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Innovations in Addiction Medicine and Science

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The Science of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists: A Rising Tide in Addiction Treatment





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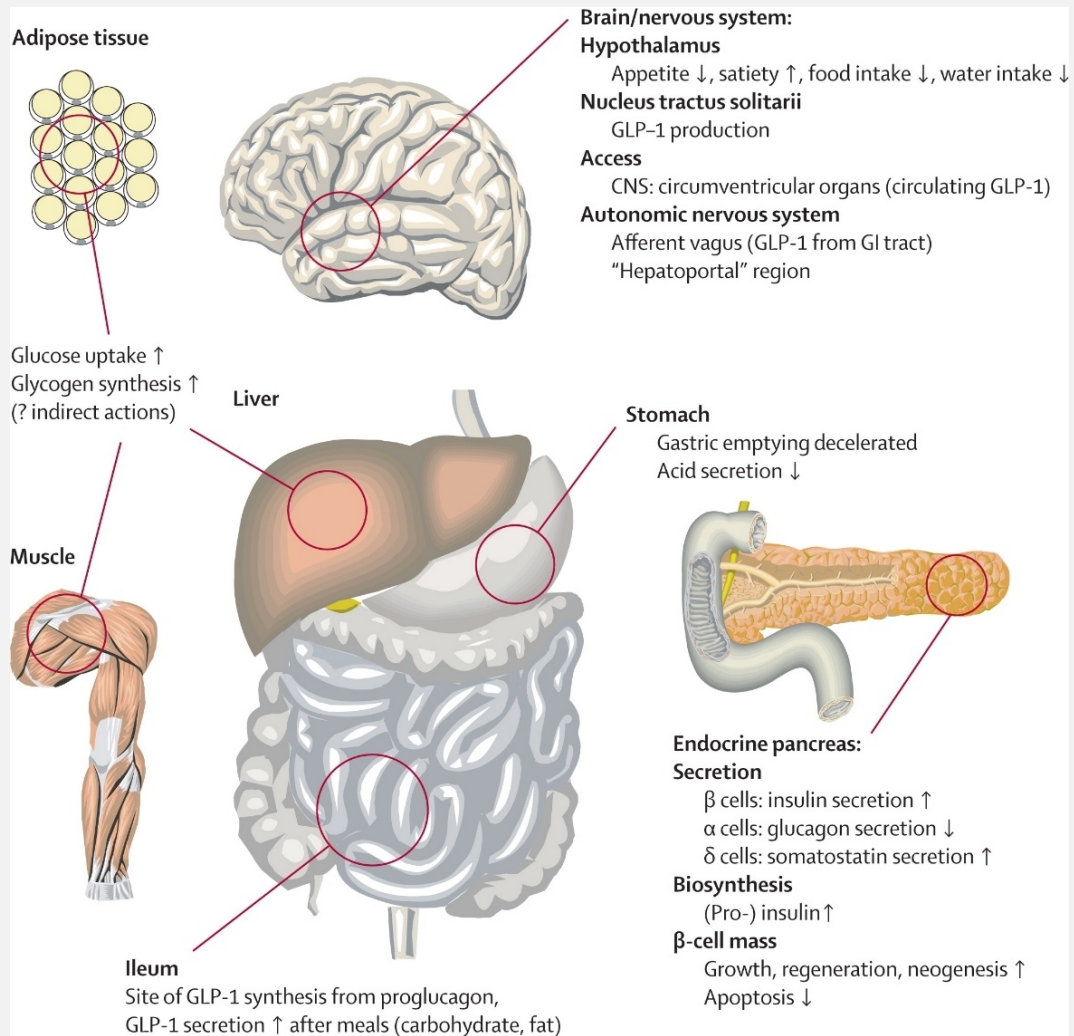


Disclosure Information

Sarah E. Wakeman, MD, FASAM

- *Textbook editor and author for Wolters Kluwer and Springer*

Glucagon-like Peptide 1 (GLP-1)



- Incretin hormone produced in the gut that stimulates insulin and suppresses glucagon secretion, inhibits gastric emptying, and reduces appetite and food intake.
- Initially approved for diabetes, then obesity and sleep apnea in individuals with obesity.
- Early anecdotes from patients about reduced craving for alcohol, tobacco, substances in addition to food.

One in Eight Adults Say They Have Ever Used GLP-1 Drugs, Rising to Four in Ten Among Adults Who Have Been Diagnosed With Diabetes

Percent who say they have ever used GLP-1 agonist drugs to lose weight or treat a chronic condition such as diabetes or heart disease:

Total

12%

Among those who say a doctor has told them they...

Have diabetes

43%

Have heart disease

26%

Are overweight or obese

22%

Race/Ethnicity

Black

18%

Hispanic

13%

White

10%

Anecdotal Experiences of Reduced Alcohol and Other Substance Craving



r/stopdrinking • 3 yr. ago
Radiant_Reveal_8745



Semaglutide

I'm curious if anyone else here takes a GLP-1 medication, such as semaglutide (Ozempic/wegovy).

I'm taking it for weight loss and it has totally stopped my desire for alcohol. If I have a drink, I don't want more than one. Prior to taking this medication, I could easily drink half of a 750ml bottle of bourbon.

Apparently, the medication is also being researched for binge eating and other behaviors that relate to dopamine (shopping, gambling).

It's the most effective medication I've ever taken for alcohol cessation.

Anecdotal Experiences of Reduced Alcohol and Other Substance Craving



r/stopdrinking • 10 mo. ago
steph_texas



GLP-1 medications and drinking. Game Changer

For those who have some weight to lose as well, taking this medication has changed everything for me! Before this, it would take everything I could do, and I gave in most of the time. Now I have 0 desire to drink. It is such a relief! Means more to me than the weight loss!



Pisces_PeggyLorraine • 7mo ago

I'm having the same response. Crazy to not have that constant chatter. Literally brings me to tears. Congrats and keep it up.



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Newsletters

The Atlantic

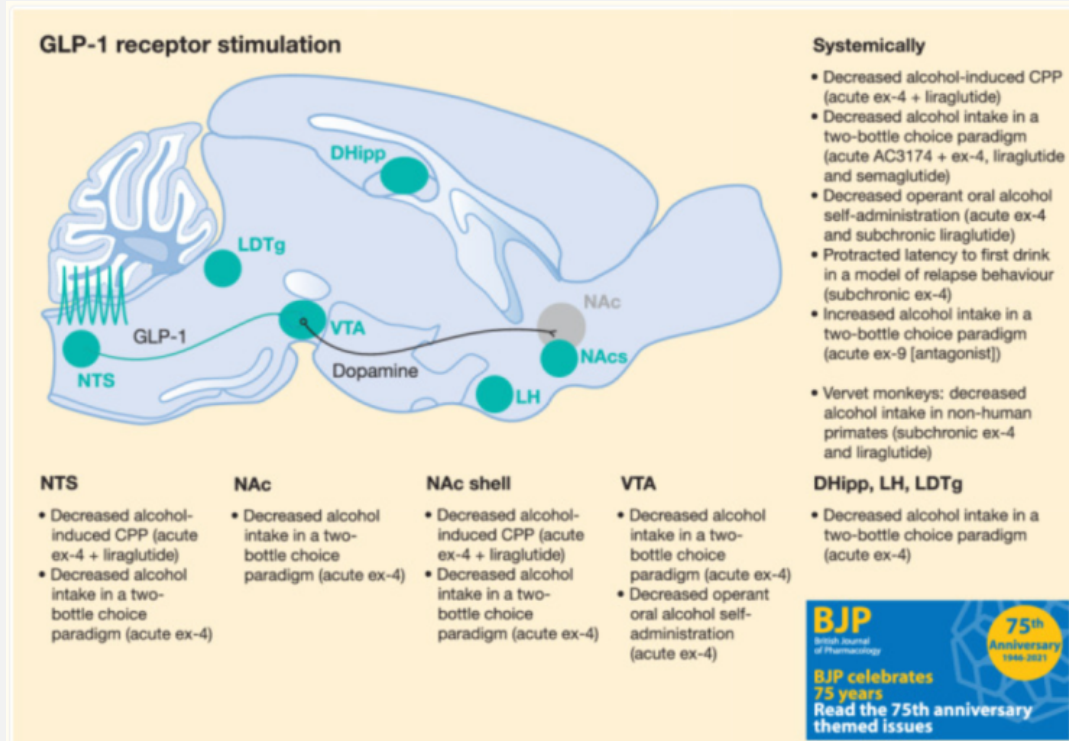
HEALTH

Did Scientists Accidentally Invent an Anti-addiction Drug?

People taking Ozempic for weight loss say they have also stopped drinking, smoking, shopping, and even nail biting.

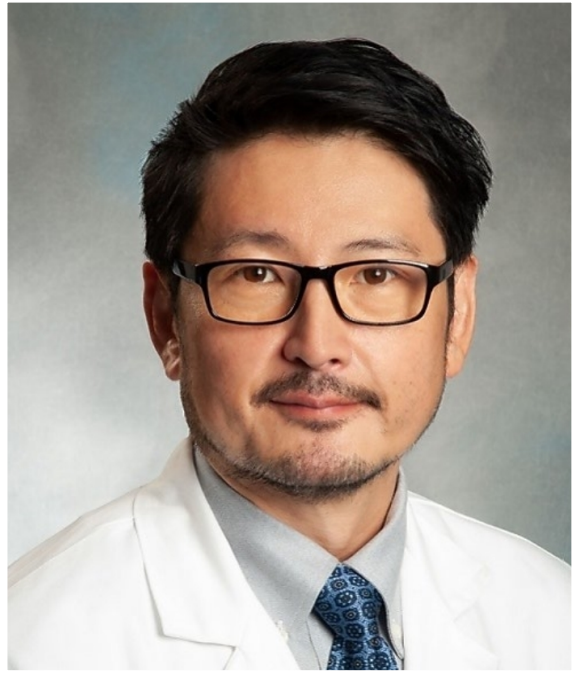
By Sarah Zhang

What is the Proposed Mechanism?



- In mice, reduces conditioned-place preference and self-administration of alcohol and other drugs
- Appears to modulate dopamine function and may attenuate substance induced dopamine release
- At multiple levels, including in the VTA and Nac, GLP-1 seem to modulate brain circuits involved in reward at multiple levels
- Effect seems independent of oral intake and satiation as GLP-1 receptor stimulation also seems to impact drug and alcohol ‘seeking’ or ‘wanting’

The Science of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists: A Rising Tide in Addiction Treatment



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Does Disclose*



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No Relevant Disclosures*



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Center
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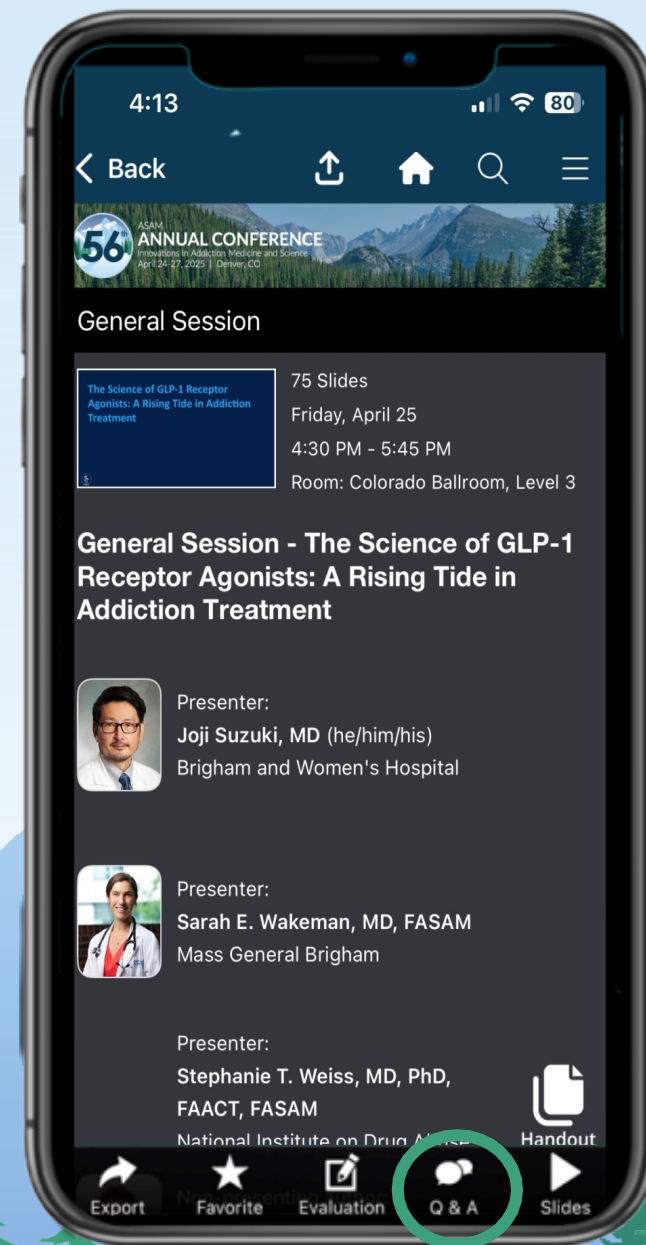
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Thank you!

