



# PHD SYMPOSIUM

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  
13 NOVEMBER 2024

**10:20–10:45 Arrival and refreshments**

*Mezzanine*

**10:45–10:55 Introductions (Sophie Orton)**

*Northumbrian Room*

**10:55–11:40 Session one: Alcohol and other drug use**

*Northumbrian Room*

Chair: Melissa Oldham

Speakers:

- Saba Ishrat – Cannabis use, cognitive functioning, and dementia risks: An observational and Mendelian randomization study
- Christopher Oldroyd – Willpower, identity, and negative attitudes may impede engagement with relapse prevention for patients with alcohol related cirrhosis
- Benjamin Scher – Drug consumption rooms as ‘inclusion health interventions’: A comparative qualitative study on the experiences of DCR client and staff in Birmingham, UK, Vancouver, Canada, and Athens, Greece

**11:45–13:15 Session two: Workshop: PPI for PhD researchers: What, why, and how?**

*Northumbrian Room*

Chair: Zoe Swithenbank

**13:15–14:30 Lunch break**

*Hawthorns Restaurant*

**14:30–14:35 Welcome back (Annika Theodoulou)**

*Northumbrian Room*

**14:35–15:20 Session three: Tobacco and nicotine**

*Northumbrian Room*

Chair: Elle Wadsworth

Speakers:

- Katherine Sawyer – Association of tobacco and cannabis use with brain volume: A systematic review and meta-analysis
- Nathan Davies – Perceptions of children and young people, policymakers, and experts on the UK’s smokefree generation proposal
- Emke Brazier – Taking a social norms perspective to understanding decision making around e-cigarette use

## **15:25–16:10 Session four: Gambling, technology and digital interventions**

*Northumbrian Room*

Chair: Tsen Vei Lim

- Tosan Okpako – Developing a brief immersive virtual reality scenario for smokers unmotivated to quit
- Leon Y Xiao – Illegal loot box advertising on social media: An empirical study using the Meta and TikTok ad transparency repositories
- Christy Milia – Metacognition and problem-recognition in at-risk and problem gambling: A cross-sectional comparative study

## **16:10–16:25 Break and refreshments**

*Mezzanine*

## **16:25–17:05 Session five: Rapid presentations**

### **Option one: Qualitative and other methods**

*Locomotion Room*

Chair: Sophie Orton

Speakers:

- Shinasa Shahid – Exploring cultural dynamics of ethnic women in addiction recovery: A comparison of three women from different ethnic backgrounds
- Josh Dumbrell – Nature-based interventions for men experiencing homelessness and problem substance use
- Robyn Scharte – Substance use and interoception: A systematic review and meta-analysis
- Corrina Leppin – Exploring the needs, desires, and concerns of potential users of a digital smoking cessation just-in-time adaptive intervention: A focus group study with adults who smoke and smoking cessation professionals

### **Option two: Quantitative methods**

*Northumbrian Room*

Chair: Saba Ishrat

Speakers:

- Giang Vu – Prevalence, trends, and correlates of disposable e-cigarette use among US youth
- Mairi Gardner – Investigating the nature of hedonic processes in those who consume refined sugar excessively: A novel study into sugar addiction
- Annika Theodoulou – The effect of individual-level smoking cessation interventions on socioeconomic inequalities in tobacco smoking: A Cochrane systematic review

## **17:10–17:20 Closing remarks (Melissa Oldham)**

*Northumbrian Room*

**18:30 Evening social event @ Puccini Restaurant (29 Pudding Chare, NE1 1UF)**