The Role of Alcohol Behavioral Research in the Design of Secondary Prevention Interventions in the Era of ART: Agenda for the Next 5 Years

Tibor Palfai, Ph.D.

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

Boston University



R01AA022301, UH2 AA026192

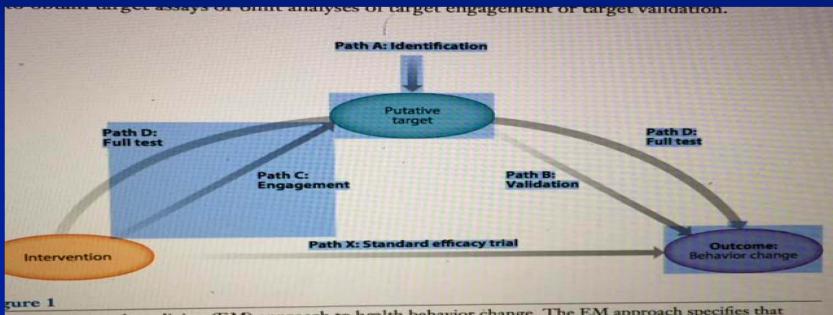
Discussion: Alcohol Research Implications for Secondary Prevention

- What do we know <u>NEED TO</u> know about alcohol's role in secondary prevention interventions?
 - Expand our understanding the role of alcohol as a risk factor for PLWH
 - Identifying what drinking patterns represent risk for PLWH [e.g., amounts x contexts x populations]
 - Clarifying and integrating the role of individual differences in alcohol effects [e.g., personality, executive functioning, development]

Discussion: Alcohol Research Implications for Secondary Prevention

- What do we <u>NEED TO</u> know about alcohol's role in secondary prevention interventions?
 - Expand our understanding how alcohol is a risk factor for PLWH
 - Specifying different paths from alcohol to HIV-related risk by subpopulation [mediating behaviors, psychological processes]
 - MSM
 - Substance use [IDU]
 - International populations

Experimental Medicine Approach in Health Behavior Change: Applications to Understanding The Behavioral Effects of Alcohol



e experimental medicine (EM) approach to health behavior change. The EM approach specifies that earch on health behavior change should proceed along four paths. Path A identifies putative targets, which modifiable factors that may cause the behavior. Path B validates those targets by developing assays (i.e., easures) and testing the extent to which change in behavior accrues from manipulating the targets. Path C tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes the intervention the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes to discover how best tesses the impact of different manipulations on the extent to which the target changes the intervention the extent to the ex

- Identifying modifiable targets
- Determining when, how and to what extent they elicit behavior change
- Are changes related to changes in outcomes....multivariate perspectives

(from: Sheeran, Klein, & Rothman, 2017):

- Expand our understanding the influence of alcohol on psychological processes related to behavioral outcomes
 - Value of traditional models of behavior change
 - Guide intervention development
 - **Guide laboratory research on causal mechanisms**
 - Role of distal vs. proximal psychological processes

 (e.g., Temporal Self-regulation Theory, Hall & Fong, 2007)
 - Role of automatic appetitive processes: dual system theories

 (e.g., Reflective vs. Impulsive Systems; Hofmann et al., 2009)
 - Links to neuroscience models of self-control/decision making

 Distal versus proximal <u>processes</u> underlying risk behavior among PLWH

■ Condomless Sex

- Buying condoms, forming plans to promote safe sex
- Negotiating condom use, implementing condoms in context

HIV cascade

- Setting appointments, scheduling, planning & organizing, executing plans
- ART adherence behavior, following through on appointments at time

How does alcohol influence distal processes related to condomless sex and ART adherence?

(e.g., planning, scheduling, organizing, valuing, distal decision making processes)

- Same day use
- Day after use (Schensul et al., 2017)
- Chronic levels of use
- Individual differences as the third variable
- Interactions w/ stage of HIV

- How does alcohol influence proximal processes related to condomless sex and ART adherence?
 - Limits of intention-behavior association (Sheeran & Webb, 2012)
 - Dual process models and spontaneous decision making
 (Hofmann et al., 2008; <u>implicit cognition</u>, EF, standards)
 - Effects of alcohol on motivation, capacity, and processing strategies in context
 - Multivariate models

How might these questions be addressed?

What type of alcohol behavioral research do we need to improve the secondary prevention interventions?

- Utilizing Technological Advances in Monitoring and Assessment (e.g., experience sampling, biosensors, etc.)
 - Providing assessment of temporal features of risk factors and processes
 - Measuring processes in context
 - Identification of self-reported versus indirect factors/processes [geolocation, frequency of behavior, speech patterns]

What type of alcohol behavioral research do we need to improve the secondary prevention interventions?

- Laboratory experimental behavioral research
 - Modeling the influence of alcohol on "heat of the moment" processes in the lab
 - Using technology to better approximate "real world" decision making
 - Broaden understanding of alcohol effects (intoxication, low dose, descending limb) on a broader range of HIV-related decision making processes (e.g., EF, implicit cognition, motivation)
 - Linking processes in lab to "real world" outcomes [importance, predictive value in multivariate models]

What type of alcohol behavioral research do we need to improve the secondary prevention interventions?

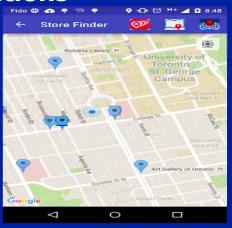
- Laboratory experimental behavioral research
 - Modeling the influence of intervention processes in the lab
 - Examining the influence of micro-interventions on change targets (Strauman et al., 2015)
 - Examining the influence of process change on behavioral outcomes
 - Examining the influence of alcohol on use of intervention content

- Technology and Interventions: Delivery in novel contexts
 - Expand capacity to deliver interventions in novel contexts
 - mobile, web-applications
 - Expand novel and opportunistic contexts
 - apps, social media, online peer supports (e.g., Horvath et al., 2013)

- Technology and Interventions: Assessment
 - Ongoing monitoring
 - mhealth applications, pill monitoring technology, location-based sensing
 - Verification
 - Contingency management

- Technology & Interventions: Addressing "heat of the moment" processes
 - Interventions in high-risk times
 - Text messaging and SMS (Cooms et al., 2012)
 - mHealth advances for ART medication adherence (Muessig et al., 2017)
 - Event-elicited interventions





+ Use of indirect data voice, activity, sleep bio-sensor, etc.

Technology & Interventions: Addressing "heat of the moment" processes

- Open questions
 - Content, interactive vs. static, frequency of reminders (e.g. Pop-Eleches et al., 2011)
 - Sustainability: how to maintain engagement with technology components
 - Role of providers in technology-based & enhanced interventions

- Alcohol-reduction interventions for PLWH
 - Brevity, sub-population/culturally specific, implementation +...
 - Improving efficacy...magnitude and sustainability
 - Understanding influence of easily measured individual differences as moderators of intervention efficacy (moderated mediation, precision medicine)
 - **Co-morbidity (substance use, pain, depression)**

Interventions to address "heat of the moment" processes

- Expand use of interventions to modulate the impact of automatic impulsive processes in high risk contexts
 - Cognitive Bias Modification
 - Context-activated skills training: reducing the role of control processes
 - Virtual reality
 - Imagery-based training
 - Implementation intentions
 - Disconnecting impulsive>>behavior link
 - Mindfulness

Summary

- Focus on processes of change
 - Intervention level
 - Contributions of laboratory behavioral research
- Expand use of conceptual models to address wider view of underlying processes
- Use technology to improve research methods, assessment, and intervention delivery

