

August 26, 2024

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Psychopharmacology

Dear Editors-in-Chief:

We are writing to submit our manuscript titled "**History of episodic heavy alcohol use predicts antidepressant effectiveness of ketamine**" for consideration for publication in the *Journal of Affective Disorders*.

In our study, we demonstrated that a history of heavy episodic alcohol use could serve as a predictive marker for antidepressant effectiveness of ketamine treatment. This effect was specific to ketamine relative to ECT. This is consistent with multiple studies showing that ketamine is more effective for depression in patients with a family history of alcohol use disorder, but to our knowledge, it is the first time that this has been extended to a personal history of alcohol use.

Given the *Journal of Affective Disorder's* commitment to advancing treatment for major depression, we believe our manuscript may interest your readership. The study underscores the importance of individual patient histories in treatment planning and supports a more tailored approach to managing treatment-resistant depression. It also may provide a foundation for further investigation of specific subgroups of patients who are more sensitive to NMDA receptor modulation, a key part of the mechanisms of both ketamine and alcohol.

We appreciate your consideration of our manuscript.

Sincerely,

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