

## TITLE:

### Discrete Childhood Maltreatment Types (CMs) versus Multiple CMs in Binge Drinking

#### BACKGROUND

It is unknown whether specific types or an accumulation or multiple types of childhood maltreatment (CM) are more important to binge drinking (BD; i.e. consuming 4-5+ drinks/sitting). Three models are used to consider the relationship between CM and BD:

1. Discrete Model, where specific type(s) of CM are linked to BD
2. Threshold Model, where CM beyond a certain frequency is linked to BD
3. Cumulative Model, where the number of discrete CM experiences is additive, such that each additional CM increases risk for BD.

#### STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to compare these models to explain the relation of BD to CM within each model.

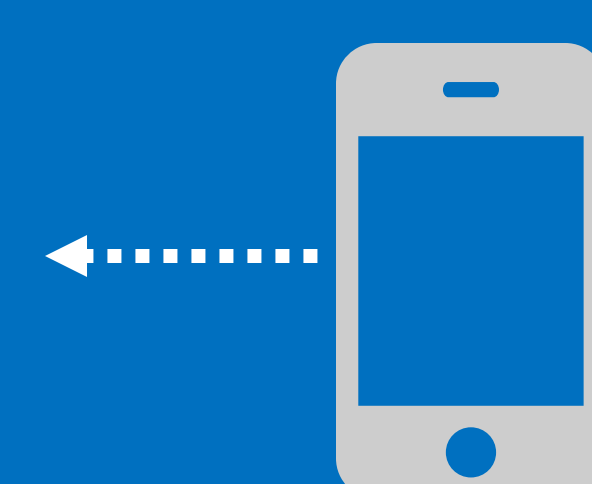
#### METHODS

- 493 emerging adults in college completed surveys on their current drinking behavior, CM history, and demographics.
- CM was measured with the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (CTQ). Five discrete types of CM were measured: physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, emotional neglect.
- BD was measured using self-report information and determined based on criteria from National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, defined as five or more drinks for men and four or more drinks for women in one sitting.
- For Discrete Model, each type of CM was coded as present or absent.
- For the Threshold Model, there were 3 groups: no CM, number of discrete CM above the sample average (2.7) or below it.
- For the Cumulative Model, the number of discrete CM were summed (range 0-5).
- Multivariate regression analyses was conducted to test the three models.

# Threshold and Discrete Models of Childhood Maltreatment were associated with Binge Drinking.

In the Threshold Model, risk for BD was greatest for those experiencing both high and low CM compared to no CM.

For the Discrete Model, CM of physical abuse was most strongly related to BD.

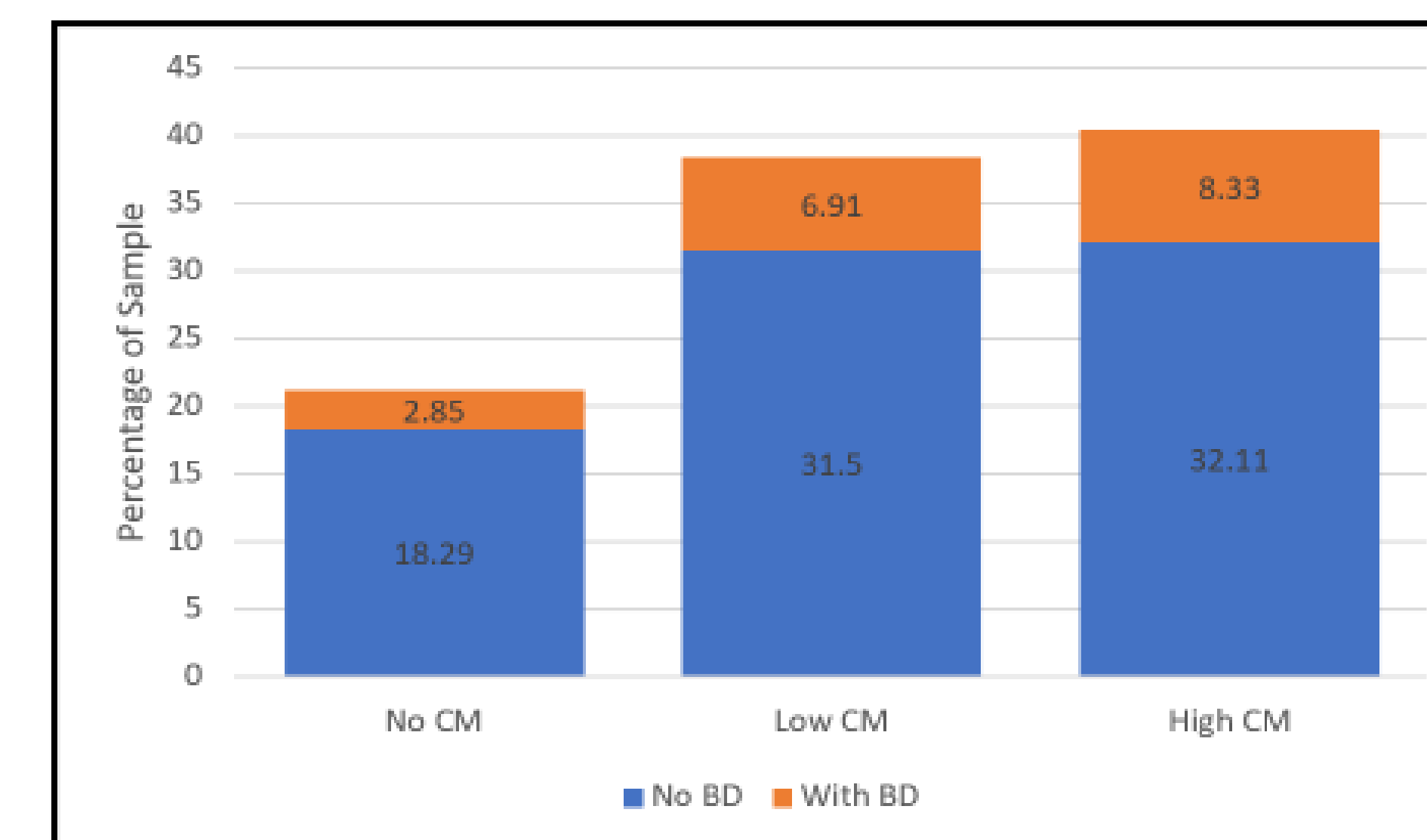


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## PRESENTERS:

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## RESULTS



The odds of BD were 1.4 times greater among those who experienced CM but not CM at or above the threshold compared to those without a history of CM. (Threshold Model)

- 18% (n=89) of emerging adult college students reported BD
- 41% (n=200) reported a greater than average number of CM types (threshold).
- 21% (n=104) reported no CM.
- **Cumulative CM was not related to BD.**

## DISCUSSION

- Our findings point to the import of childhood physical abuse to BD in emerging adulthood.
- These findings point to a need to target emerging adults with a history of childhood physical abuse and the accumulation of multiple CM types in BD prevention efforts for college students.

