

PharmTox Fights COVID-19

Week of February 1-5, 2021

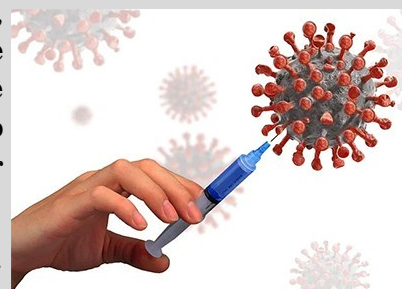
Accepted Publication (Dr. Hui-Ming Chang)



Professor Hui-Ming Chang is author of a publication accepted by Cardiovascular Research. “Impaired Kv7 channel activity in the central amygdala contributes to elevated sympathetic outflow in hypertension” is co-authored by Dr. Chang’s collaborators in the Center for Precision Medicine at the University of Missouri. Elevated sympathetic outflow is associated with primary hypertension. However, the mechanisms involved in heightened sympathetic outflow during hypertension are unclear. The central amygdala (CeA) regulates autonomic components of emotions through projections to the brainstem. The neuronal Kv7 channel is a non-inactivating voltage-dependent K⁺ channel encoded by the KCNQ2/3 genes, which stabilizes the neuronal membrane potential to regulate neuronal excitability. The study investigated if altered Kv7 channel activity in the CeA contributes to heightened sympathetic outflow during hypertension. The findings suggest that diminished Kv7 channel activity in the CeA contributes to elevated sympathetic outflow in primary hypertension. This novel information provides new mechanistic insight into the pathogenesis of neurogenic hypertension.

Get Your Booster Vaccination!

Remember to get your booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, which is available to ALL UAMS employees! The second dose should be taken 21 days after the initial dose in order to provide the full protection offered by the vaccine. You may get your shot no earlier or later than 48 hours from the 21-day interval. Remember to bring your shot record and UAMS ID badge with you.



If you did not receive your first shot in January, it still is available. Please complete [this acknowledgment form](#) (similar to the one you complete for UAMS flu shots) prior to getting your first shot. You will need to bring your UAMS ID badge with you to receive the vaccination.

Vaccines are being administered in room G137 on the ground floor of EDII from 7 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday until February 12. Beginning February 16, you will need to make an appointment with Student and Employee Health to receive the vaccine.

If you had a known COVID-19 infection, you will be required to wait 90 days from diagnosis before receiving the vaccine. This guideline also applies to your second dose, if you were infected after getting your first dose.



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.