

## PharmTox Fights COVID-19 Week of July 13-17, 2020

### Dr. Basnakian Submits R01

Professor, Alexei Basnakian submitted a new R01 application in response to PAR-19-294: Early-Stage Preclinical Validation of Therapeutic Leads for Diseases of Interest for NIH/NIDDK. The proposal titled "Novel Anti-DNA Damage Strategy for Prevention of Ischemic Kidney Injury", makes use of one of the DNase inhibitors recently discovered by Dr. Basnakian's team, which shows promising results in protecting against acute kidney injury. Co-investigators in the application are assistant professor, Nirmala Parajuli, and professor and chief of the Division of Nephrology, John Arthur.



### Dr. Berquist is First Author on Accepted Manuscript



Assistant professor, Michael Berquist, is first author on a publication accepted by the journal, Drug and Alcohol Dependence. The article titled "Effect of bile duct ligation-induced liver dysfunction on methamphetamine pharmacokinetics in male and female rats," also includes assistant professor, Mitchell McGill, who has a secondary appointment in the department. Other faculty are Drs. Anna Mazur, David Findley, Greg Gorman, Cynthia Jones, and department alumnus Dr. Michael Hambuchen, who is an assistant professor at Marshall University School of Pharmacy in West Virginia.

### Health Screener Recognition

Professor Alexei Basnakia, assistant professor Lisa Brents, and research technician Kelly Ball are recent volunteers at the health screening station at the entrance to the Cancer Institute. Dr. Basnakian shared a picture of himself in his personal protective gear, ready to take temperatures of employees and patients.

There still are volunteer shifts left in July. [Click here](#) to see available shifts.



### Stocked and Reddie

Stocked and Reddie, the UAMS food pantry, is looking for volunteers and donations of food and money. You can go to their [website](#) to give online.

### Statewide Mask Mandate

The statewide mask mandate goes into effect on Monday, July 20. It is important that faculty, staff and students model good masking, hand hygiene and practice social distancing behaviors both at work and in the community.

