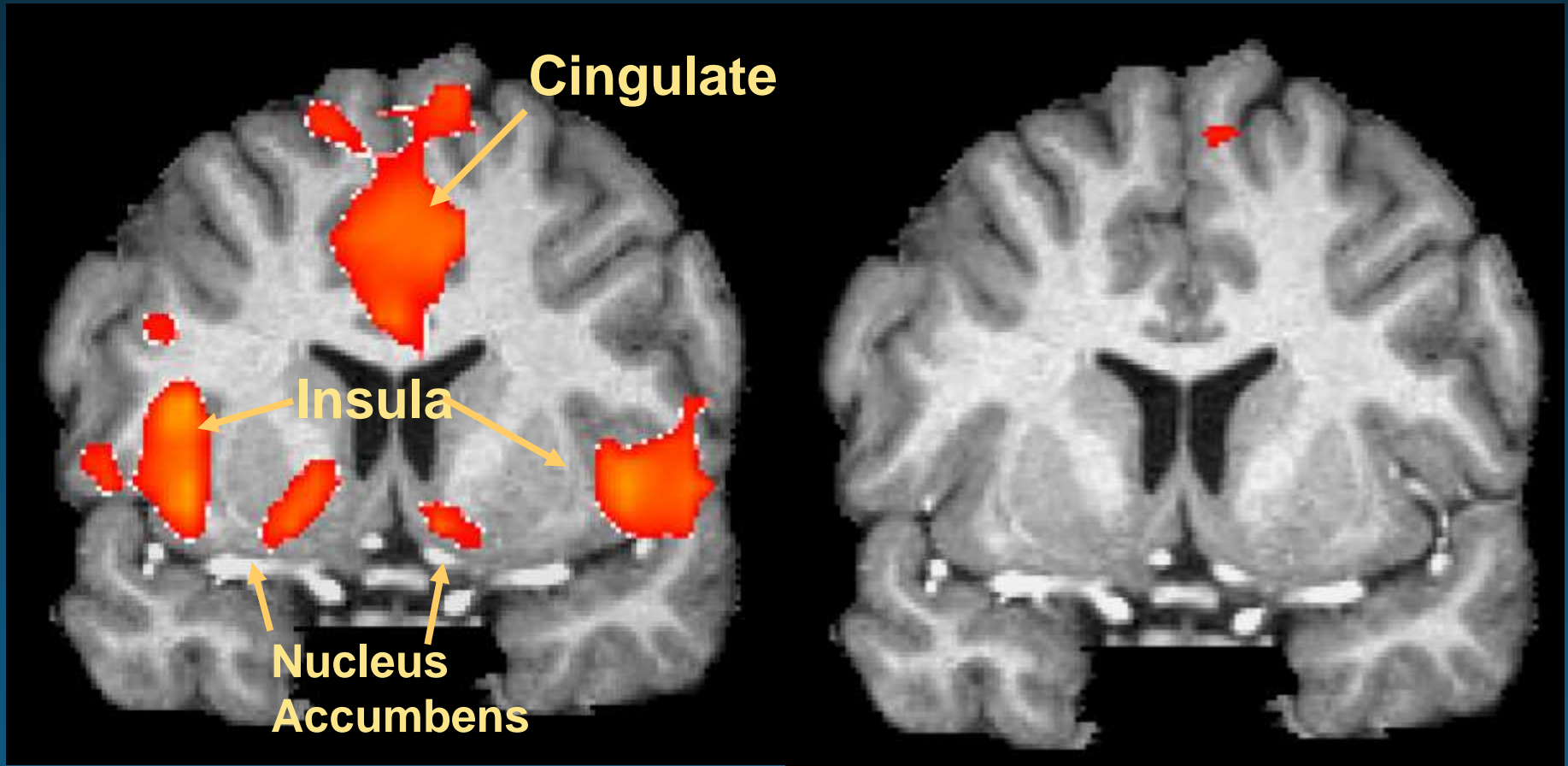


\* Craving rated after each block

Comparisons: Alcohol - Beverage Beverage - Vis Ctrl  
 Alcohol - Vis Ctrl Beverage - Rest  
 Vis Ctrl - Rest

# Alcohol - Beverage Condition

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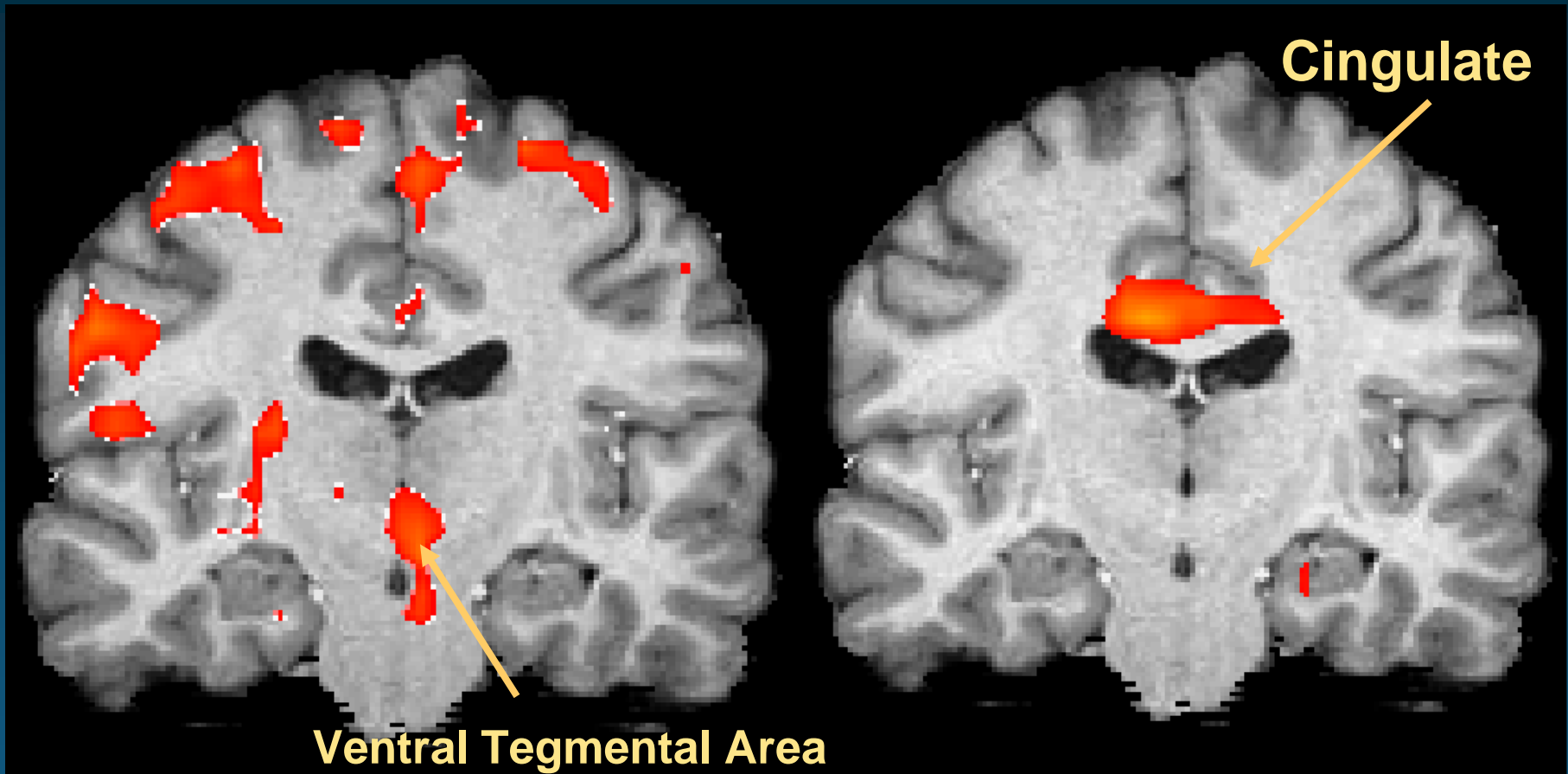


**Alcoholics (n=10)**

**Controls (n=10)**

Z=1.645 Ex .05

# Alcohol - Beverage Condition



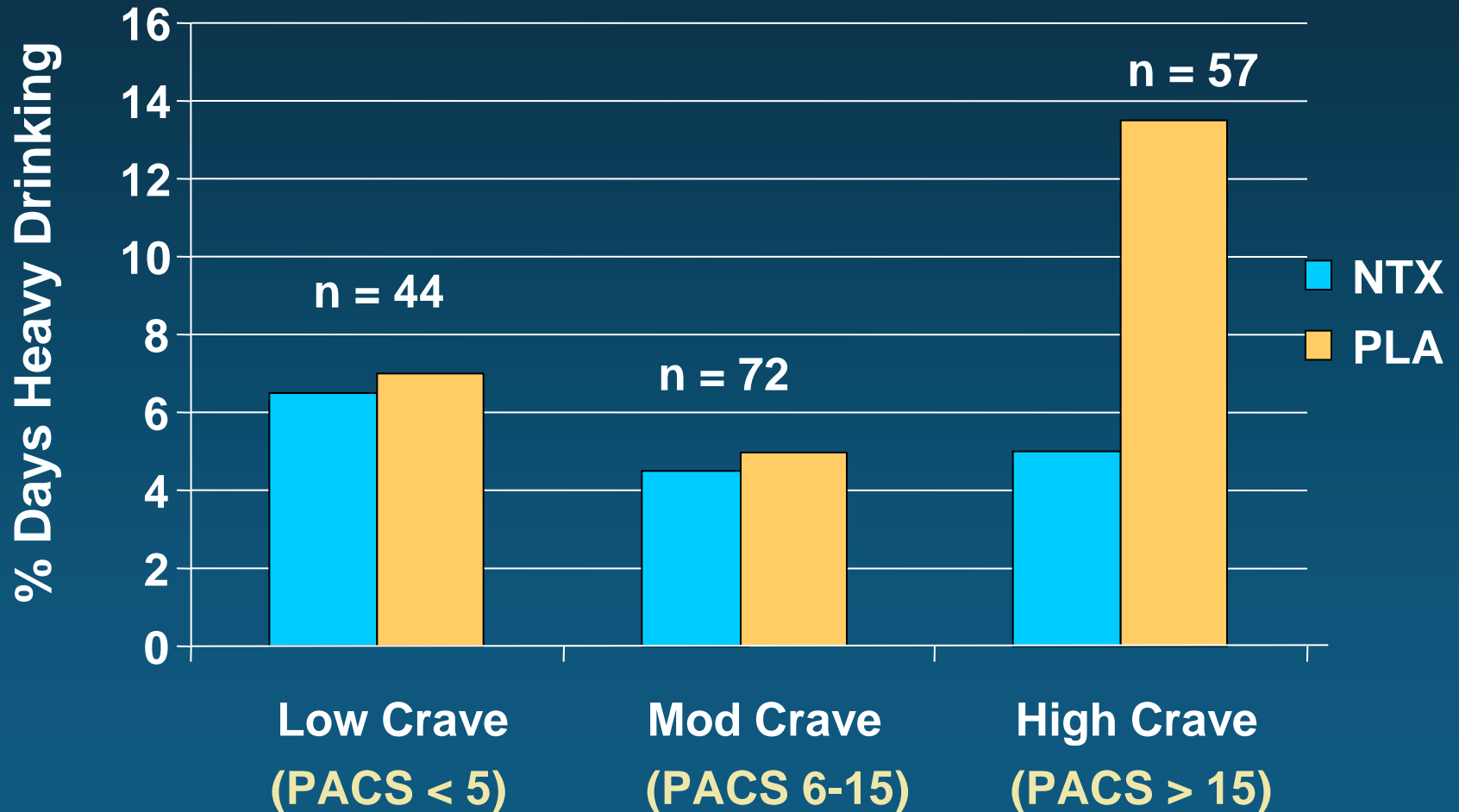
Alcoholics (n=10)

Controls (n=10)

Z=1.645 Ex .05

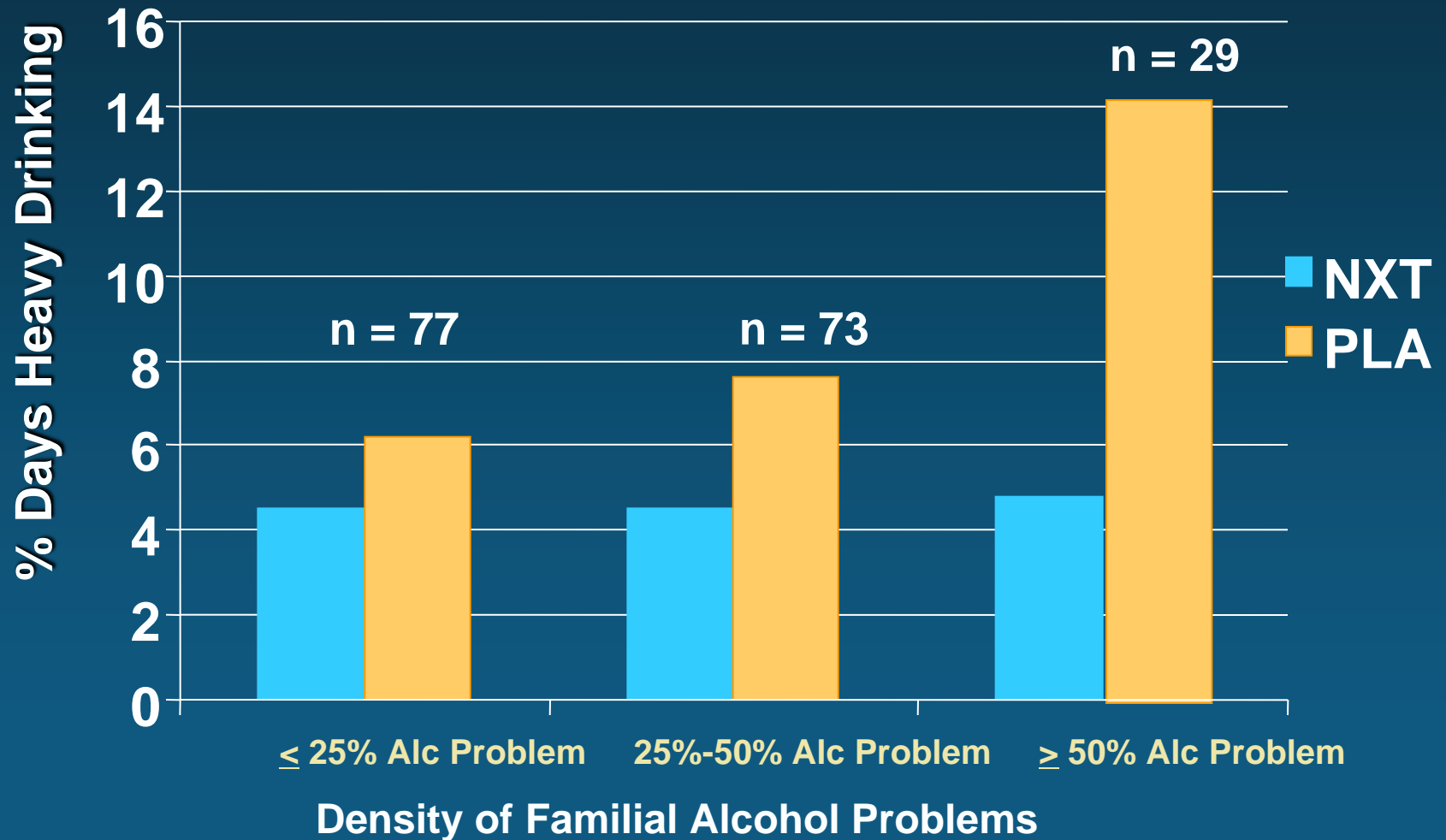
**Why do many alcoholics  
respond to naltrexone, but  
others show no response?**

# Baseline Craving Scores

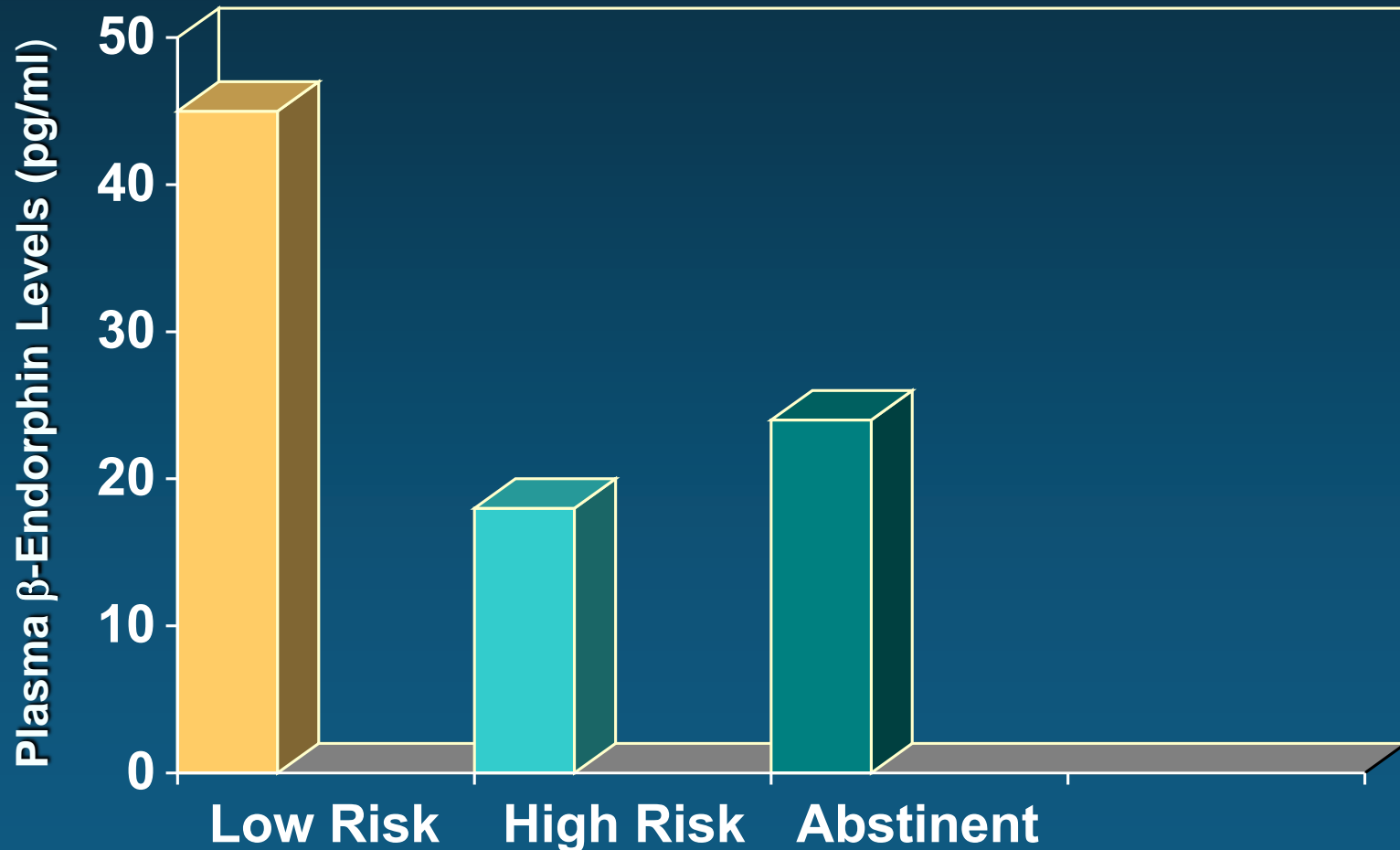


PACS = Penn Alcohol Craving Scale

# Family History and Naltrexone Efficacy

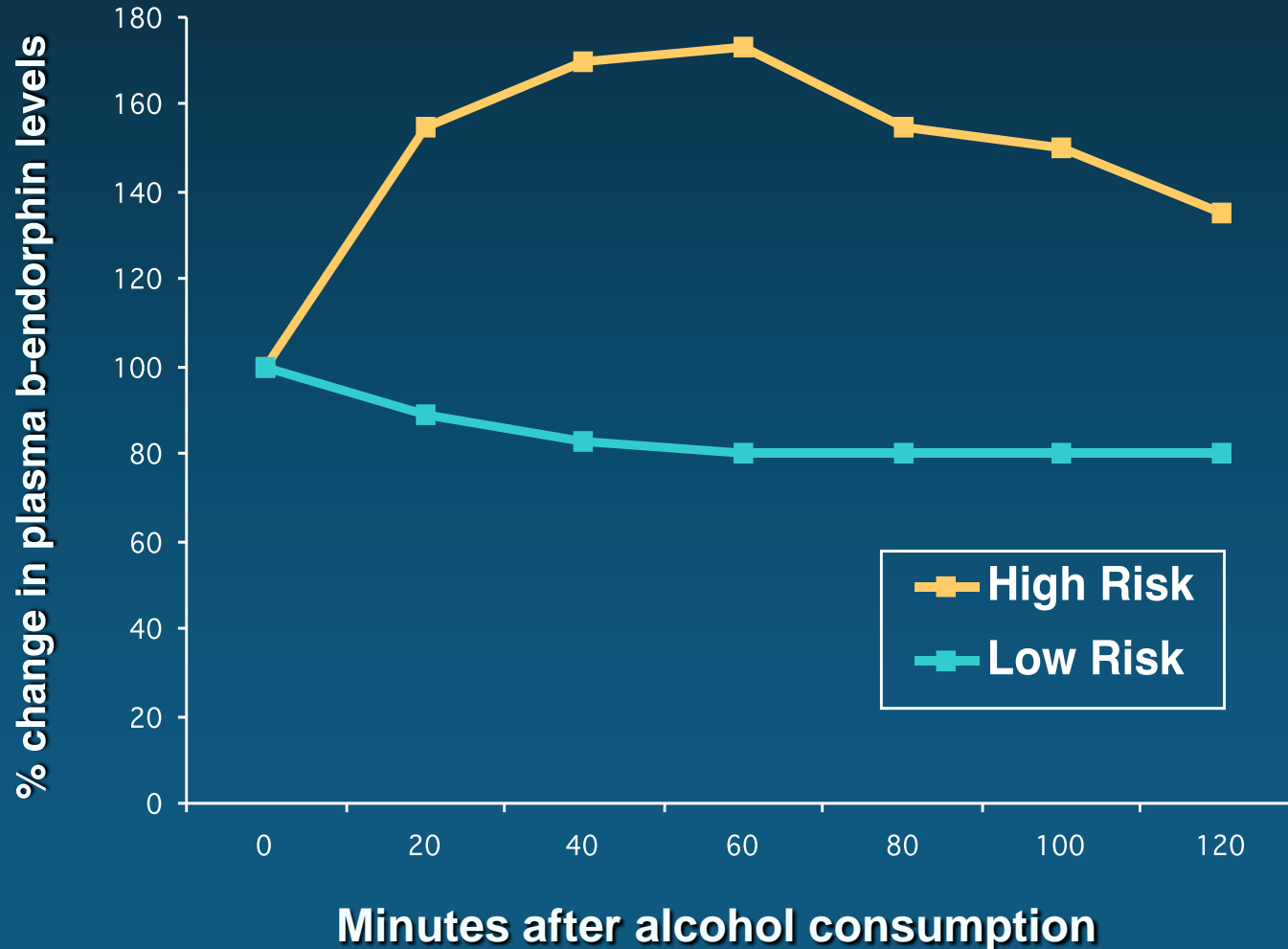


# Baseline b-Endorphin Levels in Low- and High-Risk, and Abstinent Alcoholic Patients

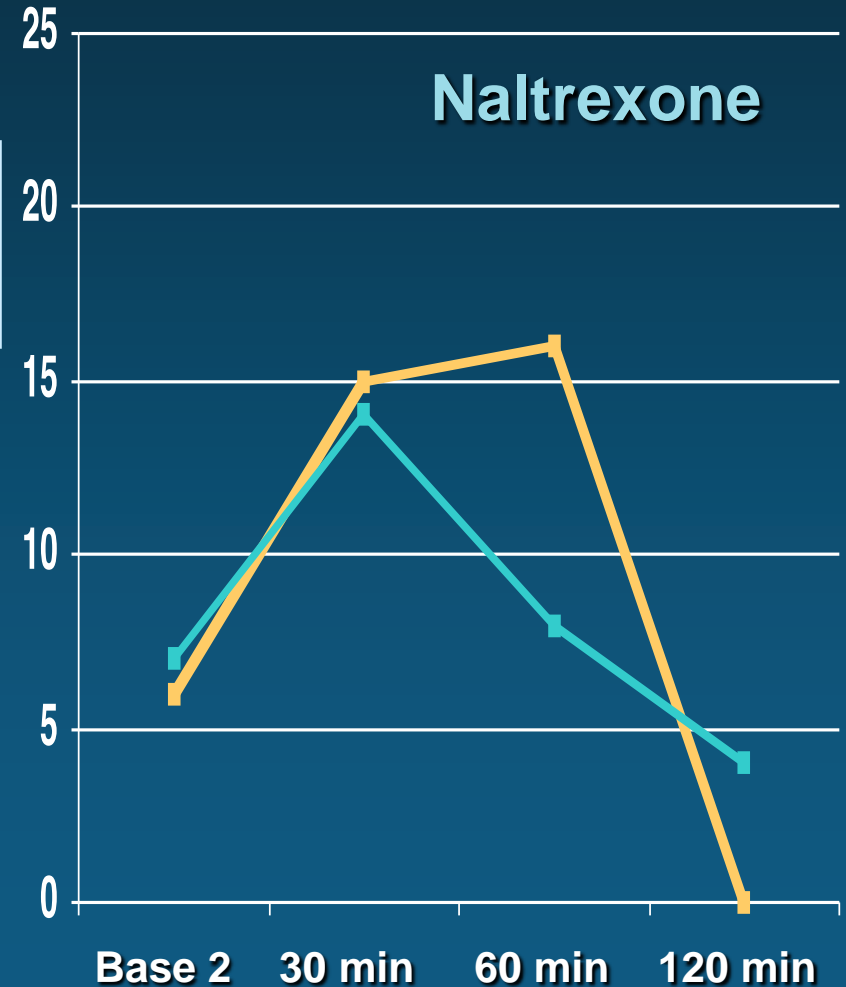
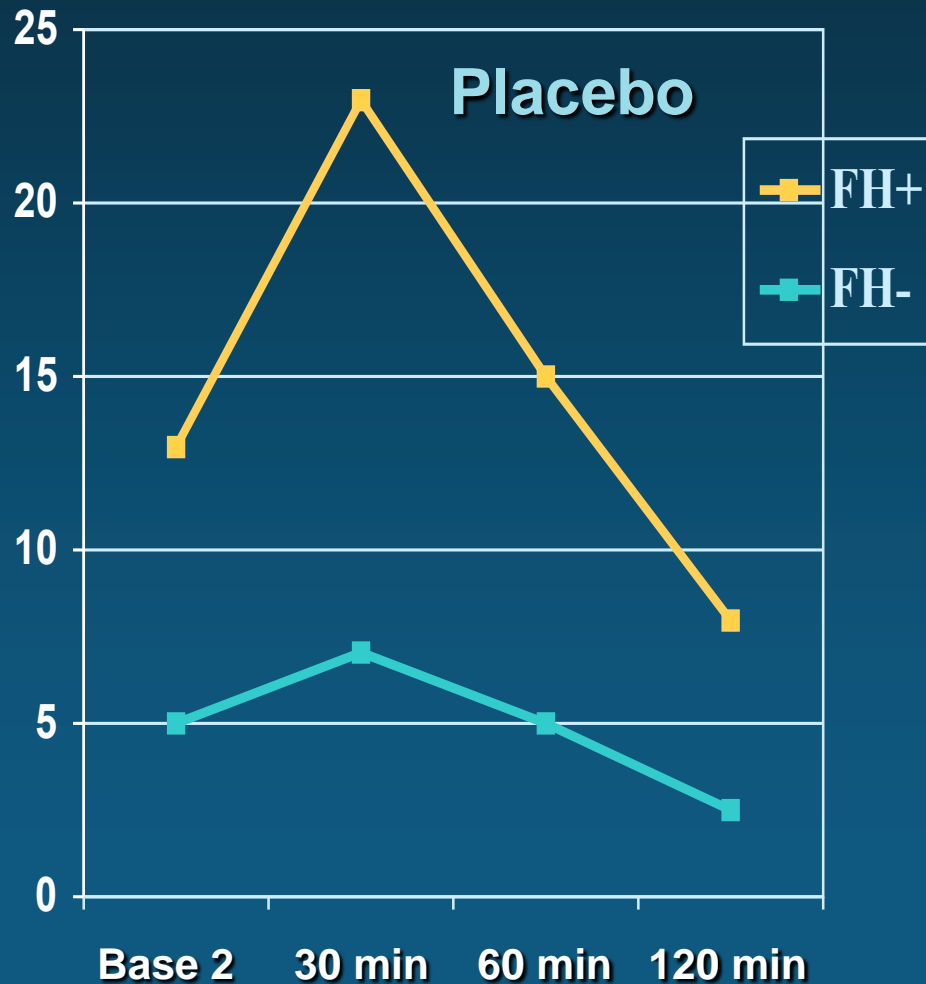




# Change in b- Endorphin Levels after Alcohol Consumption



# BAES Stimulation Scores Among FH+ and FH- Subjects

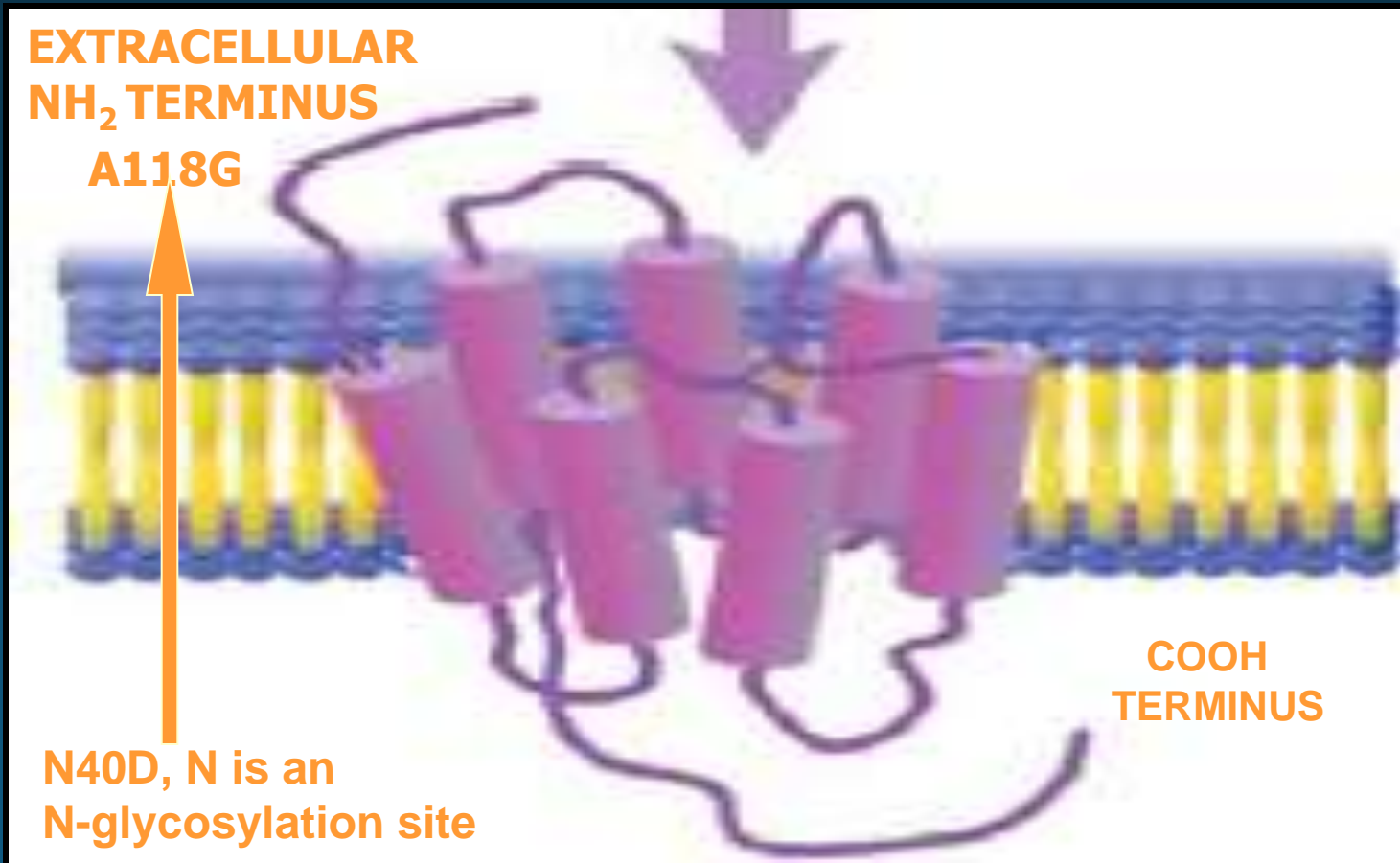


**Key effect: Sensitivity of  
Endogenous Opioid system  
to alcohol**

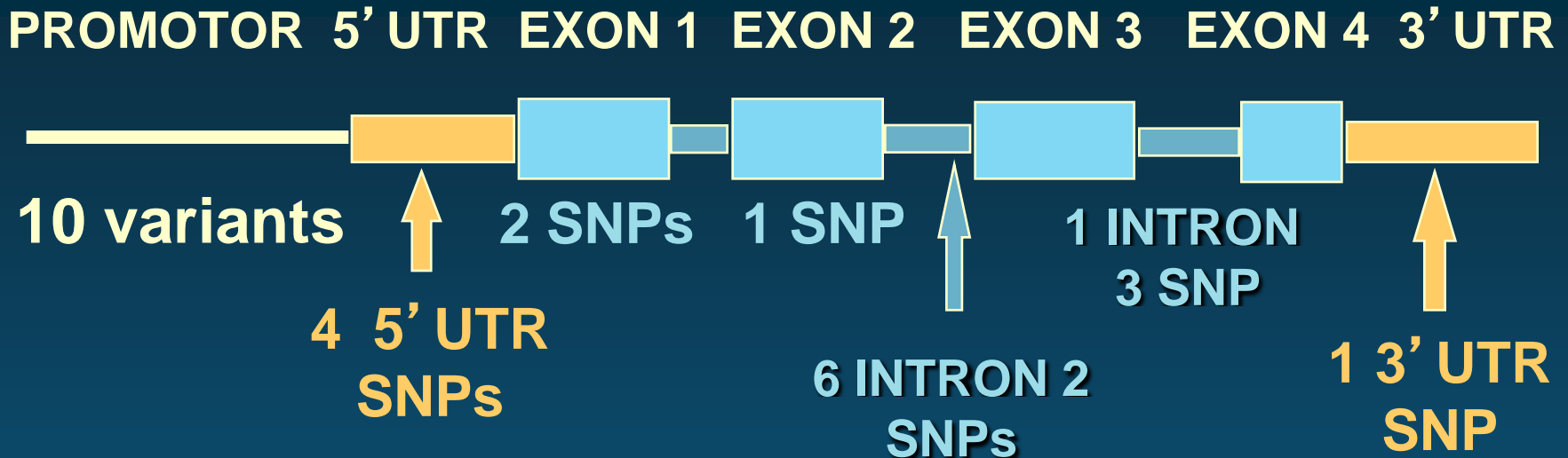
**One source of individual  
variability in response to  
ethyl alcohol**

# OPRM1 PROTEIN STRUCTURE

## LIGAND BINDING



# Human Mu Opioid Receptor Gene



6.6 kb of OPRM1 gene sequence was determined in ~200 persons; 25 variants occurred at a frequency >1%.

The 118 A>G exon 1 SNP increases OPRM1 affinity for beta-endorphin. The functional significance of other variants remains unknown.

# Functional Allele

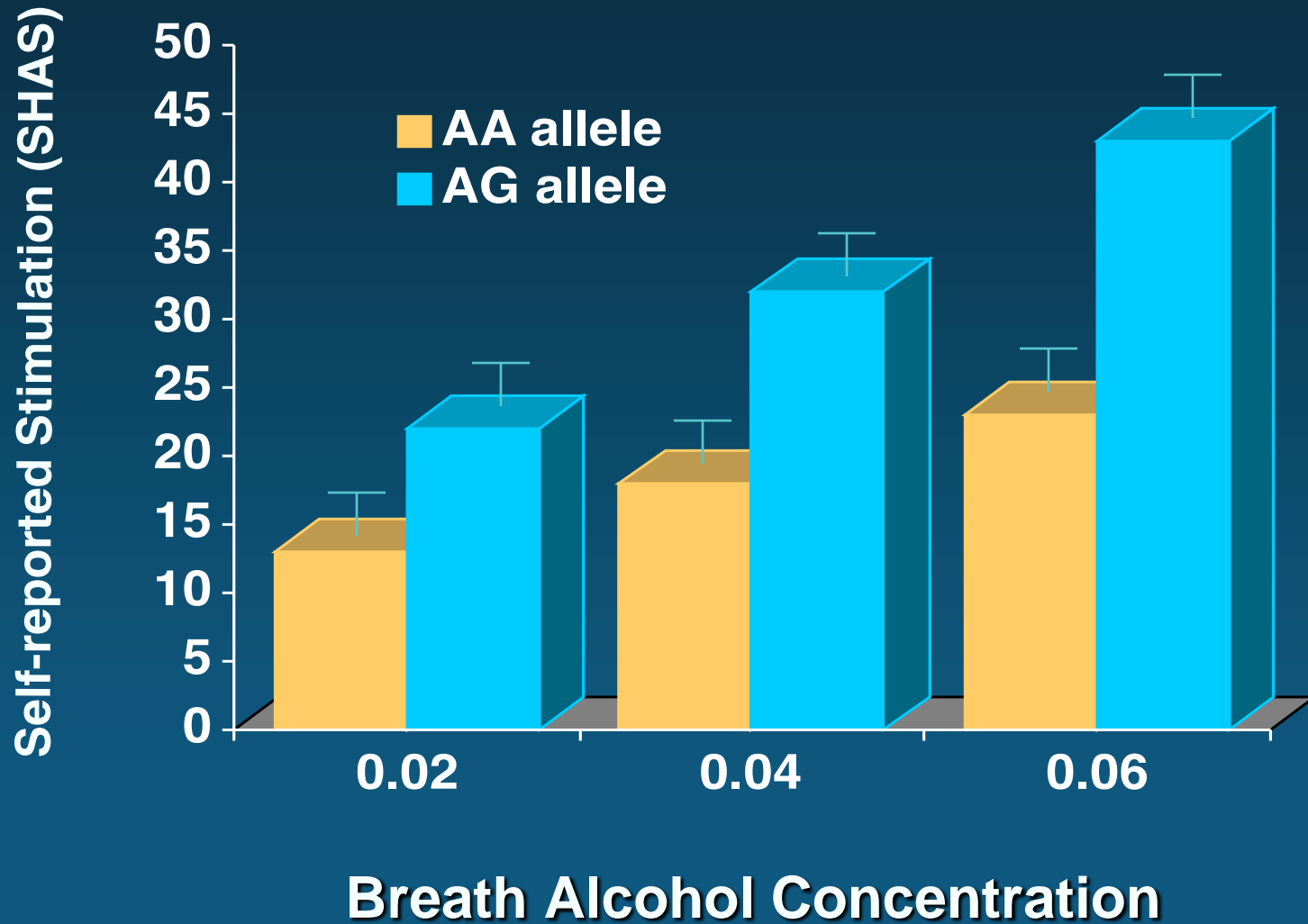
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Increase

and

Decrease

# Alcohol effects by genotype



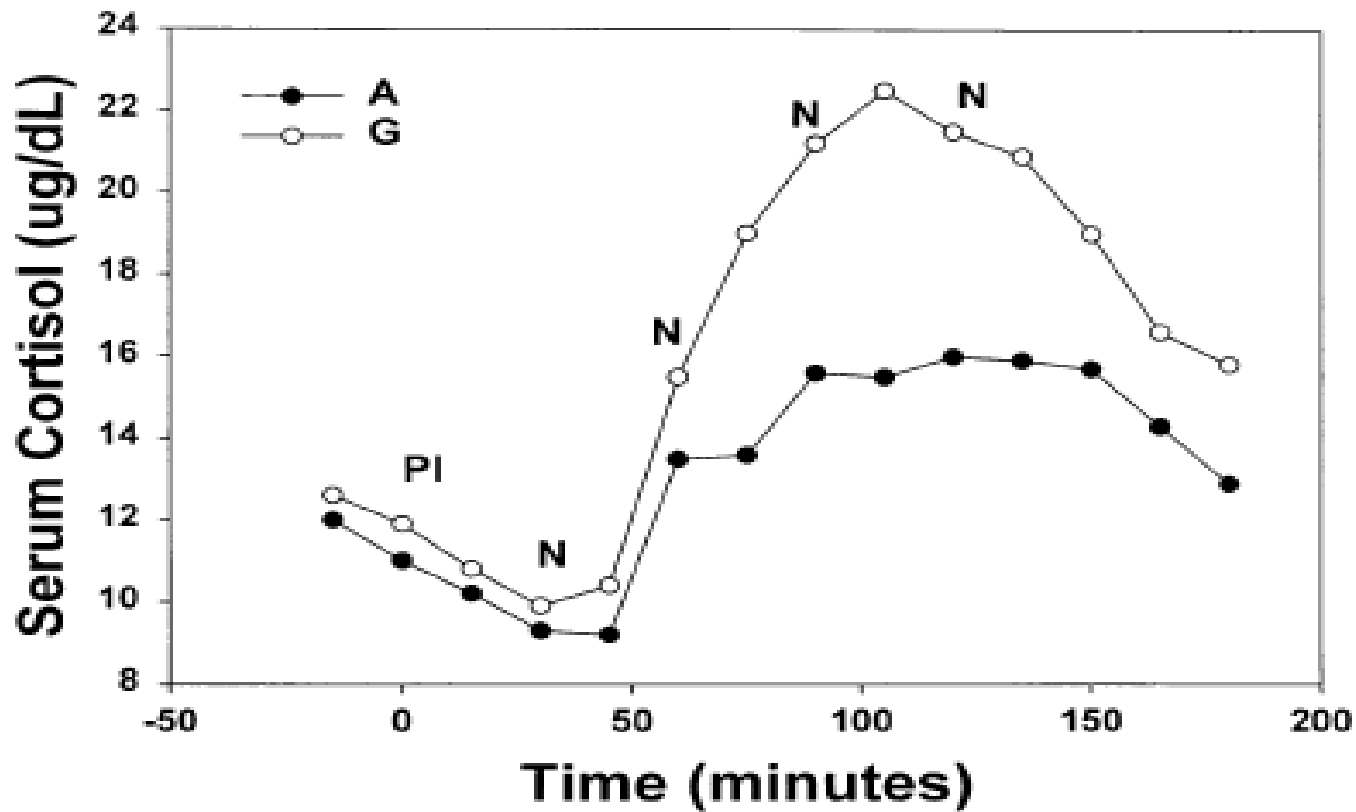


Figure 3. Cortisol responses to Naloxone by mu-opioid receptor genotype. PI denotes time of placebo (saline) administration. N denotes times of incremental Naloxone administration.



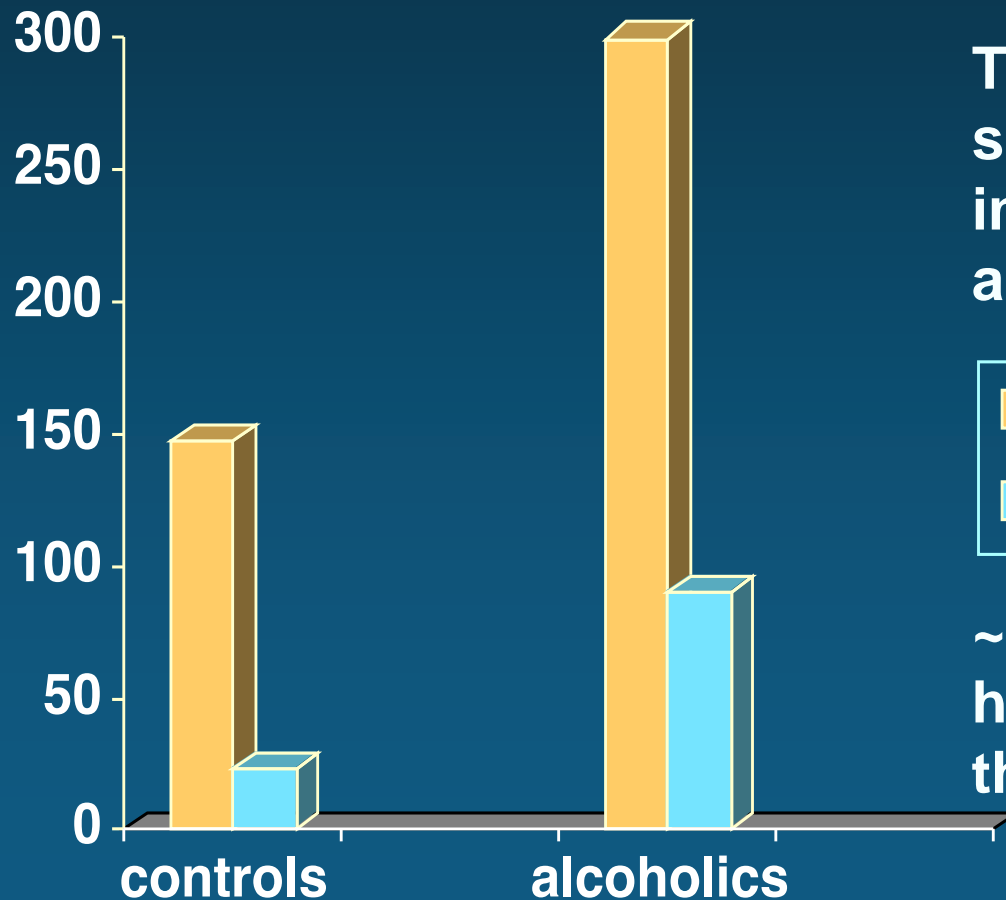
# Ethnicity & A118G Allele Frequency

- Based on multiple studies, allele frequencies differ markedly across ethnicities for the A118G SNP in the mu opioid receptor gene. It arose after the out-of-Africa migration.
- Crowley et al, 2003
- Gelernter et al, 1999
- Tan et al, 2003
- Bart et al, 2004

ETHNICITY	f(G)	ETHNICITY	f(G)
African	1%	Koreans	31%
African-American	3%	Chinese	35%
Swedish	17%	Malaysian	45%
European-origin US	15%	Indian	47%

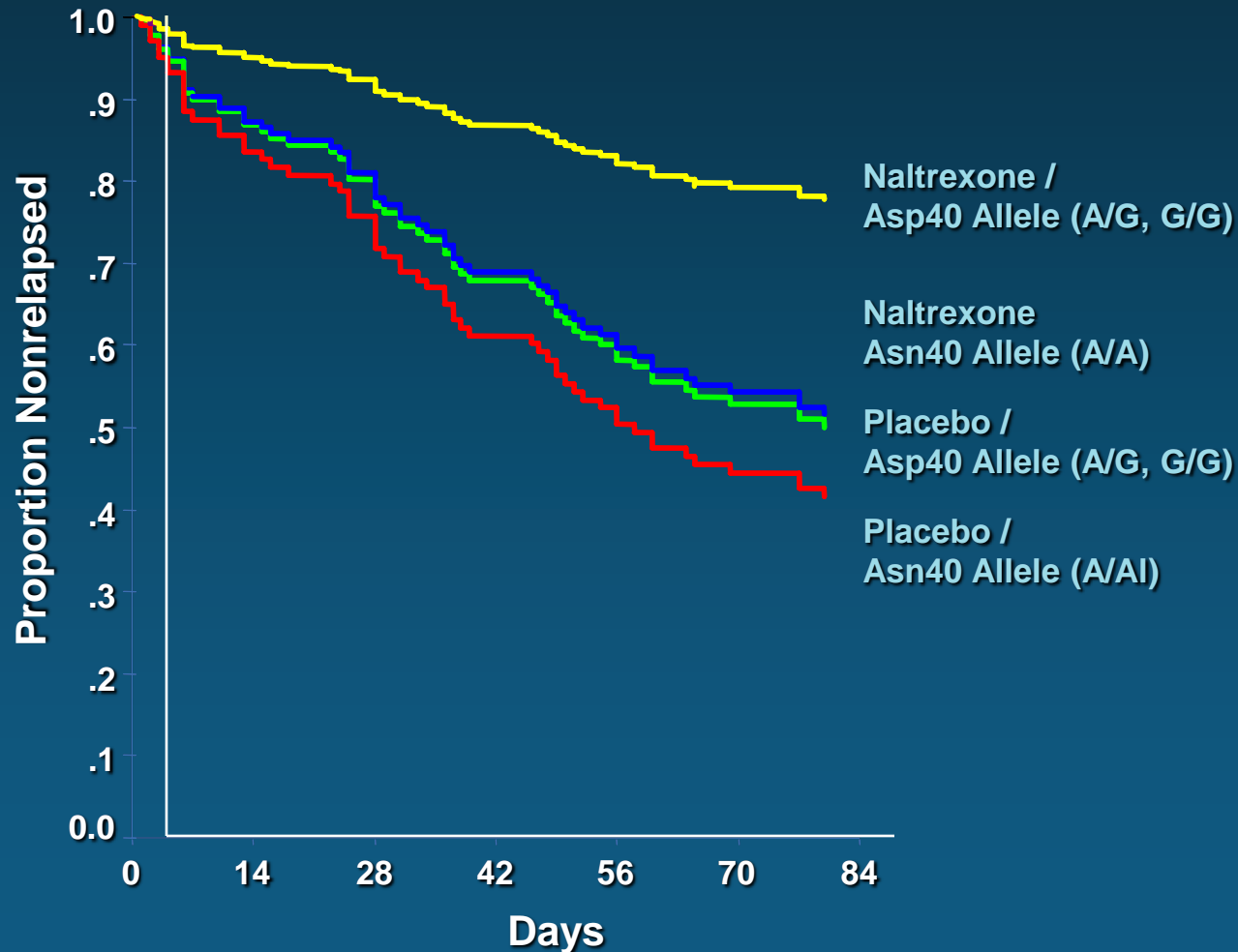
# OPRM1 A118G and Alcoholism

Bart et al (Neuropsychopharmacol, 2005) studied alcoholics in Sweden for the A118G.



There was a significant (Chi squared = 7.2,  $p = 0.007$ ) increase in A/G, G/G genotype among alcoholics. In this study the attributable risk for the G allele is ~ 11%, suggesting that ~ 11% of Swedish alcoholics have disease in part due to the G allele.

# Relapse Rate by Genotype



# COMBINE Study

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- N = 1383; 9 randomized groups
  - MM + Placebo
  - MM + Naltrexone
  - MM + Acamprosate
  - MM + Naltrexone + Acamprosate
    - CBI only
- At least 4 days abstinence at baseline
- Endpoints
  - Percent days abstinent
  - Time to first heavy drinking day



**+/- CBI**

# Combine: NIAAA Good Outcome

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Nalt	A/G, GG	95%	N = 28
Nalt	A/A	73%	N = 86
Plac.	A/G, GG	63%	N = 60
Plac.	A/A	65%	N = 205

Odds ratio, nalt good regs, GVA = 10.25 (95% CI 1.31 - 80.0 P= .03)

\*VA multi-site study: sample size with G allele small

**Rhesus model**

**Ortholog of A118G allele in humans**

*(OPRM1C77G)*

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**increased sensitivity to alcohol**

**increased alcohol preference**

**greater effect in males (Barr et al)**

## **Sub-sample of VA coop. study**

*Those who gave blood for DNA*

*Naltrexone sig. better than placebo, but no genetic association.*

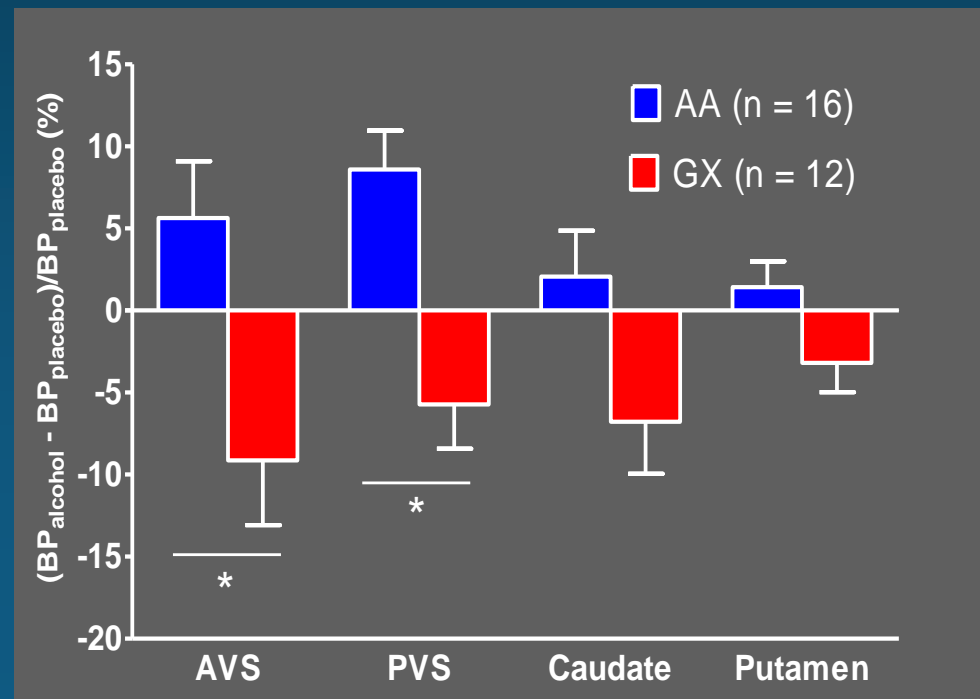
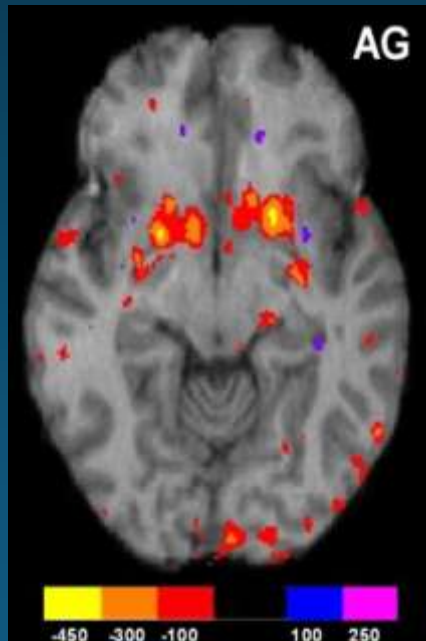
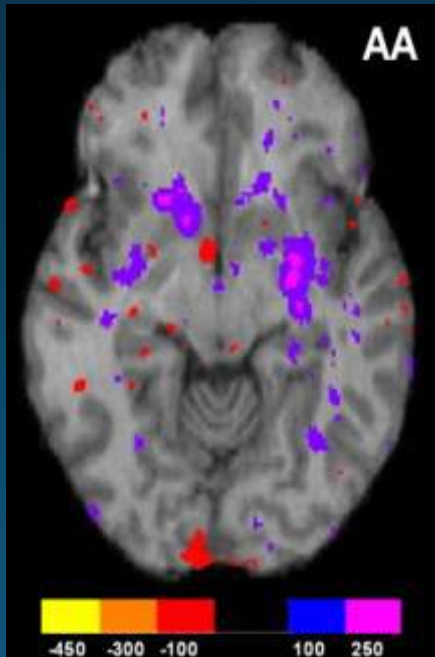
*Finnish study with Nalmefene- Naltrexone superior to placebo, but no genetic association*

*PROSPECTIVE study in progress*

*Slow release version of naltrexone*

# Alcohol-induced dopamine release in ventral striatum is restricted to OPRM1 - 118G carriers

(Ramchandani et al., Mol Psychiat 2010)





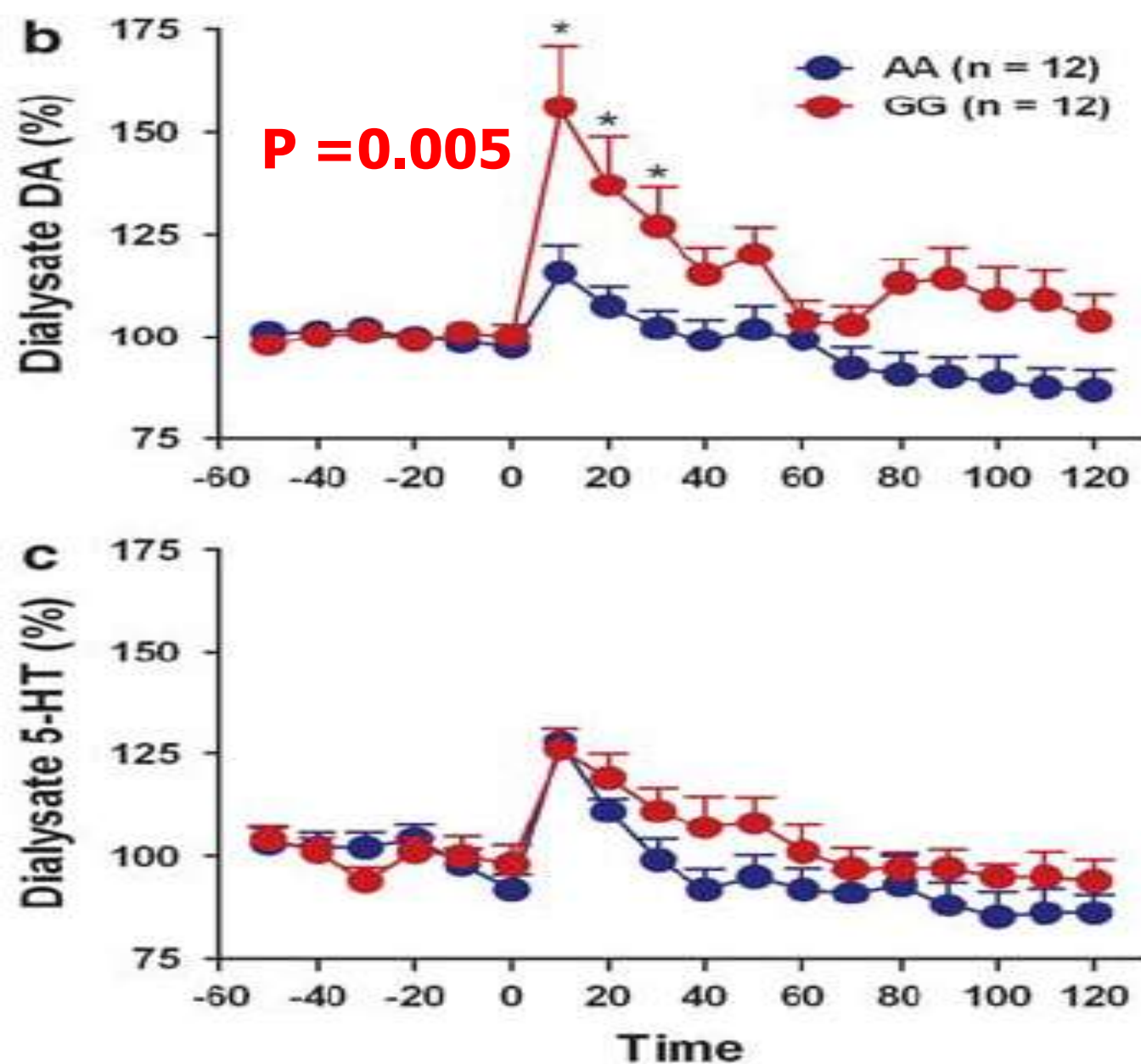
Mouse models: “knock-in” human OPRM-1

2 Labs A/A and G/G versions of  $\mu$  receptor gene, 4x inc DA release in response to ethanol in G/G mice, increased ethanol Self Adm

Penn: Blendy inc DA response

- Rhesus, functionally equivalent allele (77G variant13) produces sensitivity to alcohol-induced psychomotor stimulation.

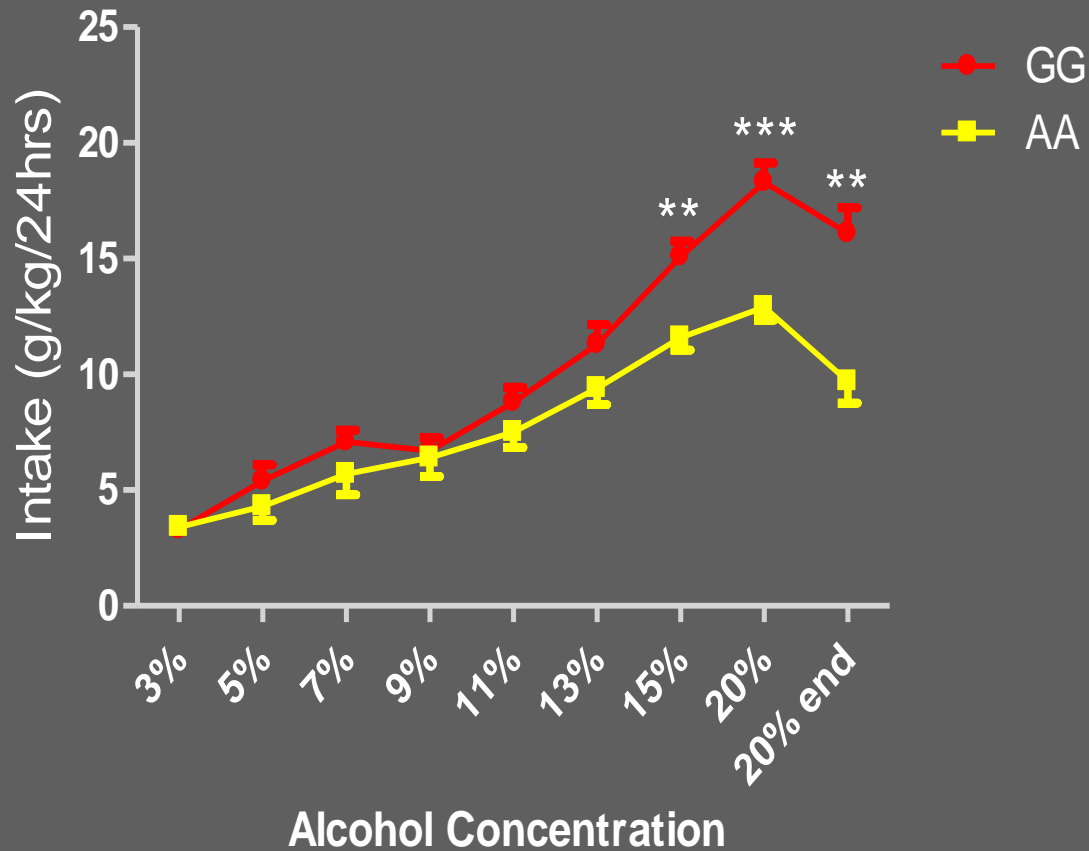
# Animal Models for A118G: Mouse



OPRM 118 AA & GG mice were given ethanol 2 g/kg, during *in vivo* microdialysis. GG mice showed a significant dopamine elevation in striatum after the ethanol, while AA mice did not. No change was seen in striatum for the 5HT levels.

(Ramchandani et al Mol Psychiatry, 2010)

# Increased alcohol-induced DA-release in 118GG mice is associated with increased voluntary alcohol intake (Thorsell et al, in preparation)



# Treatment of Alcoholism in USA

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**How to prescribe oral naltrexone**

**Very low dose to begin**

**Try to convince patient to continue at least 3-4 months before giving up**

**Duration depends on results- years**

**Slow release depot**

**Q 30 days**

**Most success, few side effects, best continuity of care. This is a chronic disease.**

# Cost-Benefit studies

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Cost of Treatment 6 months prior to admission compared to 6 months later

Fewer visits to Emergency Room

## **Co-Morbidity**

**2 new placebo controlled trials**

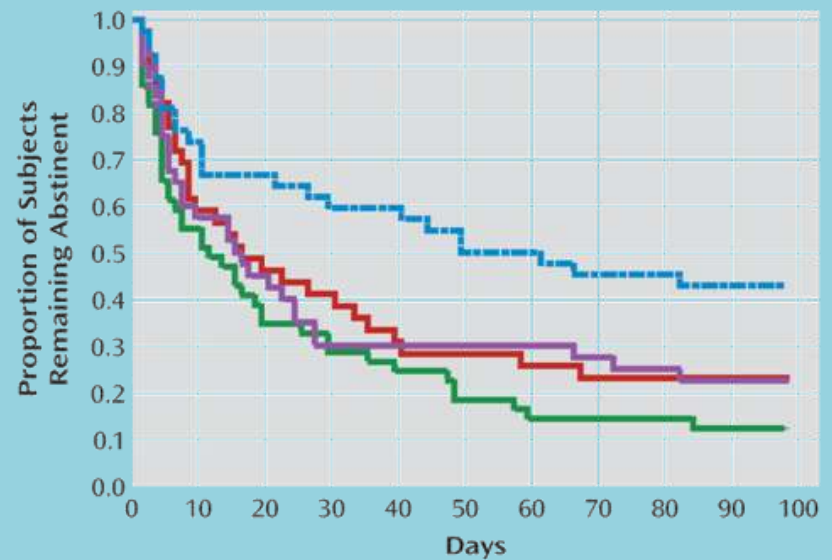
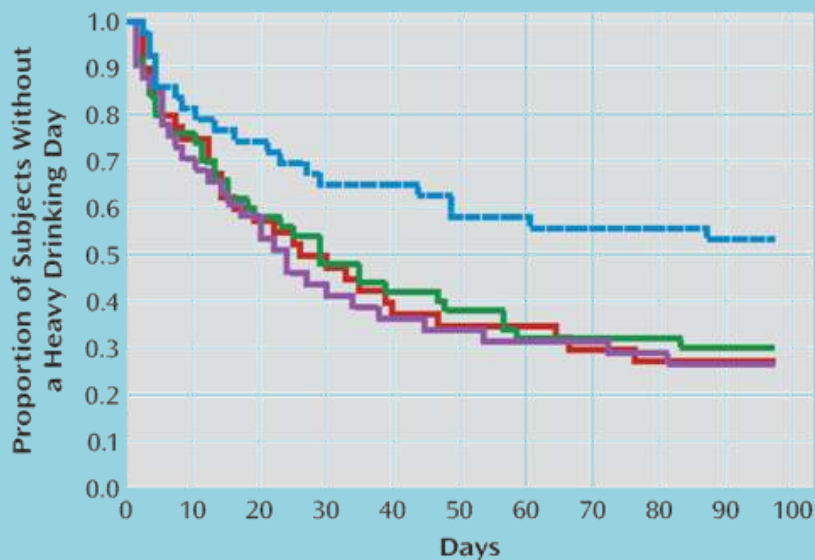
**Alcoholism + Depression (Pettinati 2010)**

**Naltrexone + Sertraline**

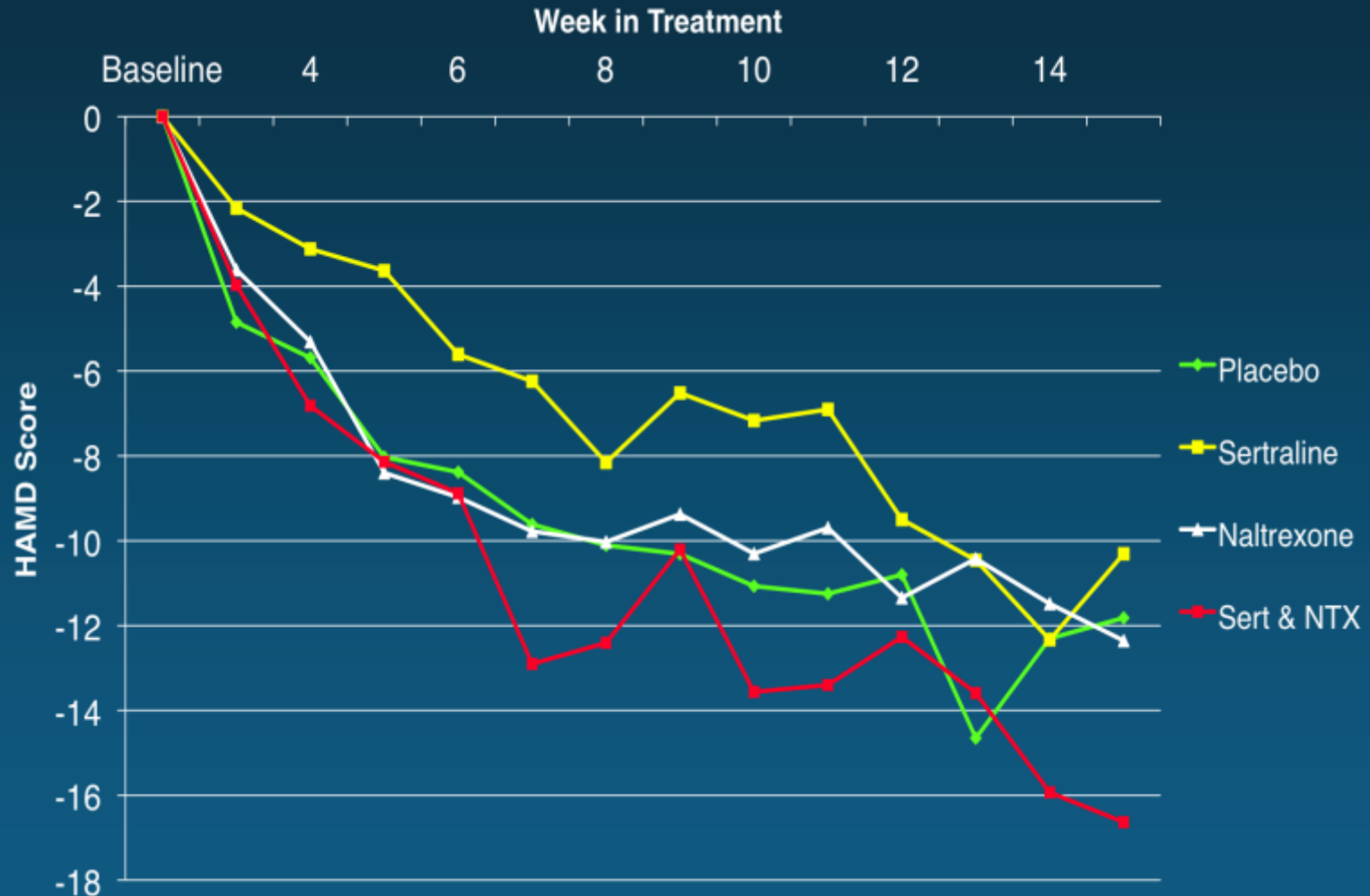
**Alcoholism + PTSD (Foa 2012)**

**Naltrexone + Exposure Therapy**

# Time to First Heavy Drinking Day and Time to First Drinking Day in Depressed Alcohol-Dependent Patients Randomly Assigned to Medication Treatment or Placebo



# Hamilton Score Change From Baseline





# **CNN Special**

## **Addiction: Life on the edge**

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**5 patients followed for one year**  
**Different parts of country**

- **Admissions**
- **Graduations**
- **Relapses**
- **Interviews with counselors at famous programs**

**GUPTA: And so he tried again. He checked himself into an experimental program run by Brown University. This time he got counseling once a week and a daily pill, a medicine called naltrexone. About two months into it, Walter Kent suddenly noticed the world around him looked and felt different.**

**KENT: And I had just turned around and I said, this is really something for the first time in my life that I never had this sensation where I didn't want a drink. And this, to me, was like a godsend because of the fact that for someone who had to have a drink, now all of a sudden I don't need that -- I don't have that feeling anymore.**

**GUPTA: He hasn't had a drink in more than eight years. Even after his doctor stopped the medication. He's healthy, back at work, fixing up carburetors. And now he's part of a running debate. Is addiction an illness you can treat with a pill or a character flaw to be tackled with therapy and self-help?**

**GUPTA: Despite the evidence, most fancy rehab centers use medication only rarely, if at all. The focus is much more on therapy.**

**Head Counselor Minnesota: With the health care professional staff here at Hazelden, our experience tells us having that network of support in recovery is what really makes the difference.**

**GUPTA: More so than medication?**

**CLARK: More so than just medication, exactly.**

**GUPTA: And that's the conventional wisdom.**

## California Program

**GUPTA: What about medications?**

**Head Counselor California Program: We do not use them at the Betty Ford Center.**

No comment from the interviewer, no follow up questions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**[http://www.med.upenn.edu/csa/o](http://www.med.upenn.edu/csa/or)  
**r**  
**obrien@upenn.edu****

# *Endophenotype*

## Endorphin Dependent Alcoholism

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- Alcohol → Endogenous Opioids
- Euphoria/Stimulation
- Sensitive  $\mu$  Receptors
- Family History
- Alcohol Craving

# Best Treatment

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- Medications
- Plus
- Psychosocial Intervention

# Penn/VA Center Team

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Joe Volpicelli

Wade Berrettini

John Cacciola

Anna Rose Childress

James Cornish

Charles Dackis

Ronald Ehrman

Teresa Franklin

Kyle Kampman

James McKay

A. Thomas McLellan

David Metzger

David Oslin

Helen Pettinati

Michael Stromberg

Elmer Yu

George Woody

Arthur Alterman



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**<http://www.med.upenn.edu/csa/or>  
r  
obrien@mail.trc.upenn.edu**

## **Possible Gender Effect**

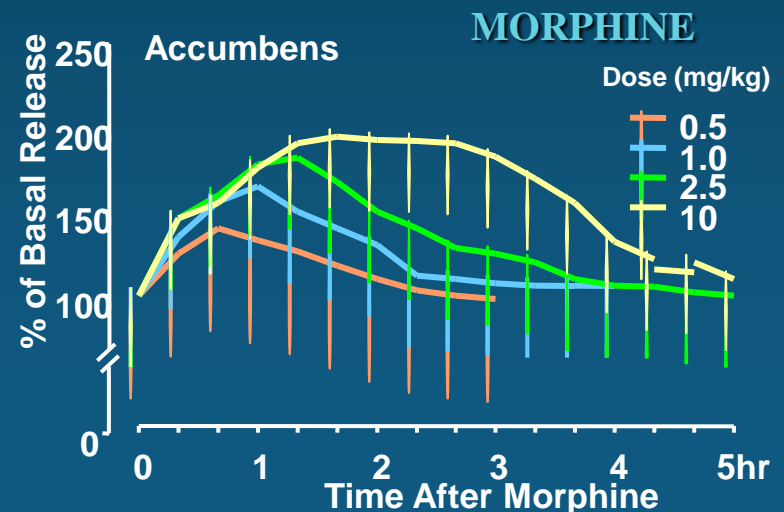
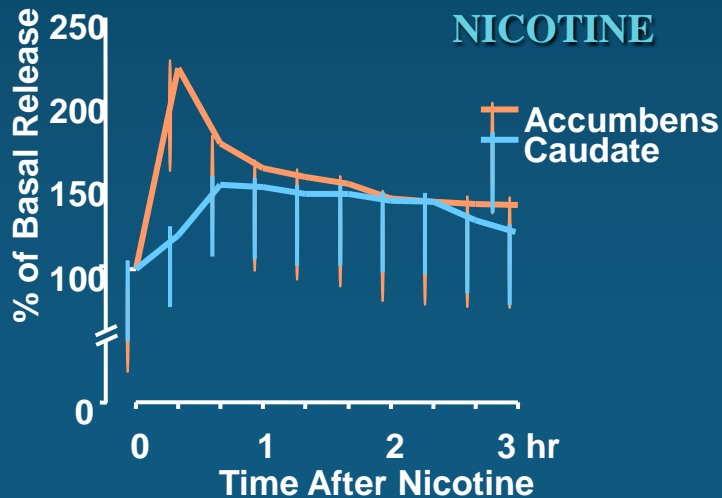
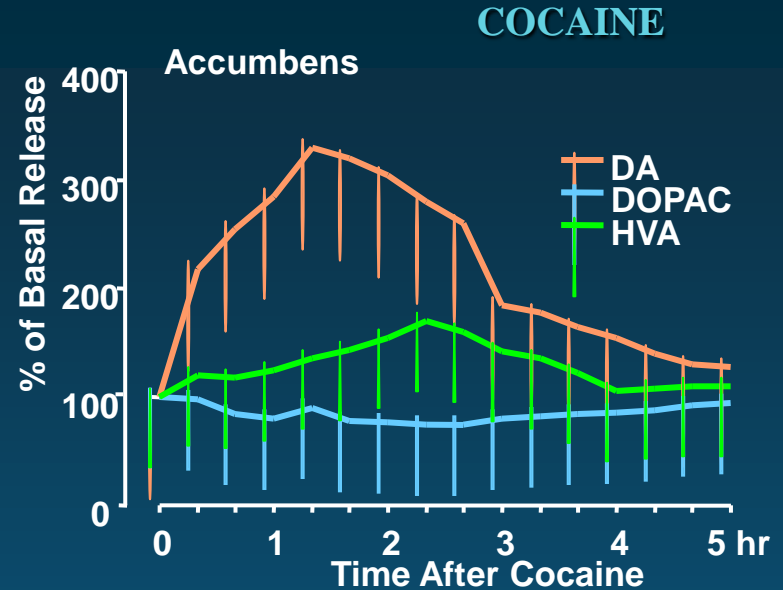
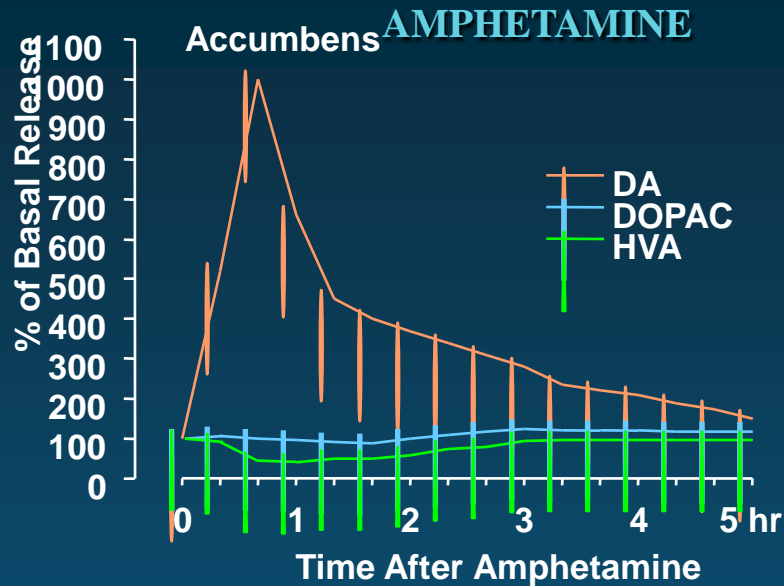
**Males more responsive in  
only study with large  
number of women**

# Medications

---

- Nicotine
  - Nicotine patch, gum, nasal spray
  - Bupropion
  - Varenicline
  - Rimonabant\*
- Opiates
  - Methadone
  - Buprenorphine
  - Naltrexone
- Stimulants
  - Modafinil
  - Topiramate
  - Baclofen
  - Disulfiram
  - Propranolol
  - Vigabatrin (clinical trials)
- Alcohol
  - Disulfiram
  - Naltrexone
  - Acamprosate
  - Topiramate

# Effects of Drugs on Dopamine Levels



# Learning Objectives

---

- Describe the data supporting a new subtype or endophenotype of alcoholism.
- Describe the relative merits of the various medications available for the treatment of alcoholism.
- Describe the range of specific psychosocial treatments for alcoholism.

**Use**

**Use**



**Abuse**  
(declarative)

**Use**



**Addiction**  
(automatic)

**Use**



**Abuse**

**Use**

# Dependence (Addiction)

---

DSM-IV

- Tolerance
- Withdrawal
- More use than intended
- Unsuccessful efforts to cut down
- Spends excessive time in acquisition
- Activities given up because of use
- Uses despite negative effects

# Possible Changes

---

## DSM-V

- **Addiction instead of Dependence?**
- **Abuse? necessary**
- **Severity?**
- **Substance and non-substance addictions**
  - Gambling addiction**
  - Internet gaming?**
  - Food? Sex? Shopping?**



# Risk of Addiction

---

	<b>Ever Used (%)</b>	<b>Dependence (%)</b>	<b>Risk (%)</b>
<b>Tobacco</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>31.9</b>
<b>Cocaine</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>16.7</b>
<b>Heroin</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>23.1</b>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>15.4</b>
<b>Cannabis</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>

Source: Anthony et al, 1994.

# *Types of Genetic Studies*

---

Family

Twin

Adoption

Large population: COGA

Candidate gene studies

## *Level Of Response To Alcohol*

- Observe less response when tested with alcohol
- Self-report of more drinks for an effect
- IV alcohol clamp to control level

# *Response*

- Genetically influenced  
(heritability  $\geq 40\%$ )
- Low LR in animals, twins,  
1<sup>o</sup> relatives, 40% offspring of  
alcoholics

# *Low response Predicts Alcoholism 4-20 Years Later*

---

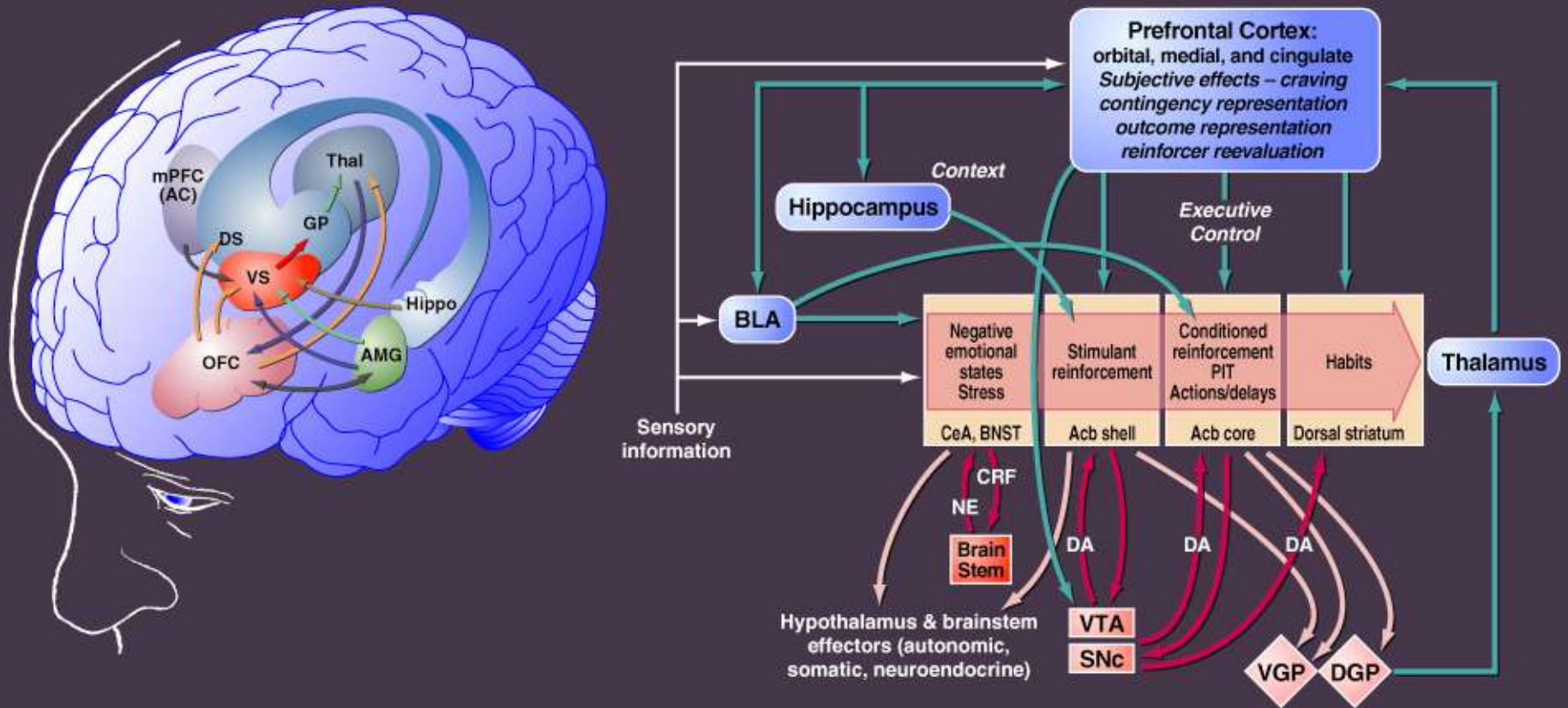
- If response low at age 20
- And FH positive
- 60% men developed alcohol use disorder by age 30

# Drugs of Abuse all Activate Reward System

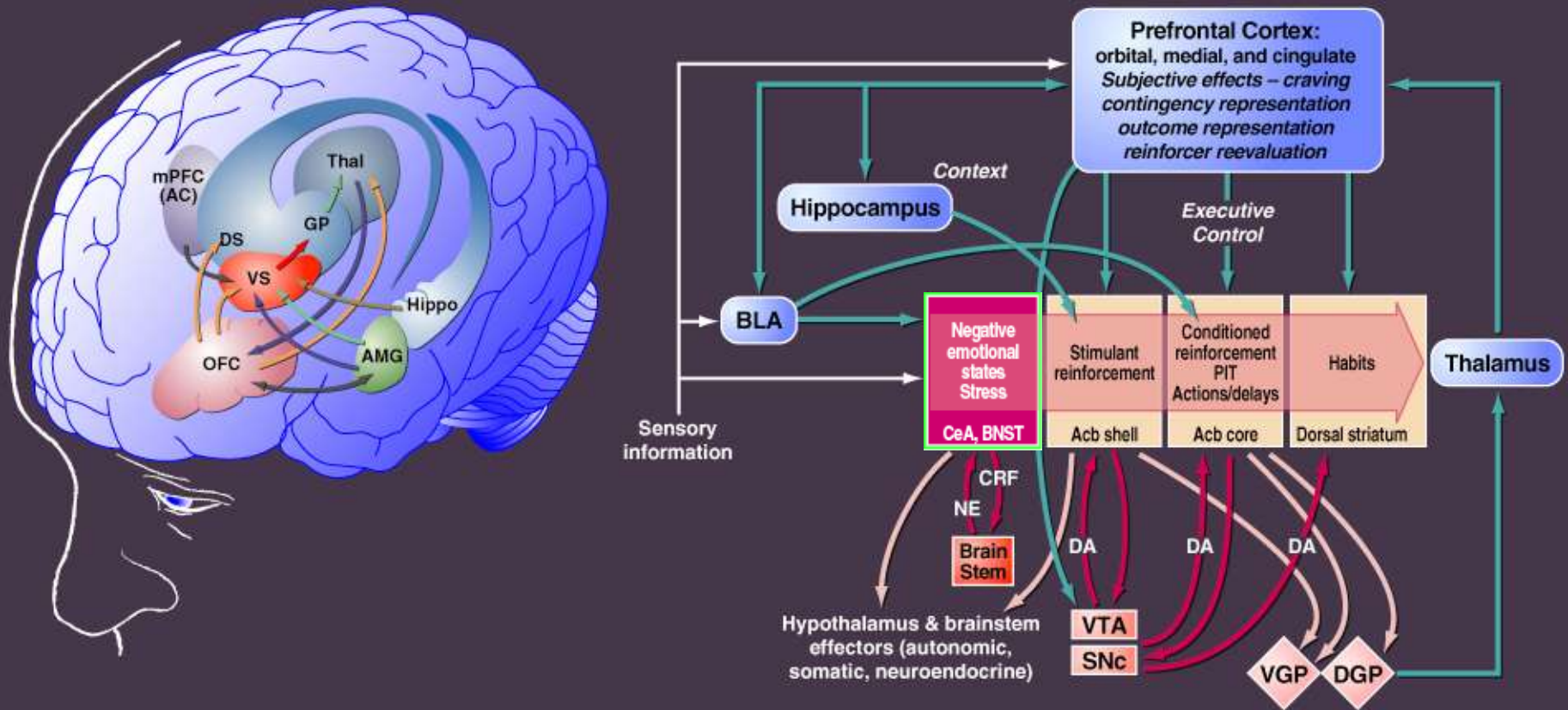
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- Cues associated with drugs become conditioned stimuli

# Key Elements of the Neurocircuitry of Addiction



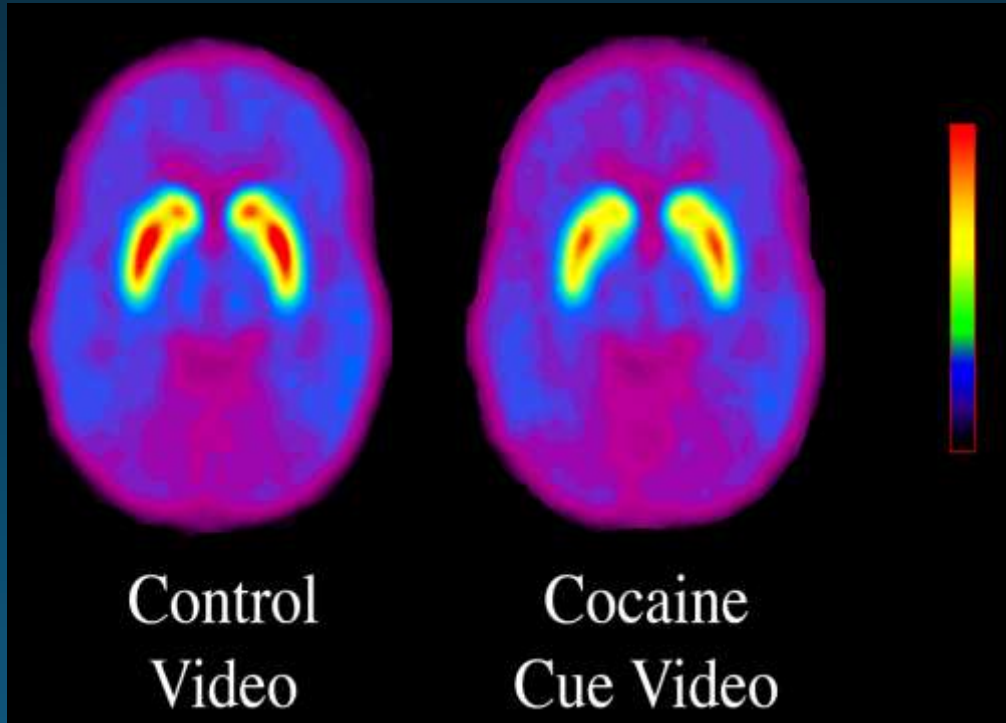
# Key Elements of the Neurocircuitry of Addiction



From: Koob G, Everitt, B and Robbins T, Reward, motivation and addiction. In: Fundamental Neuroscience, in press.

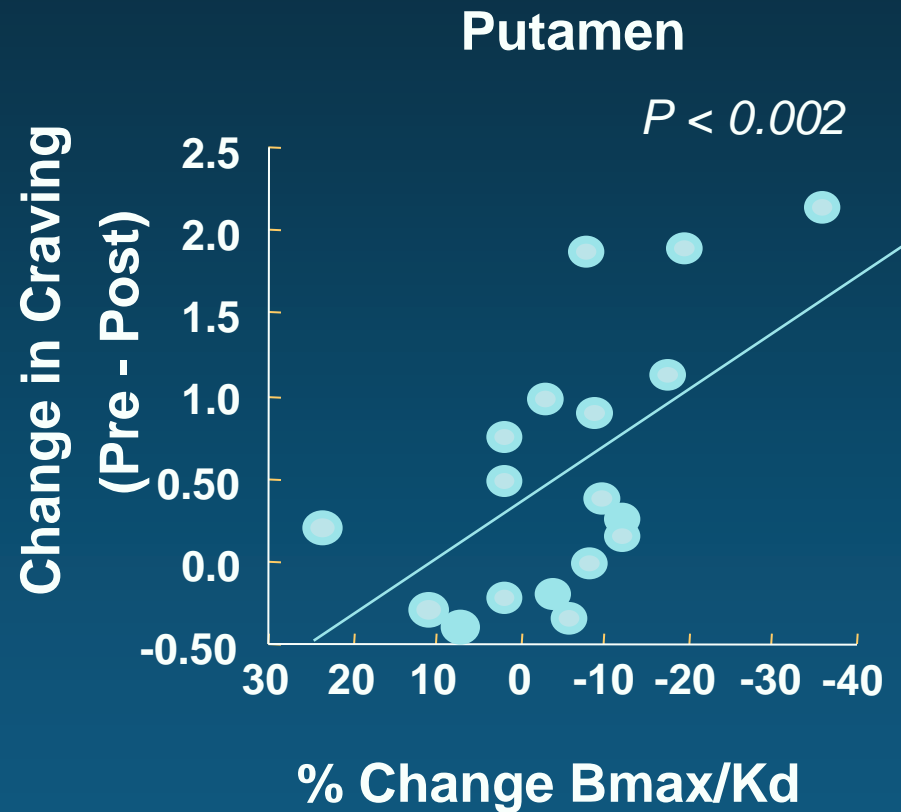
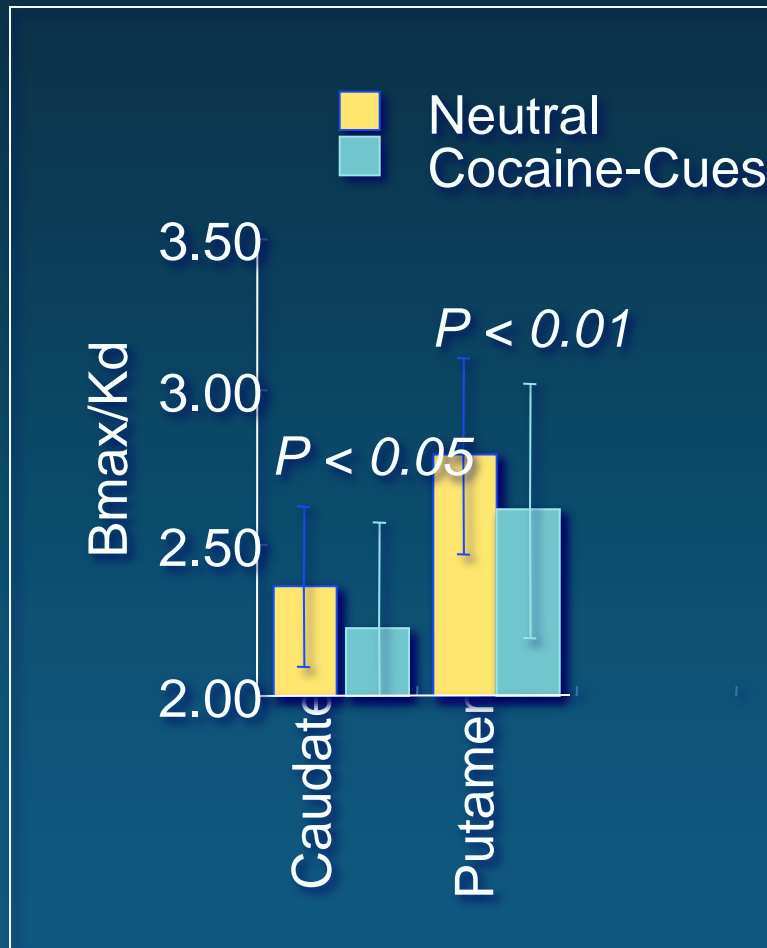


# [<sup>11</sup>C]Raclopride Binding In Cocaine Abusers (n=18) Viewing a Neutral and a Cocaine-Cue Video



*Viewing a video of cocaine scenes decreased specific binding of [<sup>11</sup>C]raclopride presumably from DA increases*  
Volkow et al J Neuroscience 2006

# Relationship between Cue-Induced Decreases in [11C]raclopride Binding and Cocaine Craving



Volkow et al J Neuroscience 2006

**Cue-induced increases in DA were associated with craving**

## “Unseen” Cue Paradigm



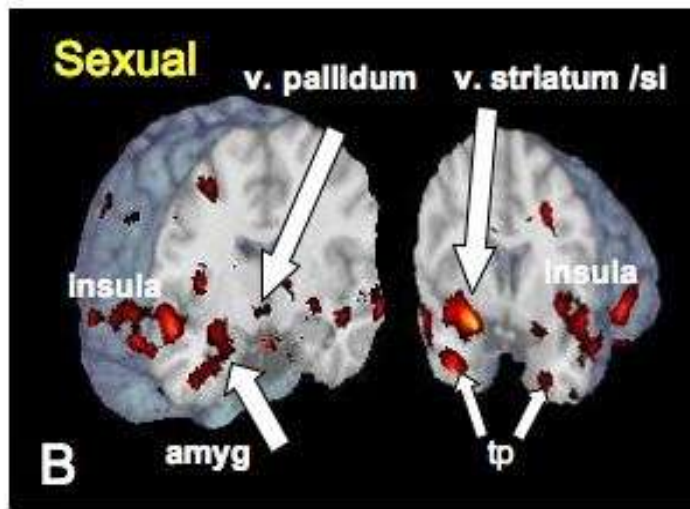
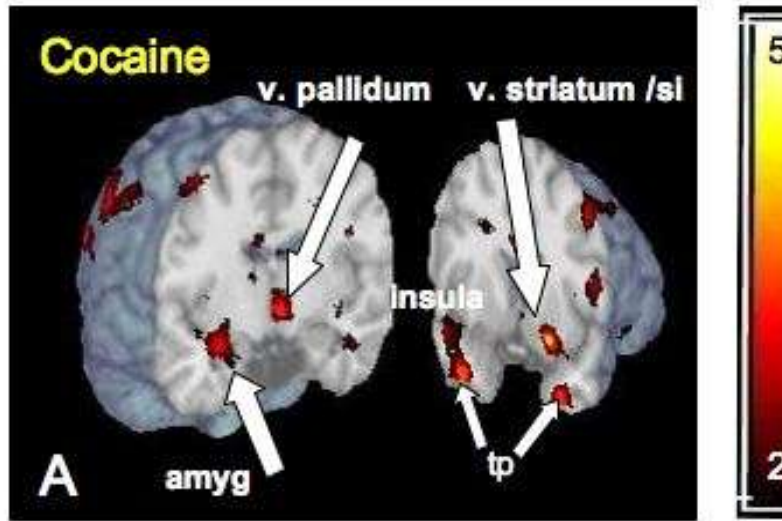
33 msec targets (24 per category) followed by 467 msec neutral “masking” stimuli

## “Unseen” Cue Paradigm

33 msec targets

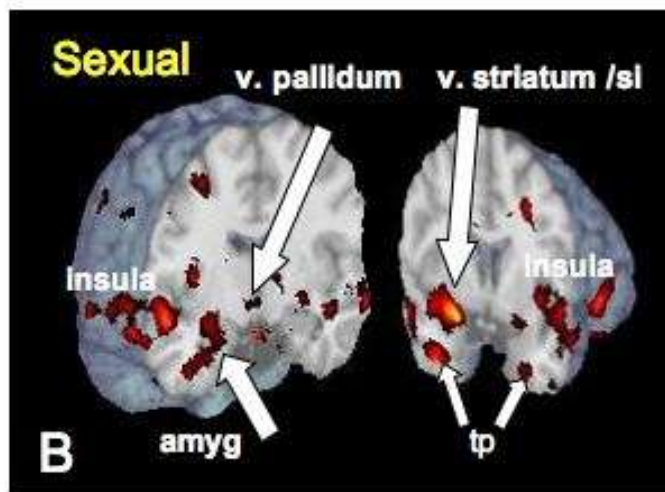
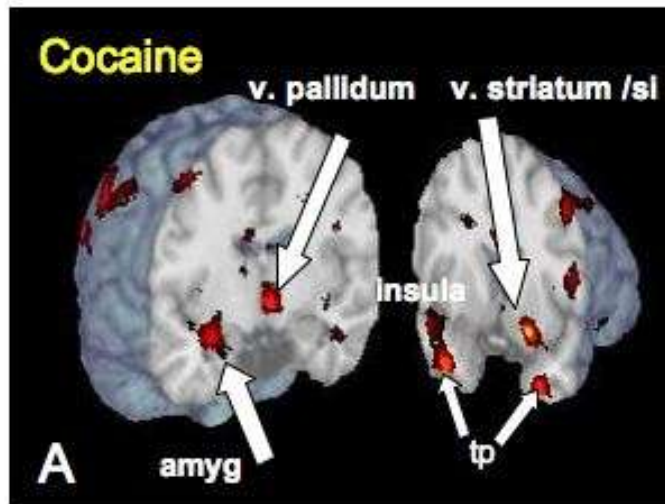
467 msec “masks”

# Activations

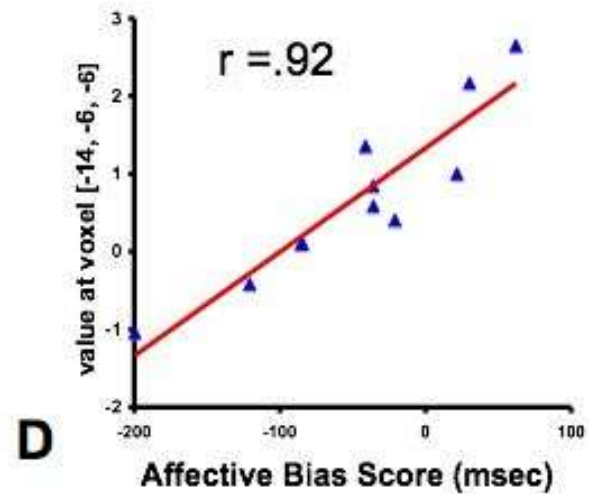
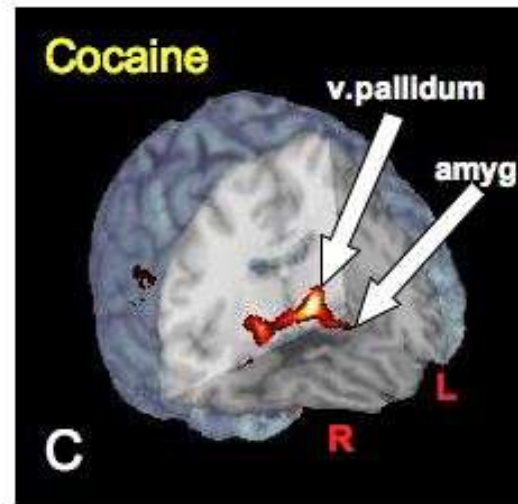


“Unseen”  
Reward  
Cues  
activate  
amygdala  
v. striatum  
v. pallidum  
Insula

## Activations



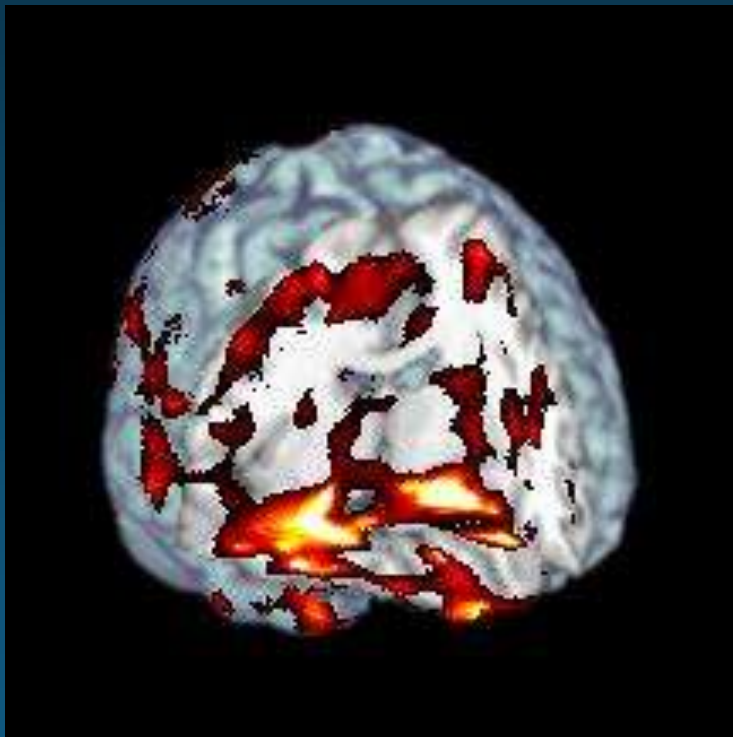
## Correlations



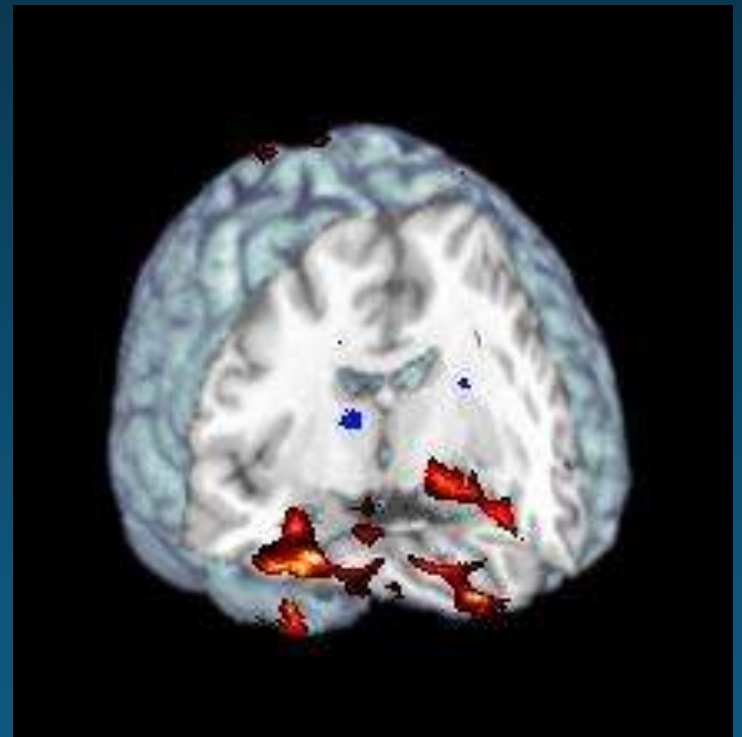
# Baclofen blunts Amygdala Connectivity during 500 msec “SEEN” Cocaine Cues

---

Placebo



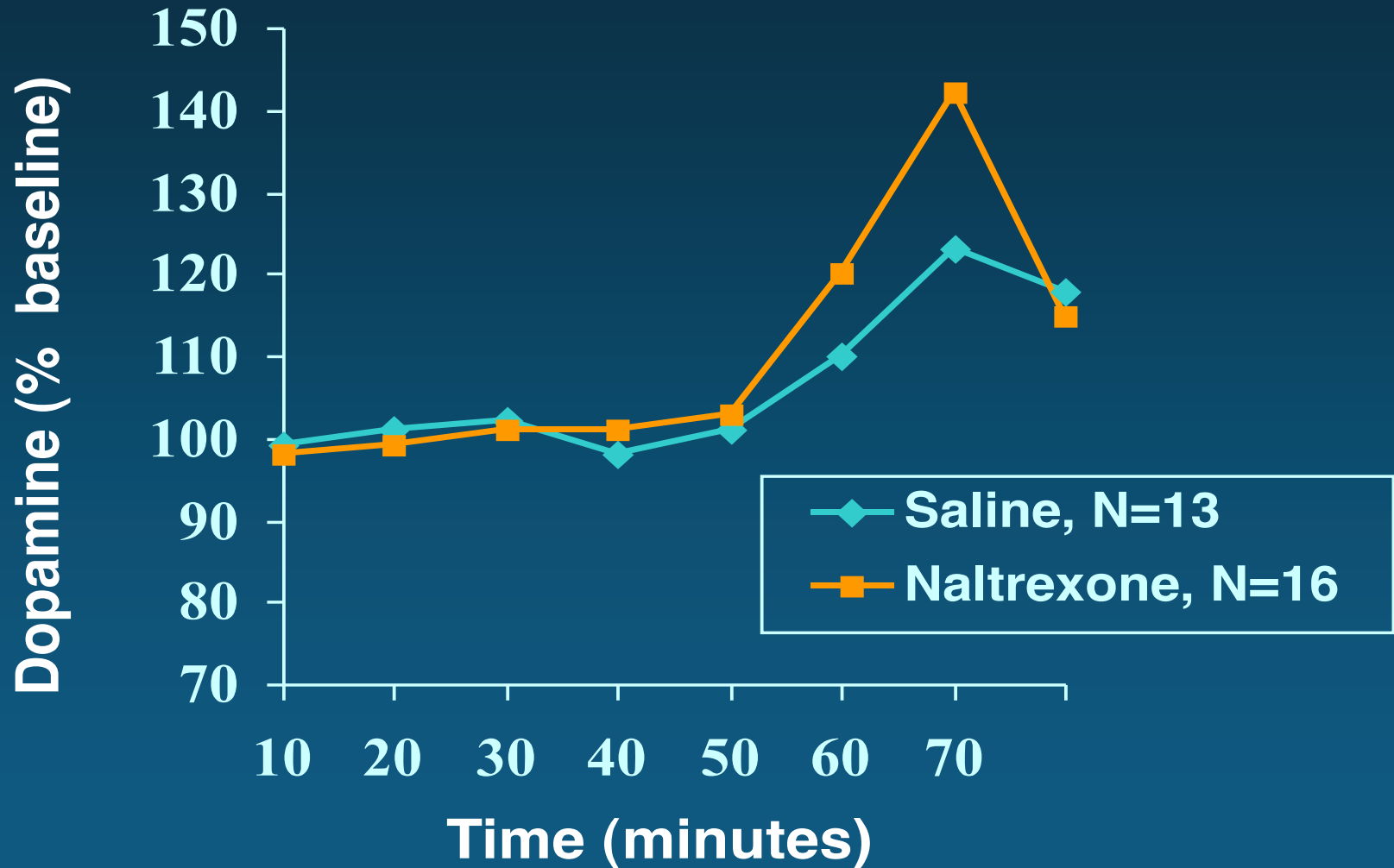
Baclofen



Second half of the task

[Drug 2; placebo n = 9; baclofen n = 10]

# Pre-Alcohol “Craving”



# What is Transducer?

---

- Alcohol releases Beta endorphin in
  - Plasma (pituitary)
  - Lymphocyte cultures (HIV infectivity blocked by naltrexone)
  - ? CNS



# Post-Docs

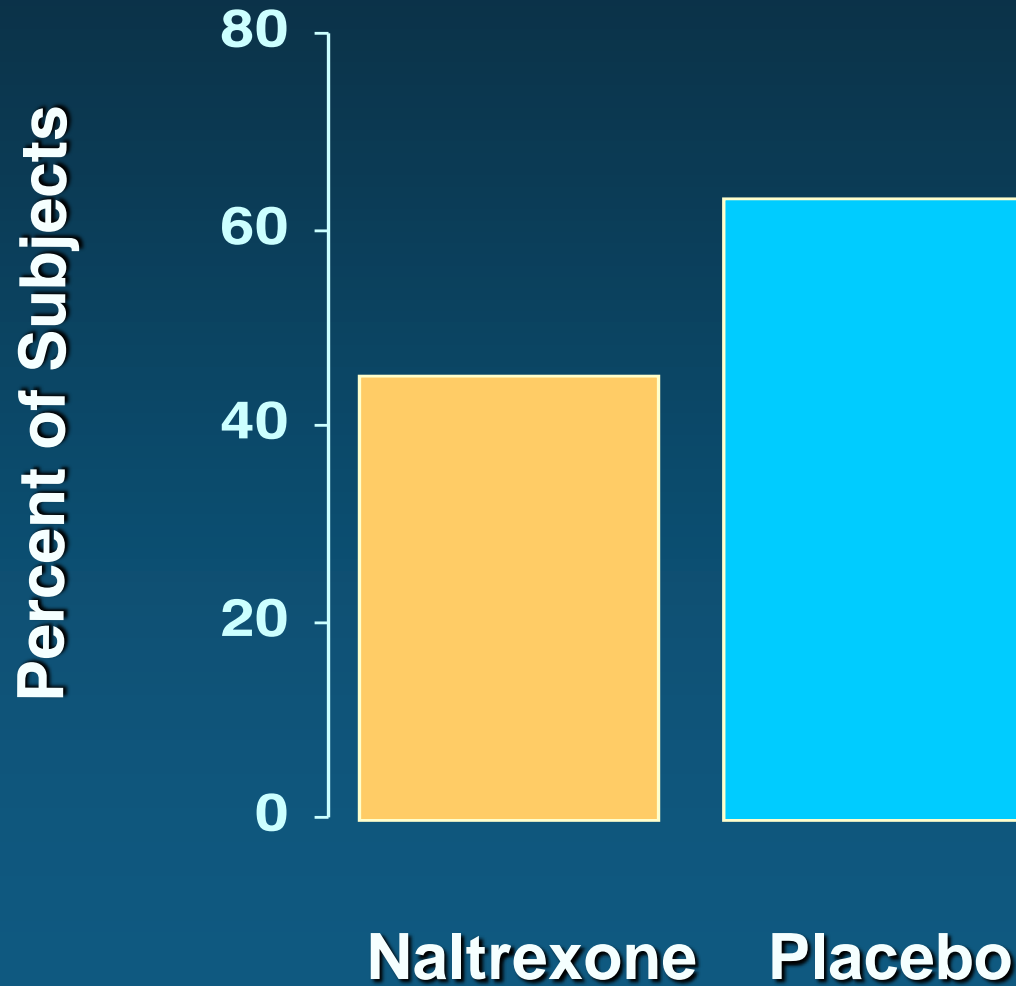
---

Tom Aronson, MD

✓ Joseph Volpicelli, MD, PhD

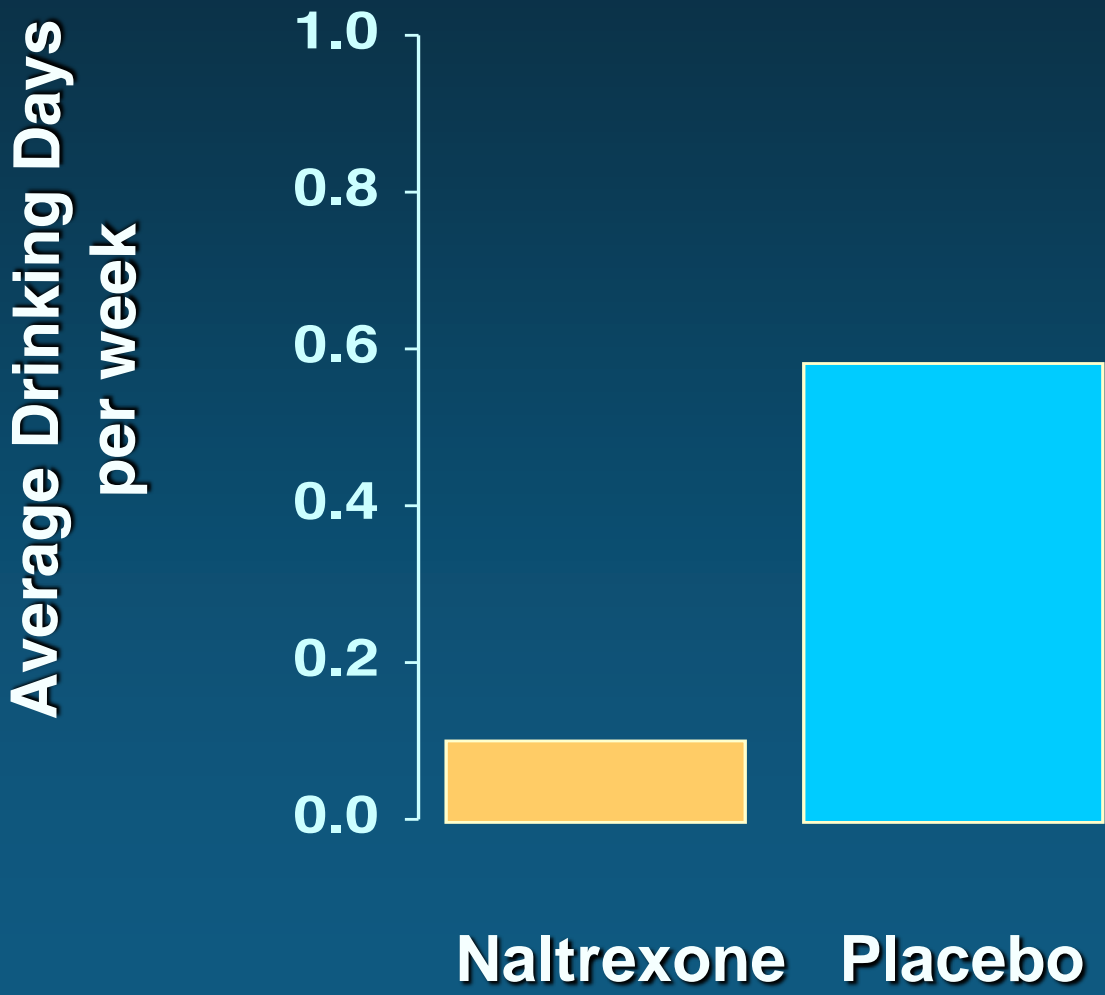
# Any Alcohol Drinking

---



# Days Drinking

---

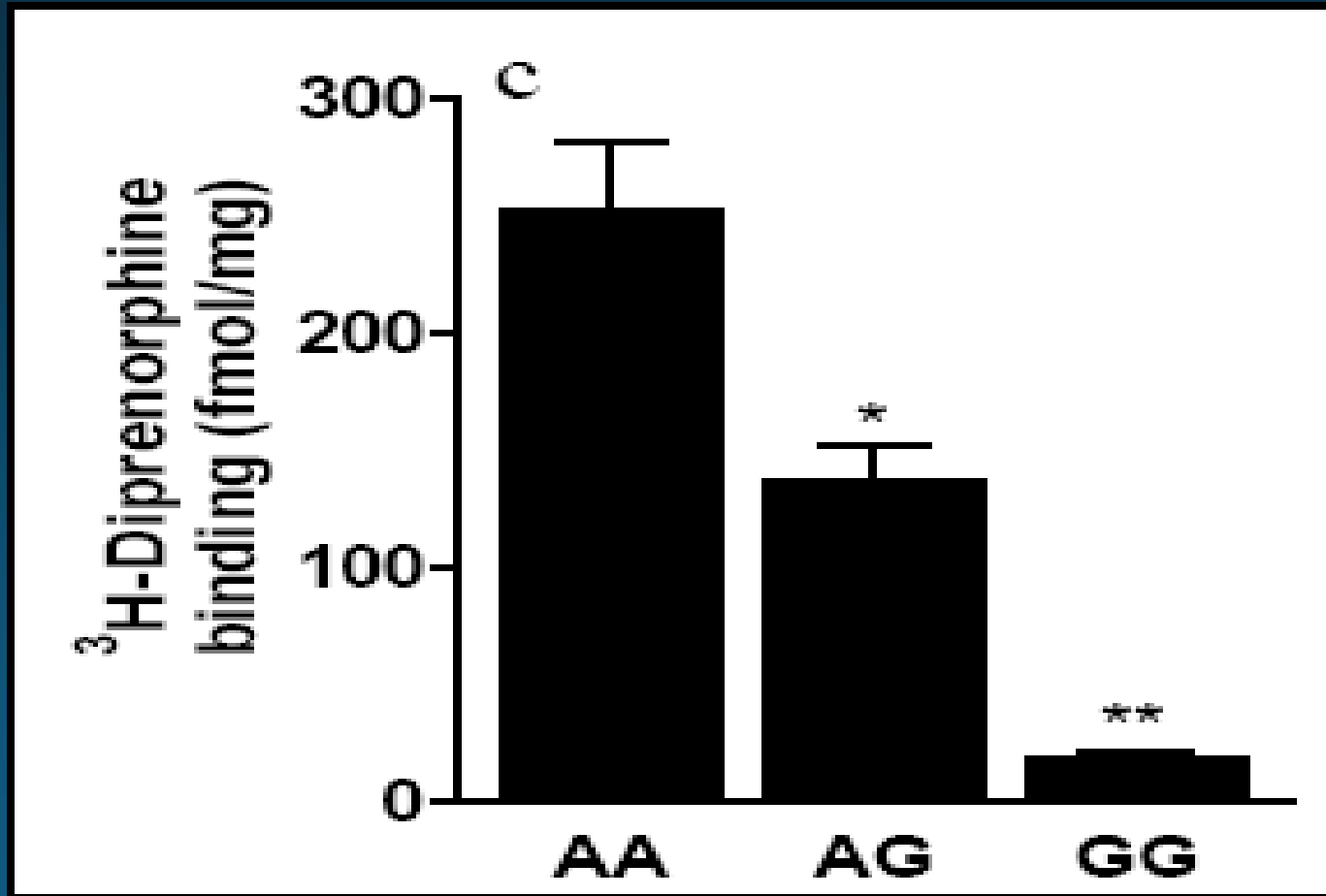


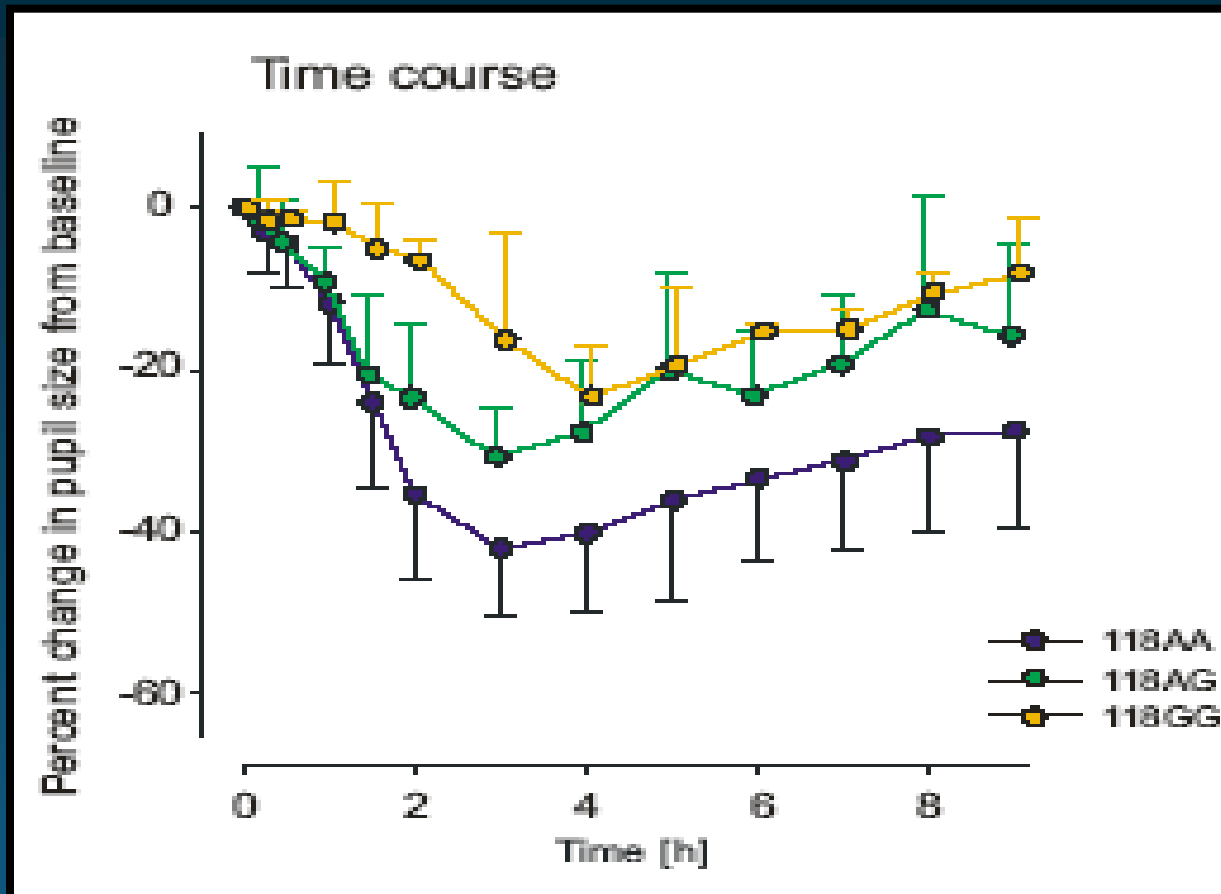
# Measures of Craving

---

- **100 mm Visual Analog Scale**
- **Anton's Obsessive Compulsive Drinking Scale**
- **Alcohol Urge Questionnaire**
- **Penn Alcohol Craving Scale**

# OPRM1 A118G EFFECT ON TRANSLATION





Lotsch et al, 2006

# Naltrexone Affinity at Opioid Receptor Subtypes

		Receptor Binding Ki (nM)		
		Mu	Delta	Kappa
<b>Antagonist:</b>				
Naltrexone		0.37	9.4	4.8
<b>Agonists:</b>				
Morphine (m )	38	510	1,900	
DADL-enke (d)	150	1.8	>10,000	
(-)-EKC (k)		2.3	5.2	2.2

Schmidt, W.K., et al., *Drug Alcohol Depend*, 1985;14:339-362.

# Receptor Blockade with Naltrexone (50mg)

Study	Naltrexone Dose	Time (hr)	Receptor Blockade (%)
Lee et al, 1988*	50 mg	48	91
		72	80
		120	48
		168	30

\* Lee, MC, et al *J Nuc Med*, 1988, 29(7) 1207-1211



# Receptor Blockade with Naltrexone in Alcoholics (50mg)

---

93% blockade of  $\mu$  receptors, 24 hours, all SS  
 $C^{11}$  carfentanil

Variable (22.8 +/- 12%) blockade of  $\delta$  receptors  
 $C^{11}$  N methyl naltrindole, 24 hrs.

\* McCaul et al 2004

# Alcohol Relapse

---

- A.** coming to treatment appointment with a blood alcohol concentration > 100 mg%
- or**
- B.** self report of drinking five or more days within one week
- or**
- C.** self report of five or more drinks during one drinking occasion

# *Possible Families of Risk Factors*

- Level of response (LR)
- P3/disinhibition/ASPD/type 2/B
- Independent axis II disorders
- Endogenous Opioid System
- Alcohol metabolizing enzymes

# Alcohol reward

---

**Sedating drug, facilitates GABAergic  
meds, no specific receptor**

**“dirty” drug- affects numerous  
receptor systems, directly or  
indirectly**

# Variable response to alcohol

## Alcohol seeking

10 of 22 Rhesus (Altshuler)

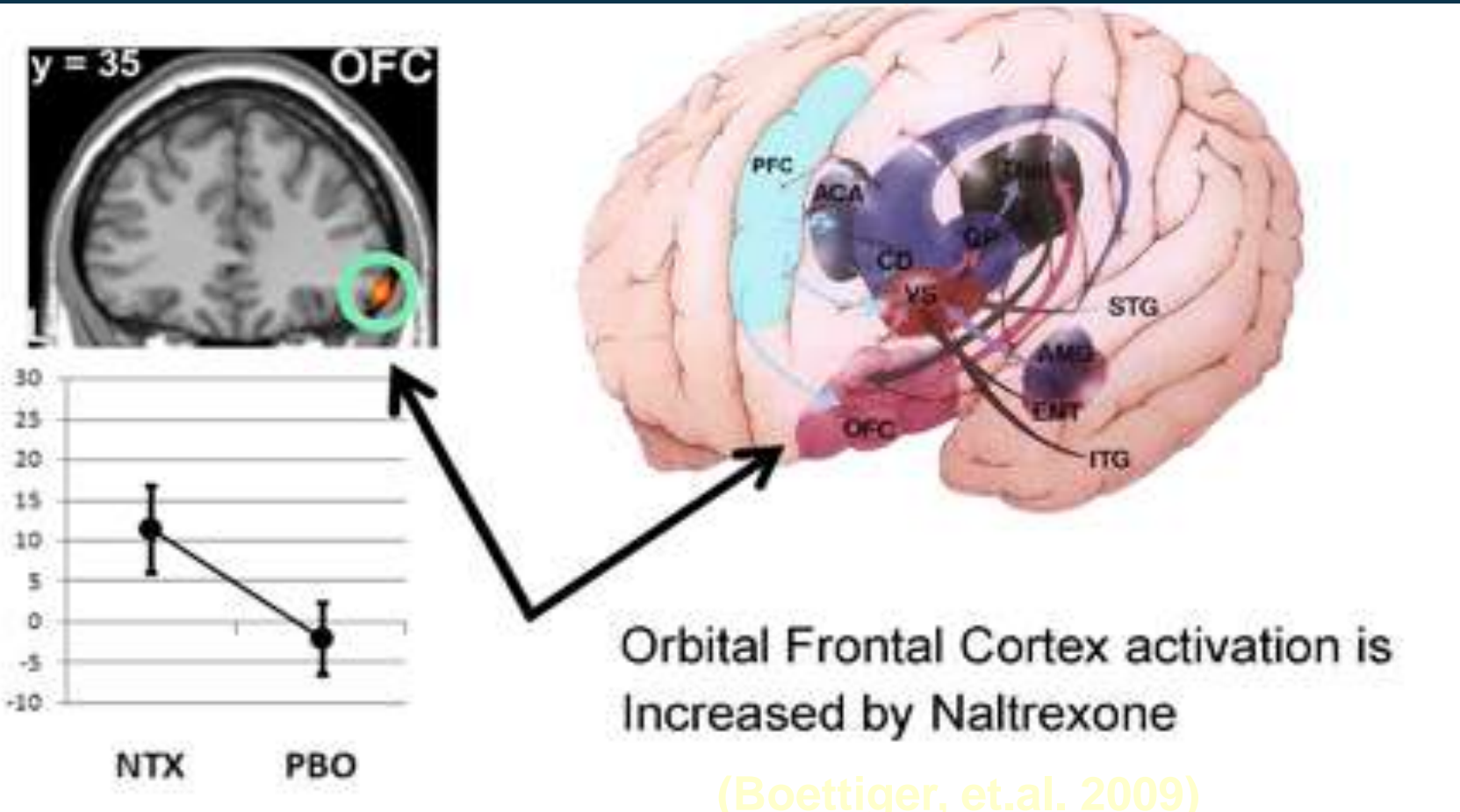
15% Vervets

10-15% *H. sapiens*

Less variable in rodents

$\mu$  receptor knock outs will not self administer alcohol

# *Addiction Therapy may be related to activation of Frontal Cortex*



Orbital Frontal Cortex activation is Increased by Naltrexone

(Boettiger, et.al. 2009)

(Crews and Boettiger et.al. 2009)

# Alcohol - gene associations

---

genome scans - Phenotype association

Genotype - Behavior, (DSM IV)  
1940s categories  
- Endophenotype –  
biological-

alcohol  
response, imaging

**Propose an RCI of an opiate antagonist in human alcoholics because of animal data ??**

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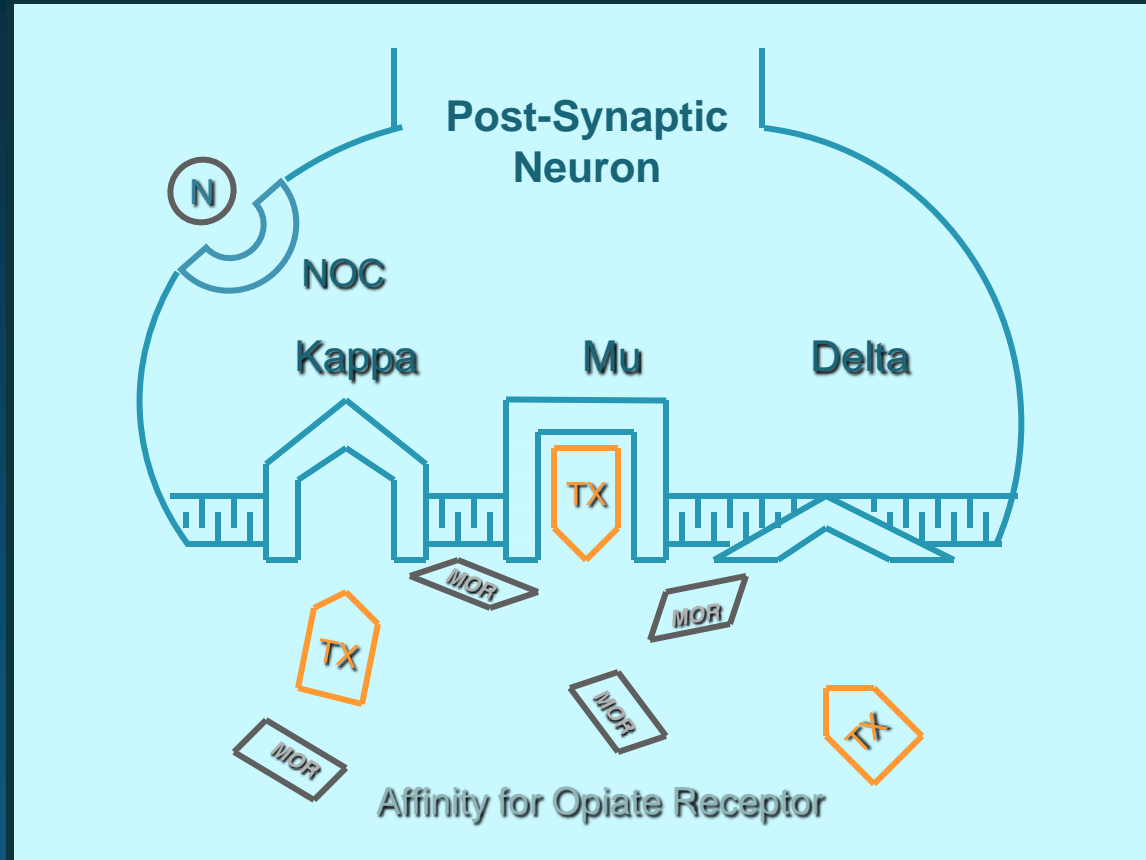
**IND 1983**

**Begin open studies  
50 mg dose based on  
experience with heroin**

**Philadelphia VA Hospital**



# Opiate Receptors



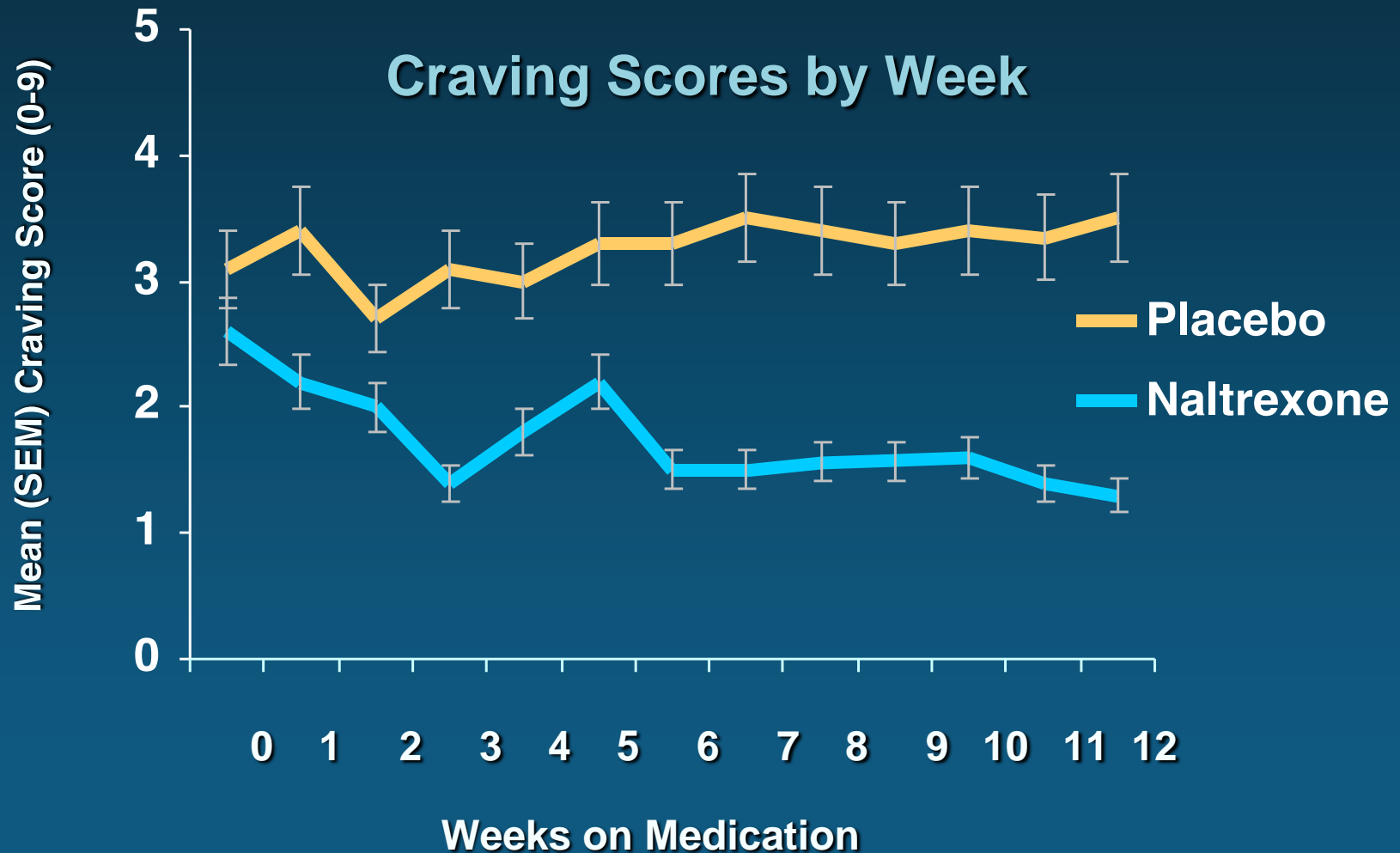
	<u>Kappa</u>	<u>Mu</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Naltrexone	406	108	54
Morphine	1	1	1

# Double blind design

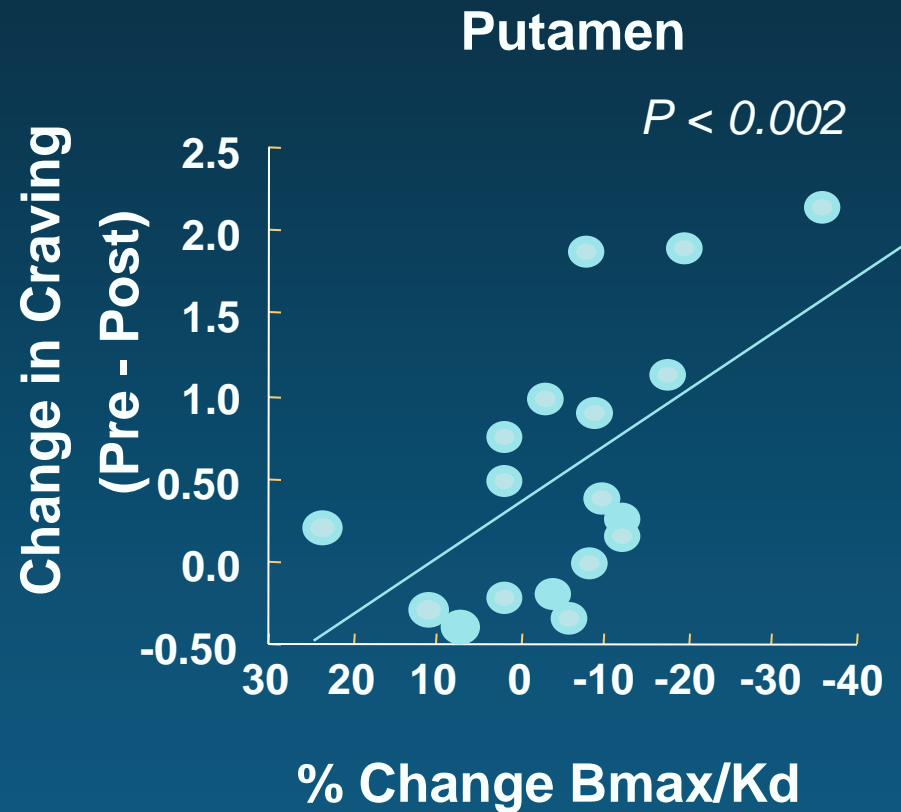
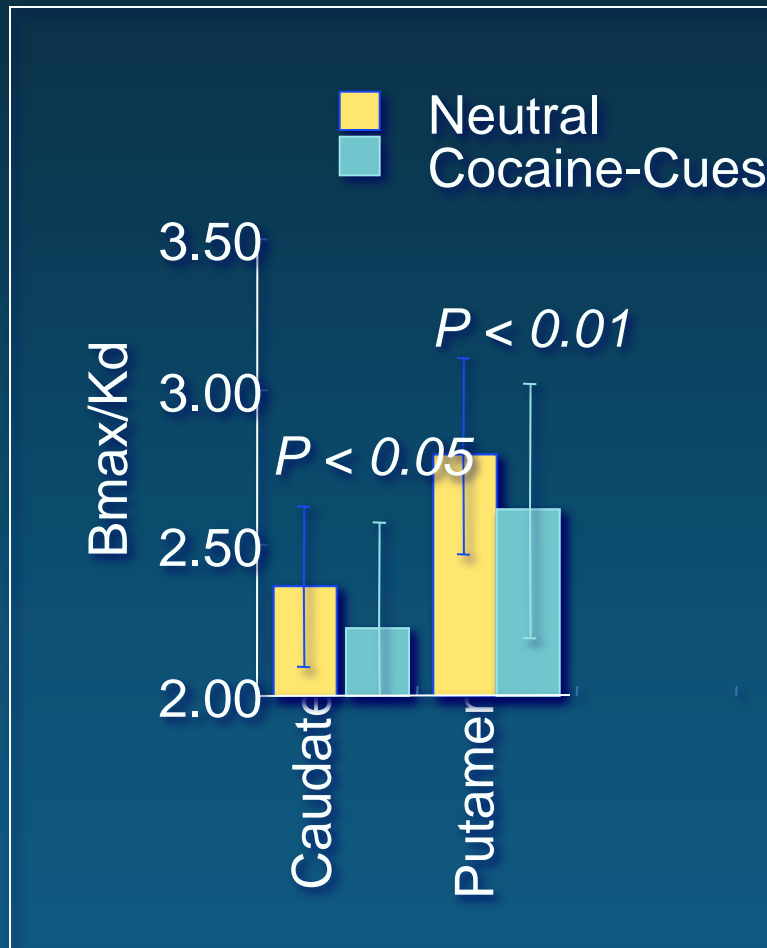
---

- 70 chronic alcoholics
- All received intensive day hospital, AA, psychotherapy
- Half received Naltrexone 50 mg/day
- Half received identical placebo
- Weekly craving scores
- “slips” measured (not a relapse)
- Relapse defined

# Pharmacological Treatments for Alcoholism



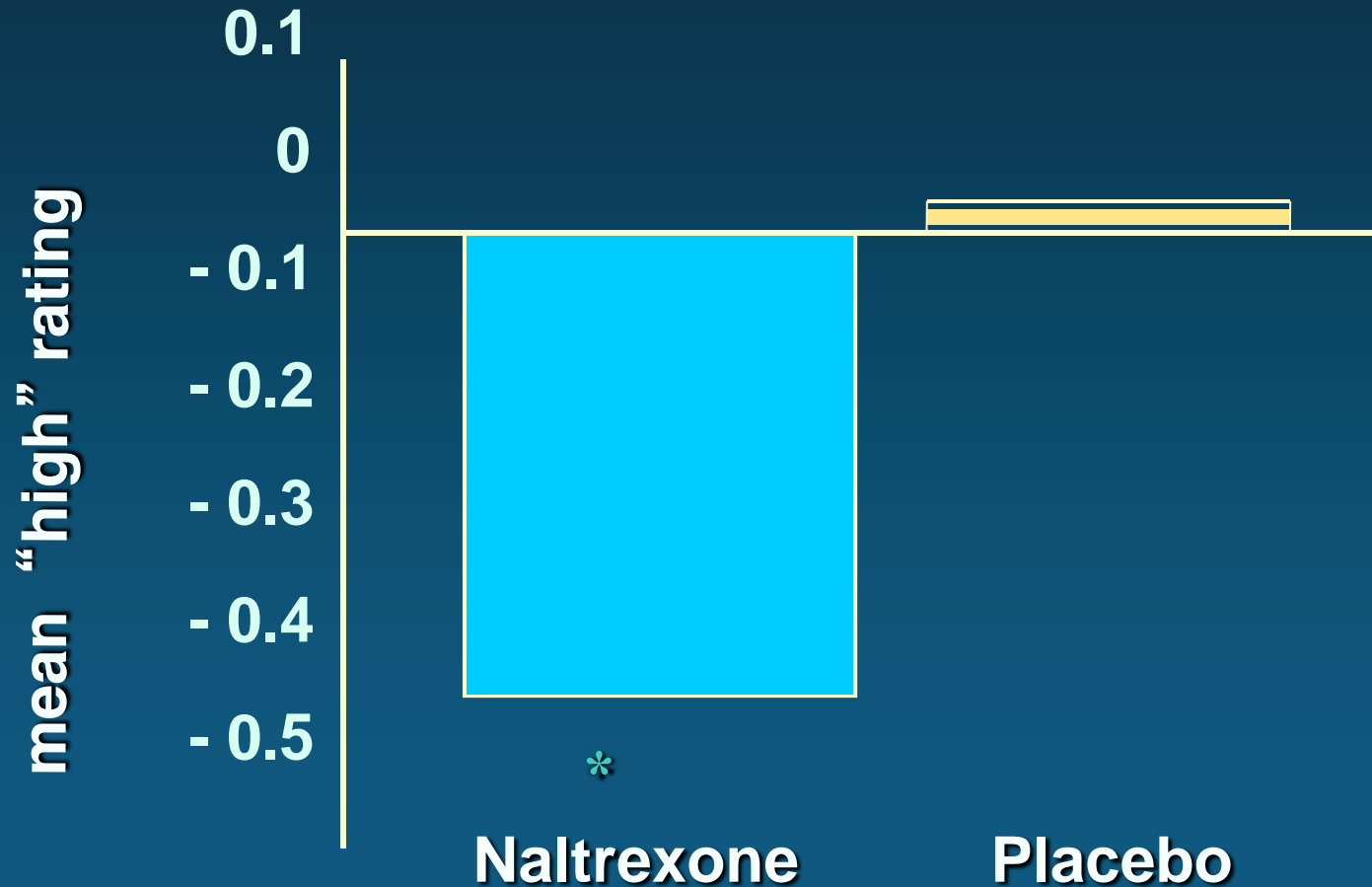
# Relationship between Cue-Induced Decreases in [11C]raclopride Binding and Cocaine Craving



Volkow et al J Neuroscience 2006

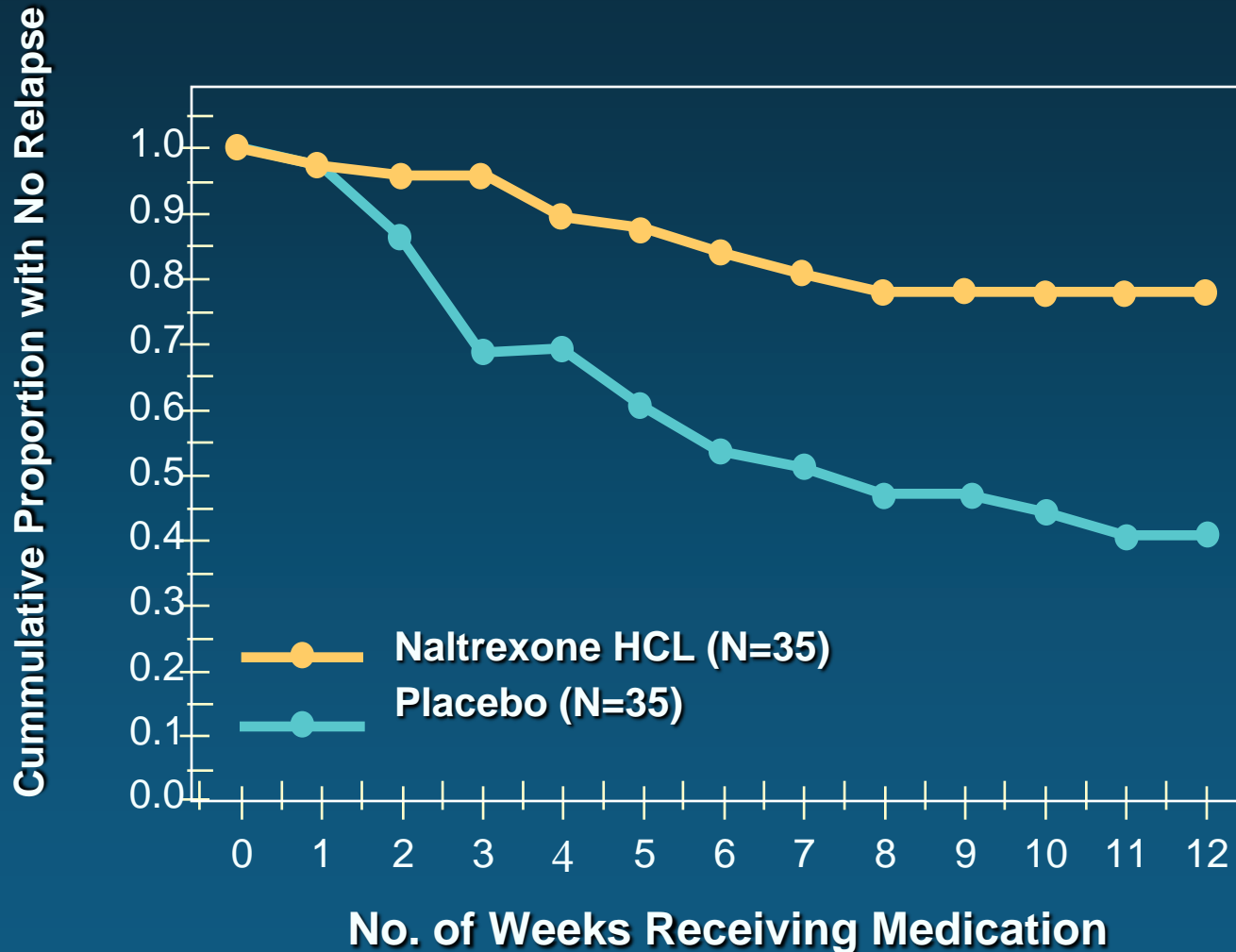
Cue-induced increases in DA were associated with craving

# Subjective “high” in Naltrexone and Placebo Subjects

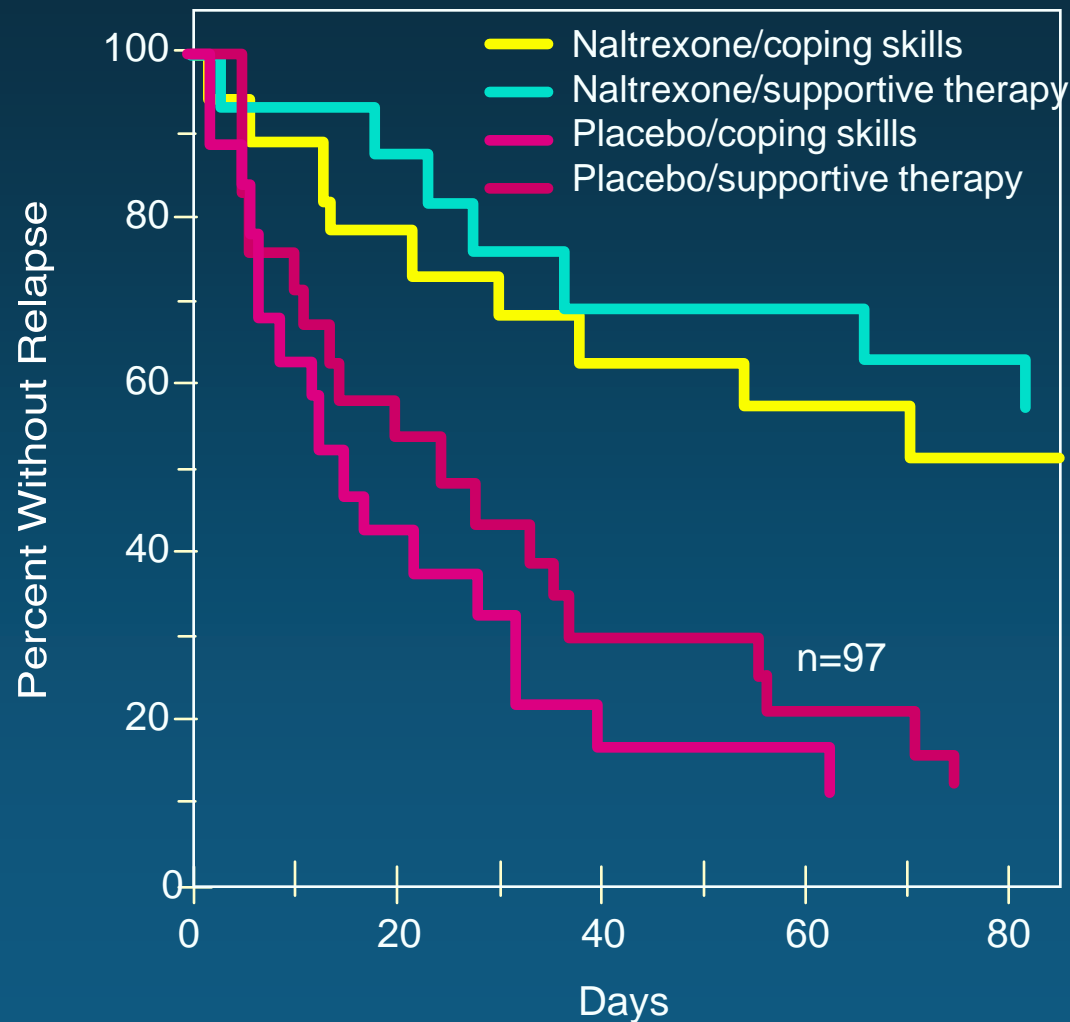


\* p < .05

# Non-relapse “Survival”



# Rates of Never Relapsing According to Treatment Group (n=97)



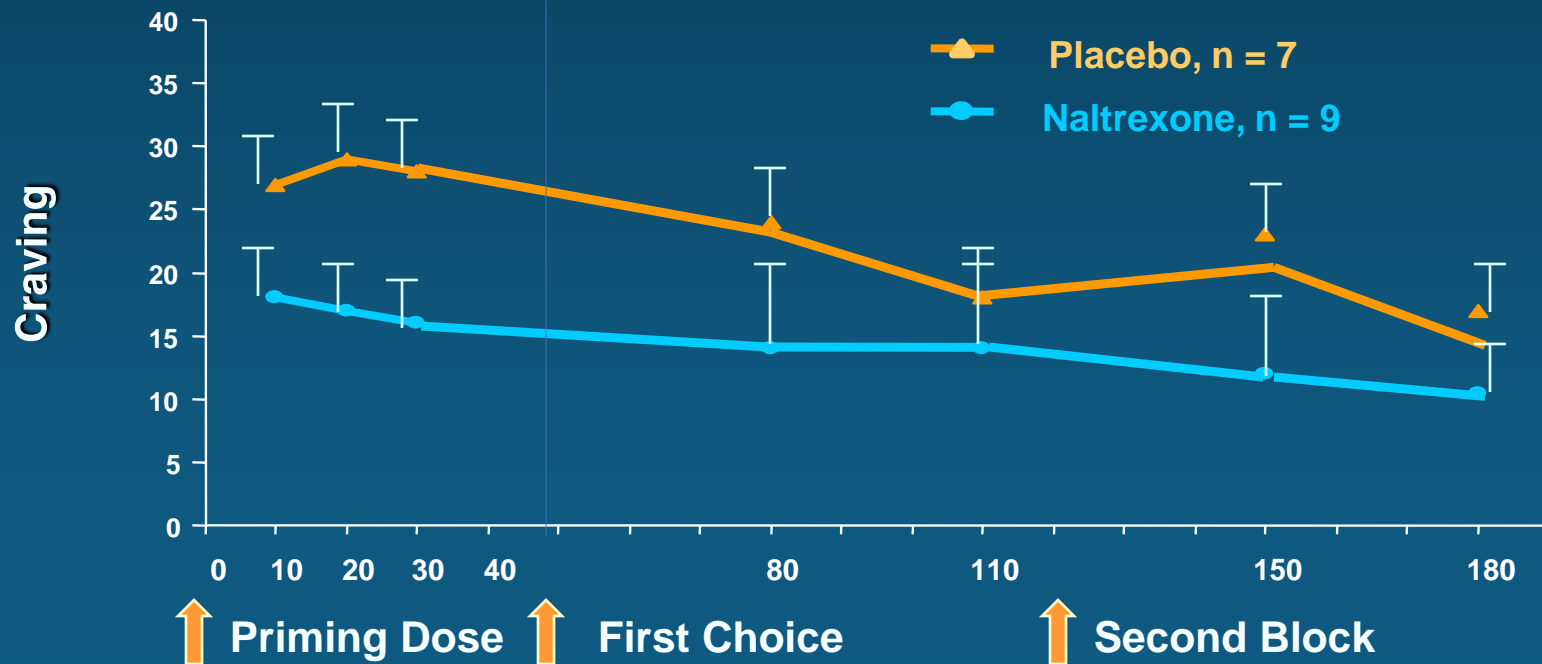
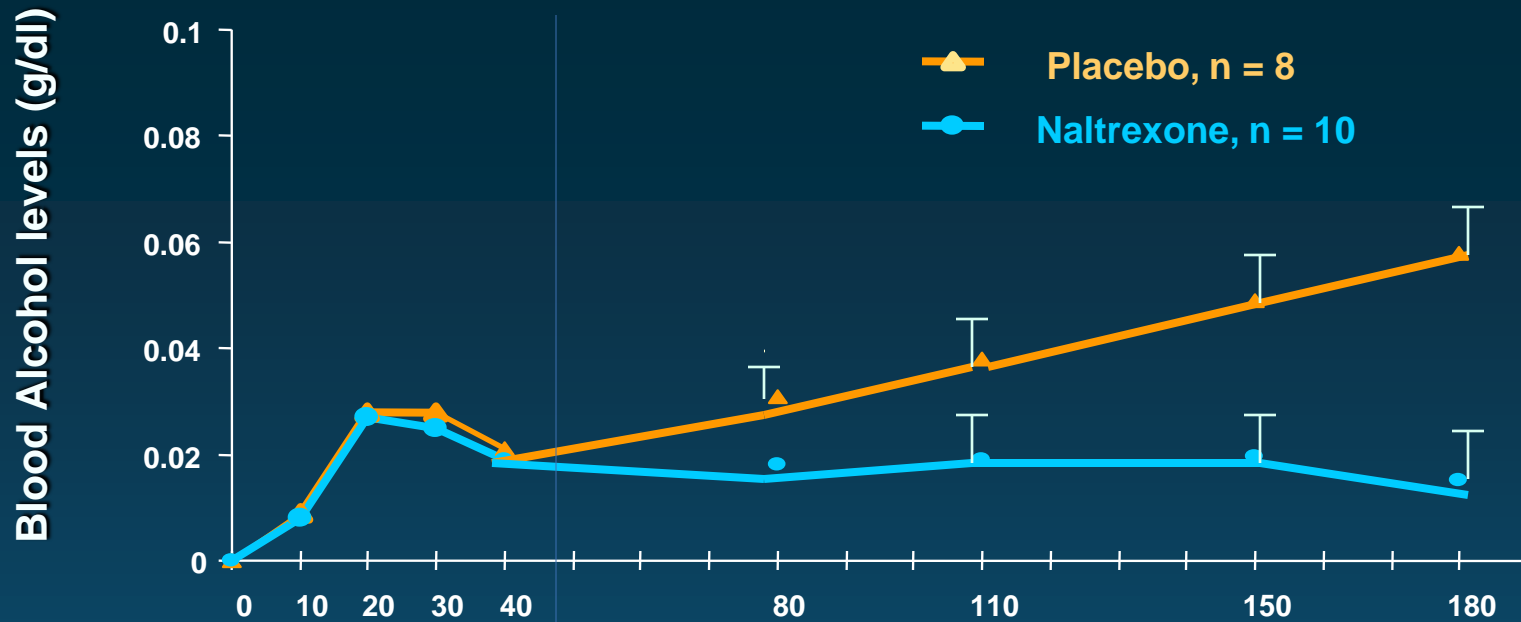
# Alcohol “PRIMING” in human, non-treatment seeking Alcoholics

---

O' Malley et al

From the animal laboratory back to  
the clinic





# Possible mechanisms of naltrexone effects

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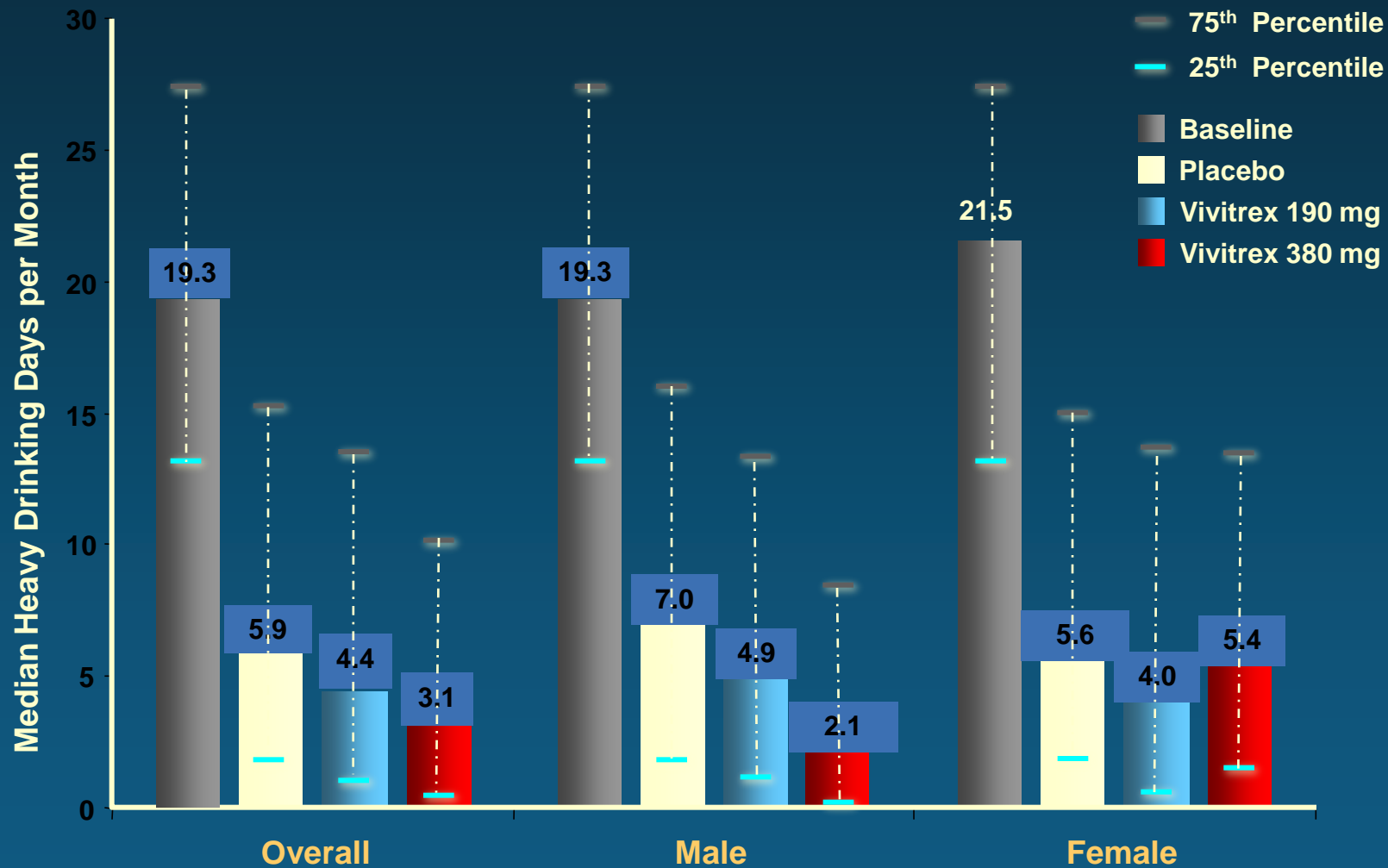
- 1. Block reward via endogenous opioid system**
  - alcohol activates E.O.
  - Extinction of alcohol self-administration
- 2. Reduction in craving**
  - does not require extinction
  - some treated alcoholics do not test by drinking
- 3. Direct effect of naltrexone on frontal executive fx**
  - Inc activity in r.lat.orbital gyrus during decision making (delay of reward) & decreased selection of immediate reward. (Boettiger et al 2009)

Studies supporting efficacy			Studies not supporting efficacy		
Study	# Ss	Notes	Study	# Ss	Notes
Volpicelli, et al 1992	70	None	Kranzler, et al 1999	183	None
O' Malley, et al 1992	97	None	Krystal, et al 2002	627	None
Mason, et al 1994 [Nalmefene]	21	None			
Oslin, et al 1997	44	Elderly			
Volpicelli, et al 1997	97	None			
Mason, et al 1999 [Nalmefene]	105	None			
Kranzler, et al 1998	20	Depot			
Anton, et al 2000	131	None			
Chick, et al 2000 (UK)	169	Adherence			
Monterosso, et al 2001	183	None			
Morris, et al 2001 (Australia)	111	None			
Heinala, et al 2001 (Finland)	121	Nonabstine nt			
Lee, et al 2001 (Singapore)	53	None			
Kiefer et al 2003 (Germany)	160	None			

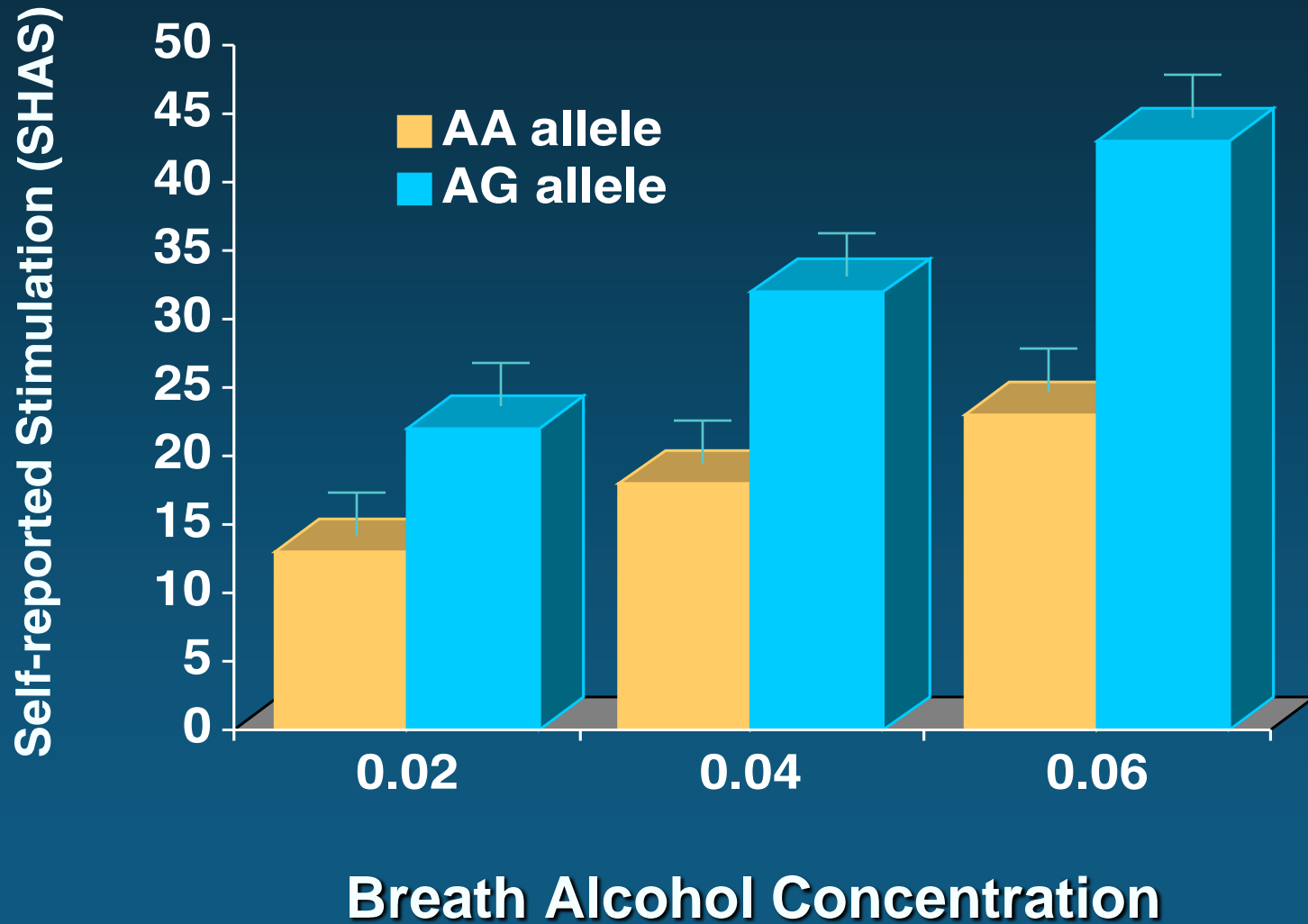
**Studies supporting efficacy****Studies not supporting efficacy**

<b>Study</b>	<b># Ss</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Study</b>	<b># Ss</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Latt et al 2002	107	Family Prac			
Balldin et al 2003	118	None			
Feeney et al 2001	50	Hist. cont			
Rubio et al 2001	157	v. Acamp.			
Rubio et al 2002	30	Cont. Drink.			
Gastpar et al 2002	105	Neg. in self report Pos. GGT	Gastpar et al 2002	105	Neg. in self report Pos. GGT
Guardia et al 2002	202	Relapse			
Kranzler et al 2003	153	Heavy drinkers			
O' Malley et al 2002	18	Human lab			
Anton et al 2006	1383	RCT, depot			

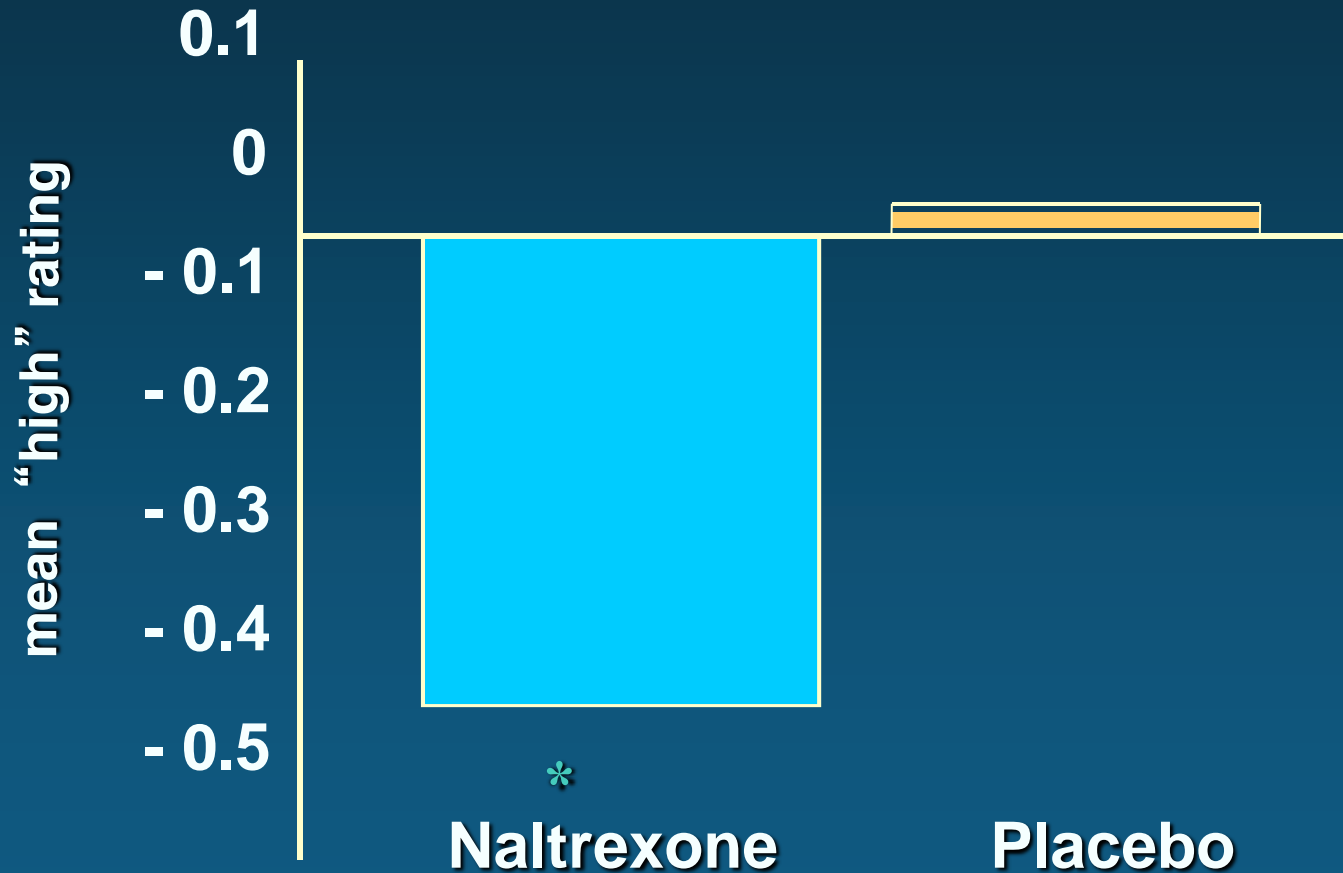
# Results: Heavy Drinking Days



# Alcohol effects by genotype



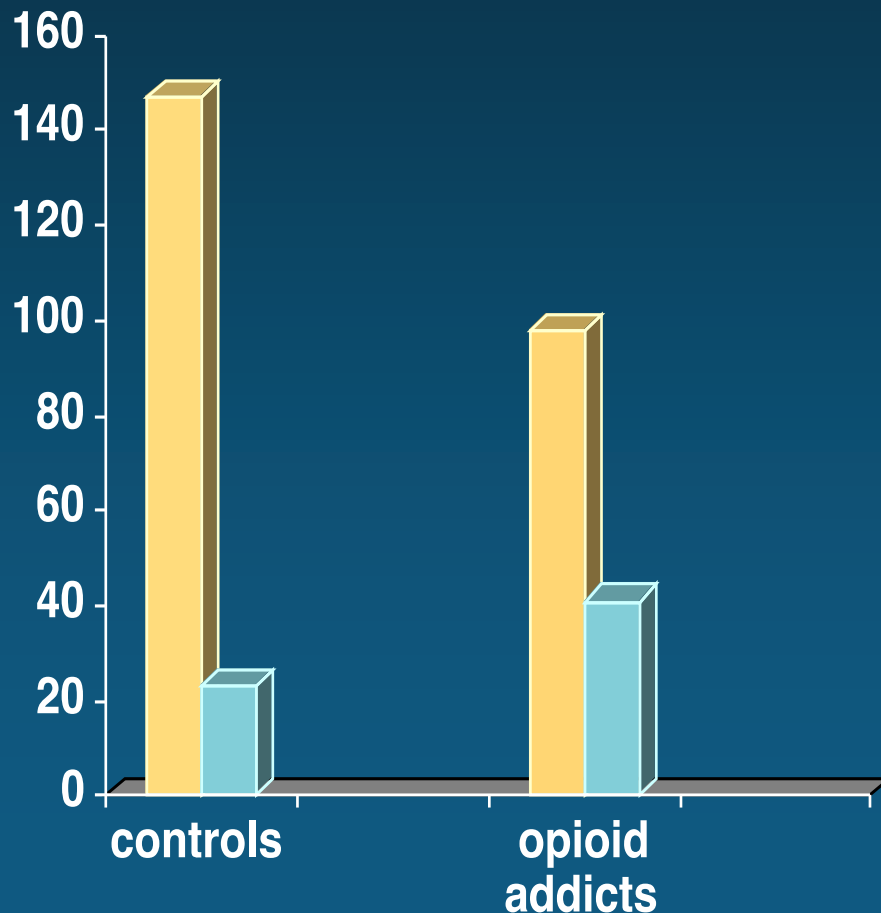
# Subjective “high” in Naltrexone and Placebo Subjects



\* p<.05

# OPRM1 A118G and Opioid Dependence

Bart et al (Mol Psychiatry 9:547, 2004) studied opioid addicts in Sweden for A118G.



There was a significant (Chi squared = 13,  $p = 0.00025$ ) increase in A/G, G/G genotype among opioid addicts.

The attributable risk for the G allele is ~ 18%, suggesting that ~ 18% of Swedish opioid addicts have disease in part due to the G allele.



# Genetic Variables

Risk	Increase	Decrease
Low LR	+	
High LR		-
ASP	+	
ALDH2		-
G-Allele- $\mu$ op. (Stimulation)	+	
Environment	+	-