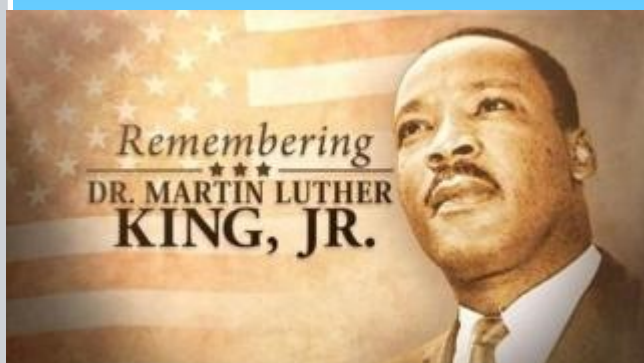


PharmTox Fights COVID-19

Week of January 11-15, 2021

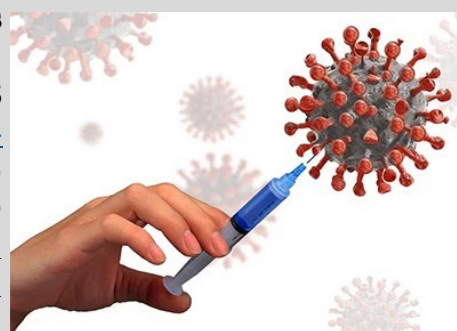


UAMS Holiday Reminder

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January 18, 2021

Covid-19 Vaccines Available to All Employees!

Effective Tuesday, January 19th, the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine is available to ALL UAMS employees! Vaccines are being administered in room G137 on the ground floor of EDII from 7 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday. Please complete [this acknowledgment form](#) (similar to the one you complete for UAMS flu shots) prior to getting your shot. You will need to bring your UAMS ID badge with you when you receive the vaccination. Keep in mind that you will need a second dose 21 days after your first one in order to receive the full protection offered by the vaccine.



Accepted Manuscript (Drs. Berquist and Fantegrossi)



Associate professor William Fantegrossi and assistant professor Michael Berquist recently had a paper accepted for publication in *Behavioural Pharmacology*. "Effects of 5-HT_{2A} receptor agonist 2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodoamphetamine (DOI) on alcohol consumption in Long-Evans rats" is Dr. Berquist's first manuscript as corresponding author. The objectives of this study were to determine alcohol consumption after administration of the serotonin 5-HT_{2A} receptor agonist DOI or naltrexone in

Long-Evans rats, and to assess the effectiveness of these treatments based on individual differences in alcohol consumption. Drs. Fantegrossi and Berquist are the first to report that administration of DOI reduces alcohol intake and preference in Long-Evans rats, particularly in those rats with an initially high baseline level of alcohol intake.

Accepted Manuscript (Dr. Shengyu Mu Lab)

The laboratory of assistant professor Shengyu Mu has a manuscript newly accepted by *Frontiers Pharmacology*. "Eplerenone attenuates fibrosis in the contralateral kidney of rats with unilateral ureter obstruction (UUO) by preventing macrophage-to-myofibroblast transition" features Dr. Mu as senior author as well as staff scientist Yunmeng Liu, and previous lab member Yunzhao Xiong. The study reports that in long term-UUO, blocking the mineralocorticoid receptor protects the contralateral kidney by limiting macrophage-infiltration and preventing the macrophage-to-myofibroblast transition process of renal infiltrated macrophages. The results suggest it may be beneficial to give an MR blocker to patients with obstructive kidney disease to protect the contralateral kidney from injury and fibrosis.



Contact at Charles River Laboratories

For faculty working with rodent models from Charles River Laboratories, Patricia Sikes is a Senior Account Manager and the 'go to' person for Charles River. Several faculty at UAMS, including Dr. Michael Berquist, have reached out to Pat for advice on rodent breeding procedures, maintaining catheter patency for intravenous self-administration studies, cost estimates for services from Charles River (e.g., biotelemetry implantations), and animal welfare concerns. Per Dr. Berquist, she is always quick to respond and can provide expert advice and valuable resources. Her contact information is Patricia.Sikes@crl.com.