

Barbara J. Mason, Ph.D.



Barbara J. Mason, Ph.D. is Director of the Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research, Director of the Laboratory of Clinical Psychopharmacology, and Chair of the Committee on the Neurobiology of Addictive Disorders at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA. Dr. Mason's work in medication development for the treatment of substance use disorder has been recognized with a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Dean's Senior Clinical Research Award from the University of Miami School of Medicine, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Teacher-Scientist Award from Cornell University Medical College. Dr. Mason conducted the seminal studies identifying nalmefene as having therapeutic potential for alcohol dependence; nalmefene (Selincro) has recently received regulatory approval for the treatment of alcohol dependence in the European Union. Dr. Mason also served as overall Principal Investigator for the US multicenter trial of acamprosate (Campral) for the treatment of alcohol dependence which was conducted in support of FDA approval. Dr. Mason has served on the National Advisory Councils of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). She has served as a guest expert for the U.S. Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and as a reviewer of research grants for NIAAA, NIDA and the Medical Research Council (MRC) of the UK. Dr. Mason is an elected Fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology and has served as field editor for *Neuropsychopharmacology*, as a member of multiple editorial boards, including *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, *Journal of Substance Abuse*, and *Journal of Addiction Medicine*. Dr. Mason holds the Pearson Family Chair, an endowed professorship in alcohol and addiction research at The Scripps Research Institute, and is currently directing a program of NIH-funded research that includes human laboratory studies to screen medications for therapeutic potential and clinical trials to evaluate the efficacy of novel medications for alcohol and cannabis use disorders.