Welcome

The Addiction Research Program (ARP) serves veterans who are seeking treatment for co-occuring alcohol use disorder (AUD), posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and mild traumatic brain injury (TBI). Specifically, ARP research aims to enhance the effectiveness and safety of pharmacotherapy for treatment of the above disorders. Secondarily, the ARP is developing a new cognitive training program to independently treat AUD as well as to enhance pharmacotherapy for AUD. To achieve these aims, the ARP will investigate objective neuro- and psychological measurements that will aid in determining the effectiveness of both pharmacological and behavioral traits (e.g. assessing neural and psychophysiological responses during a cue-induced craving paradigm and during an alcohol approach bias paradigm). In 2016, the ARP will begin two new studies. We will conduct a pilot controlled clinical trial to assess the feasibility and acceptability of implementing an Alcohol Approach Bias Modification (AABM) task in veterans seeking outpatient treatment for AUD. Additionally, another pilot controlled clinical trial will be conducted to assess the efficacy of N-acetylcysteine (NAC) to reduce AUD and improve brain injury symptoms in veterans with mTBI who consume alcohol at hazardous or harmful levels.