T A C U N A
Tradition and Connection for Urban Native Americans

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American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) experience the highest rates of opioid use in California and 70% of AI/ANs reside in urban areas.

To our knowledge, no culturally centered, evidence-based opioid prevention programs exist for emerging urban AI/AN young adults.

Social network research conducted among urban AI/ANs is scarce.

Opioid prevention interventions that integrate AI/AN traditional practices with evidence based treatments may be of benefit for this population.

Community perspectives as it relates to social networks and opioid use among urban AI/ANs can help to create a feasible and community-acceptable program.
Phase 1/UG3

• **Aim 1.** Conduct focus groups with emerging adults (EAs), parents of EAs, American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) providers, and our Elder Advisory Board (EAB) in urban communities throughout CA to understand how to:

  a) best identify, reach, and engage AI/AN EAs to access programming addressing opioid use,

  b) adapt and enhance our existing culturally sensitive prevention intervention program, Motivational Interviewing and Culture for Urban Native American Youth (MICUNAY), for AI/AN EAs to address social network factors that amplify (or reduce) opioid and AOD use risk, and

  c) conduct a pilot test to ensure feasibility and acceptability of the TACUNA program.
Phase 2/UH3

• **Aim 2.** Compare AI/AN EAs who receive TACUNA + Wellness Gathering (n=185) to AI/AN EAs who receive opioid education (n=185). Compare outcomes at 3, 6, and 12 months.

• **Aim 3.** Explore potential mechanisms of change for decreases in opioid and AOD use outcomes through mediation analyses, including changes in social networks and cultural connectedness.

• **Aim 4.** Develop and test strategies to facilitate sustainability of TACUNA within these communities through key informant interviews and focus groups upon conclusion of the randomized controlled trial.

• **Aim 5.** Conduct an economic evaluation to quantify programmatic costs and cost-effectiveness of the multi-tiered intervention approach, relative to opioid education.
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<tr>
<td><strong>Focus groups:</strong> young adults, parents, provider, and EAB</td>
<td><strong>Elder Advisory Board meetings</strong></td>
<td><strong>Program content development and approval</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pilot test of 3 workshops</strong></td>
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<td><strong>IRB approval of materials for UH3/Phase II</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hiring and training of facilitators and survey administrators for 1st rollout</strong></td>
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Engaging the AI/AN community in the development of TACUNA
Developing the Workshops

**TACUNA**
TRADITION AND CONNECTION FOR URBAN NATIVE AMERICANS

**Workshop 1**
Healthy Choices for My Brain
- How does opioid use affect members of my community?
- Traditional practice: TBD

**Workshop 2**
Healthy Choices for My Body
- Making healthy choices: Discussion of social networks and path of choices
- Traditional practice: TBD

**Workshop 3**
Healthy Choices for My Spirit
- How do my choices and social network affect my use?
- Traditional practice: TBD

**SPIRITUAL FOCUS**
**BEHAVIOR FOCUS**
**PHYSICAL FOCUS**