



NEWS RELEASE

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PROMISE IN BATTLING ADDICTION RELAPSE FROM THE MIND RESEARCH NETWORK

(ALBUQUERQUE)---Studies at the Mind Research Network (MRN) in Albuquerque could soon help clinicians predict and discover ways to prevent relapse in individuals combating substance abuse.

MRN Scientific Director Dr. Vincent Clark says brain imaging and psychiatric evaluation have found that the makeup of the brain influences a recovering addict's tendency to relapse---which in some cases may help predict a relapse months before it actually occurs.

Dr. Clark presented his findings at the annual meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping in San Francisco last month. Studying 45 individuals recovering from cocaine and methamphetamine addiction, Dr. Clark says his testing has an 89 percent accuracy rate. (Abstract attached)

"Treatment for addiction so often fails because we do not have an adequate understanding of why a person returns to using drugs," said Dr. Clark. "Our research helps us pinpoint changes in brain activity that precedes drug use, and being able to predict relapse will lead to better treatment and intervention strategies."

MRN scientists presented a total of 19 studies at the Human Brain Mapping meeting, from basic methodology of genetics and brain mapping to advanced applications of brain mapping for the diagnosis of mental and brain illness, including schizophrenia, addiction, lupus, and traumatic brain injury.

Dr. Clark's research was funded with grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Energy. He is also an Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of New Mexico.

MRN is a world class neurodiagnostic facility dedicated to finding better tools to diagnose and treat addiction, mental illness, autism and other brain disorders. Imaging, genetics and a one of kind mobile MRI facility aid investigators in reaching high risk individuals recovering from addiction to drugs and alcohol. For more information on MRN, contact Lisa Breeden, Development Director, at lbreed@mrn.org or (505) 681-7110. Visit our web site at www.mrn.org.