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NIDA Genetics Consortium Genome-wide Association Study of Opioid Addiction – The Endgame for Wave 1.

NIDA Genetics Consortium GWAS of OA Investigators*

Prevalence of addiction to opioids is growing dramatically, as are the public health consequences. Heritability of opioid addiction (OA) is substantial (~60%). However, after more than 30 years of research, including eight genome-wide association studies (GWASs), independently replicable associations have been found only for variants in the opioid receptor genes OPRM1 and OPRD1. Collectively, the GWAS findings have included additional genome-wide significant loci that await independent replication. In an effort to maximize sample size, the NIDA Genetics Consortium GWAS of OA was initiated as a collaborative meta-analysis project, allowing for varying case (e.g., frequency of use [FOU], medication treatment, & diagnoses) and control (e.g., assessed and unassessed for opioid use and OA) criteria. Here, we report on cross-ancestry and ancestryspecific meta-analyses of OA vs. all controls [OAall] (case N=11,943; control N=309,641), OA vs. exposed controls [OAexp] (case N=3,546; control N=4,378), and FOU (N=11,259). Two genomewide significant loci for OAall were identified in the European American analyses (rs28386916, P=7.90×10⁻⁹; rs79935720, P=3.92×10⁻⁸); only rs28386916 replicated in an independent sample (P=0.039). Rs28386916 alters the regulatory motif HDAC2 disc6, is near the gene GPRIN3, which is highly expressed in brain, and is in linkage disequilibrium with eQTLs for GPRIN3 in brain. No variants reached genome-wide significance in the OAexp or FOU meta-analysis. In addition to reviewing these GWAS findings, we report on gene-based analyses, genetic correlation among phenotypes, and testing to extend associations reported in the Psychiatric Genetics Consortium and Million Veteran Program opioid dependence preprint GWAS. Plans for Wave 2 will be discussed.

* corporate authorship representing all contributing cohorts and investigator affiliations. Submitted by Eric Otto Johnson on behalf of the consortium.