

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**KURT J. VARNER, Ph.D., FAHA**

**DATE:** July 31, 2015

**DATE OF BIRTH:** October 25, 1959

**HOME ADDRESS:** 568 Winbourne Dr.  
Slidell, LA 70461  
Ph. (985) 639-0969

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married, Laura  
Children: Taylor, Erin, Ryan

**OFFICE ADDRESS:** Department of Pharmacology  
LSU Health Sciences Center  
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**LSUHSC DATE OF APPOINTMENT:** January 1, 1991

**PRESENT ACADEMIC RANK.** Professor, (July 1, 2001)  
Department Head (July 16, 2010)



**ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Department of Pharmacology

Member, Departmental Graduate Training Committee, 1991-present  
Member, Departmental Graduate Recruitment Committee, 1991-2003  
Director, Kalamazoo College Internship Program 1992-present  
Director, Student and Scientist Co-operative Exchange program with Federal University of Espirito Santo, E.S., Brazil, 1995-present.  
Member, Departmental Curriculum Committee, 1995-2001

School of Medicine

Member, LCME Accreditation Committee, Institutional Self-Study Analysis Committee on Faculty, 1994  
Member, LSU Medical School Honors Program Committee, 1993-1996; 2002-present  
Coordinator, LSUMC Neuroscience Center of Excellence Seminar Series, 1993-1996  
Member, LSU Medical Center Curriculum Development Work Group, 1997-1999  
Member, LSU Medical Center Curriculum Oversight Committee, 1998-1999  
Member, LSU Medical Center Curriculum Renewal Committee, 1999-2004  
Member, LSU Medical Center Evaluation Work Group subcommittee, 1999  
Member, Medical School Committee on International Affairs, 1998-2006  
Member, LCME Accreditation Committee, Institutional Self-Study Analysis Committee on Basic Sciences, 2001  
Member, LCME Accreditation Committee, Institutional Self-Study Analysis Committee on Libraries, 2001  
Member, LSUHSC School of Medicine Research Advisory Committee, 2001-2010  
Chairman, Search Committee for Dean, School of Medicine, LSUHSC, 2006  
Member, Search Committee for Head, Department of Physiology, 2008  
Member, Strategic Planning Committee, Core Facilities subgroup 2008-  
Member, LCME Accreditation Committee, Institutional Self-Study Analysis Committee on Students, 2009  
Member, LCME Accreditation Committee, Institutional Self-Study Analysis Committee on Facilities, 2009  
Chairman, Committee to Enhance Administrative Processes, 2009-2010.  
Board of Directors, LSU Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, 2014-

Health Sciences Center

Member, LSU Medical Center Library Advisory Committee, 1994-1996  
Chairman, LSU Medical Center Library Advisory Committee, 1997- present  
Member, LSU Medical Center work group for the Integrated Advanced Information Management System Grant, 1994-1996  
Chairman, Search Committee for Director of LSU Medical Center Library, 1998  
Cardiopulmonary Science Program Advisory Committee, 1994-present  
Member, LSU Medical Center Cardiovascular Center Steering Committee, 1997-

Judge, Chancellor's Award Competition, 1999  
Member, LSU Graduate Advisory Council, 1999-2006  
Member, LSU Graduate Advisory Council, Curriculum subcommittee, 1999-2008  
Chairman, LSU Graduate Advisory Council, Postdoctoral Studies subcommittee, 1999-2006  
Chairman, Search Committee for Associate Director LSUHSC Library, 2006  
Chairman, Search Committee for Head, Department of Cardiopulmonary Science, 2006  
Chairman, Search Committee for Director LSUHSC Library, 2010

#### Elected positions

Alternate Member, LSU Medical School Faculty Assembly, 1994-1995, 1998-2000  
Member, LSU Medical School Faculty Assembly, 2000-2007  
Member, LSU Health Science Center Faculty Senate, 2000- 2005  
Interim President, LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans Faculty Senate, 2001  
President, LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans Faculty Senate, 2001-2002  
President, LSU Medical School Faculty Assembly, 2004-2005

#### National

Delegate, United States Pharmacopeial Convention 2008-

#### **LSU TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES (2009-2010):**

##### Dental Pharmacology

Lectures in: Local anesthetics  
Autonomic Pharmacology

##### Medical Pharmacology

Lectures in: Antiarrhythmic agents  
Local anesthetic agents  
Cardiac Glycosides  
Diabetes Drugs

##### Dental Hygiene Pharmacology

Lectures in: Local anesthetic agents  
Autonomic Pharmacology

##### Advanced Nursing

Lectures in: Autonomics  
Congestive Heart Failure  
Antiarrhythmics

##### CARE Nursing

(course director)  
Lectures in: Antiarrhythmic agents

Cardiac Glycosides  
Autonomic Drugs  
Diabetes Drugs

Undergraduate Nursing (fall and spring)  
Lectures in: Antiarrhythmic agents  
Cardiac Glycosides  
Autonomic Drugs

**STUDENTS AND FELLOWS TRAINED:**

Undergraduate Students

Wendy Reed, Kalamazoo College Career Development Internship, 1992  
Sean Mullendore, Kalamazoo College, Senior Individualized Project, 1993  
Sarah Hletko, Kalamazoo College, Senior Individualized Project, 1996  
Nichole Hein, Kalamazoo College, Senior Individualized Project, 2000  
Lisa Badon, Loyola University, New Orleans, Senior Honors Project, 2000

Medical Students

Peggy O’Cain, M.D. Medical Honors Thesis, 1998  
Karl Bischoff, Medical Honors program  
Harold Bayonne, LSU Medical School Summer Internship, 2001  
Brian A. Ogden, LSU Medical School Summer Internship, 2002  
Melissa Raspberry, LSU Medical School Summer Internship, 2006  
John “Kris” Lindsay, LSU Medical School research project, 2006-  
David Mull, LSU Medical School research project, 2007-  
Clinton Hebert, LSU Medical School research project 2010  
Christopher McKinney, LSU Medical School research project 2015

Graduate Students

Wen Liu, Ph.D., 1997  
Ivanita Steffanon, Ph.D. UFES, Vitoria, Brazil, 1998  
Alissa Hicks, Ph.D., 2004  
Kevin Lord, Ph.D. 2008  
Sylvia Shenouda, Ph.D. 2008  
Sarah Mahne, Ph.D. 2012  
Venkat Subramaniam, MS 2013  
Brendan Burn, Ph.D. 2015

Postdoctoral Fellows

T. Patrick Abrahams, Ph.D., 1992-1997.  
Thomas Mulhern, M.D., 1998  
Girija Raman, Ph.D., 2009-2011  
Gin Chuang, Ph.D., 2012-  
Sarah Mahne, Ph.D., 2012  
M. Kyle Hughes, MD, 2015

Resident Fellows

Jason Turner, MD, 2011-  
Dhiraj Singh, MD, 2012-

Sabbaticals

Dalton Vassallo, Professor, Department of Physiological Sciences, Federal University of Espirito Santo, Brazil, 9-1-93 to 6-1-94  
Antonio Cabral, Associate Professor, Department of Physiological Sciences, Federal University of Espirito Santo, Brazil, 8-94 to 8-95.

**GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE SERVICE:**

Kirk Elliott, Committee for M.S., 1993  
Wei Yuan, Committee for Ph.D., 1994  
Renee, Bergeron, Committee for Ph.D., 1995  
Zhihong Zhang, Committee for Ph.D., 1996  
Sena Sezen, Committee for Ph.D., 1997.  
Emine Gunhan-Agar, LSUMC Neuroscience Center, Committee for M.S., 1996  
Michelle Dixon, Committee for M.S, 1998  
Shuxin Zhang, Committee for Ph.D., 2002  
Marcus Delate, Committee for Ph.D., 2004  
Helmut Gottlieb, Committee for Ph.D., 2004  
Maria Quinton, Committee for Ph.D., 2004  
Xaioqing, Cao, Committee for Ph.D., 2005  
John Liles, Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University, Committee for Ph.D., 2005  
Melissa Burmeister, Committee for Ph.D., 2006  
Warren "Jay" Huber, Committee for Ph.D., 2008  
Sharell, Bindom, Committee for Ph.D. 2009  
Kiesa Mathis, Department of Physiology, Committee for Ph.D. 2009  
Bahar Fahmy, Committee of Ph.D. 2009  
Kirk Hutchenson, Committee Chair for Ph.D.  
Russell Amato, Committee for Ph.D.  
Kavaljit Chhabra, Committee for Ph.D.  
Manish Rana, Committee for Ph.D.  
Jessica Bradley, Department of Physiology, Committee for Ph.D.  
Felix Nau, Committee for Ph.D. 2015  
Myles, Ketchum, Committee for Ph.D., 2015

**RESEARCH:**

Research interests involve determining the mechanisms by which oxidative stress produces cardiac dysfunction. There are currently 2 major areas of research interest in my laboratory. 1) Our major project involves the examination and characterization of the cardiac, cardiovascular, cardiovascular reflex and sympathetic nerve responses elicited by the acute and chronic administration of sympathomimetic stimulants. Biochemical, molecular biological and proteomic approaches are being used to identify the

mechanisms underlying stimulant induced cardiac dysfunction. 2) We are also studying the effects of aerosolized air pollutants (ultra fine particles) on cardiac and cardiovascular function. These studies are addressing the hypothesis that these particles produce cardiac toxicity by the combined actions of lung-derived systemic inflammation and localized oxidant and inflammatory actions at the level of the heart. In addition, I am the director of the Cardiovascular Function Core Facility in the Department of Pharmacology at LSUHSC.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICES:**

Southeastern Pharmacology Society, 1991-present  
American Heart Association, Council for High Blood Pressure Research, 1992-present  
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, 1995-present  
International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience, 1995-present  
College on Problems of Drug Dependence, 2004-2008  
Society for Toxicology  
South Central Chapter, Society for Toxicology  
American Heart Association

**SPECIAL HONORS AND AWARDS:**

Institutional Research Fellowship, 1988-1989, Cardiovascular Center, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA  
National Research Service Award, 1990-1991, NINCDS, 1 F32 NS08674  
Program Co-chairman for "Neural Control of the Circulation II: Central Control," at the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology held in Atlanta, GA, April 1991  
Finalist, LSU Medical School Aesculapian Society Award for Medical Student Teaching, 1993.  
Fellow, American Heart Association 2002-present  
Program Co-Chairman for "Sleeping Butyrate: True tales of GHB" at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Meeting held in Bal Harbor, FL, June 2003.  
Plenary talk, European Society of Toxicology meeting, Edinburgh, Scotland, September, 2014

**EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES**

Editorial Boards:

Cardiovascular Toxicology, 2012-

Reviewer:

American Journal of Physiology: Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative Physiology.  
American Journal of Physiology: Heart and Circulatory Physiology  
Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
Neuroscience  
Addiction Research  
Drug and Alcohol Dependence  
Life Sciences



NIH T32AA007577-11 (PI: G. Bagby) 0/01/09 to 8/31/14  
"Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Program"

NIH/NINDS

DP1DA033502

Kosten (PI)

(03/01/15 to 05/31/15)

Human Methamphetamine vaccine: translational avante garde award

We have a subcontract of this grant to study the cardiovascular responses elicited by methamphetamine in rats that have been passively immunized with an antibody targeted to methamphetamine. There is no overlap with the current application.

Role: Subcontract PI

LSUHSC-LSU Collaborative Grant

(8/1/15 to 7/31/16)

Cardio-pulmonary responses in mice following inhalation exposure to environmentally persistent free radicals

Role: Co-PI

**PENDING AWARDS:**

NIH 00000000 (PI: T Dugas) 4/01/15 – 3/31/19 1 calendar  
Novel model of female-specific pulmonary hypertension  
Role: co-PI

**PAST GRANT AWARDS:**

LSU Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence Varner (PI) (12/12/13 to 12/11/14) 1.2 cal  
LSU School of Medicine  
"The abuse liability of bath salts: an examination of the behavioral and cardiovascular effects of mephedrone".  
Role: PI

NIH P42ES013648 (PI: B. Dellinger) 7/01/09 to 6/30/11 3 calendar  
"Health Impacts of toxic combustion by-products"  
Project 6: "Combustion Generated fine particles: cardiovascular and cardiac effects."  
PI: K. J. Varner

Research Enhancement Fund, LSUHSC School of Medicine (PI: Varner) 07/01/09 to 6/30/10  
Pilot Grant  
Persistent radical-containing PM0.1: mechanism of cardiac toxicity.

AHA - Louisiana Affiliate, (PI: K. Varner) 7-1-92 to 6-30-93  
"Sympathetic Nervous System Involvement in the Cardiovascular Responses to Cocaine."

NIH-BRSG, SO-RR-5376 (PI: K. Varner) 12-1-92 to 8-30-93.  
"Forebrain Involvement in Tonic Sympathetic Function."

- LEQSF (1993-96)-RD-A-14, (PI: K. Varner) 7-1-93 to 6-30-96  
"Cocaine Abuse: Sympathetic and Cardiovascular Consequences."
- NIH R01 DA08255-07 (PI: K. Varner) 2-15-94 to 7-31-02  
"Cocaine Abuse: Sympathetic and Cardiovascular Consequences."
- LEQSF (co PIs: K. Varner and K. McDonough) 7-1-99 to 6-31-03  
"Graduate training in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke."
- LSUHSC ARC Pilot Grant. (co PI: K. Varner and K. McDonough) 3-01-02 to 10-31-03  
" Effects of HIV-1 Tat expression on cardiovascular function: role of drugs of abuse."
- LEQSF – equipment grant (PI: K. Varner) 7-1-03 to 6-31-04.  
"Proposal to establish an ultrasound imaging core facility."
- NIH F31 DA018035 (PI: A. Hicks, Sponsor: K. Varner) 2-13-04 to 2-12-06  
"GHB: sympathomimetic actions of a CNS depressant."
- AHA 0355155B (PI: K. Varner) 7-1-03 to 6-31-05,  
"Cardiovascular responses and toxicity elicited by gamma-hydroxybutyrate."
- AHA 0655769B (PI: K. Varner) 7-01-06 to 6-30-08  
"New insights into mechanisms mediating methamphetamine-induced cardiac dysfunction"
- AHA Predoctoral Fellowship (PI: S. Shenouda, Sponsor: K. Varner) 7-01-06 to 6-30-08  
"Role of oxidative stress in left ventricular dysfunction produced by ecstasy"
- NIH R01 HL63318 (PI: P. Lucchesi) 7-1-03 to 6-30-07  
"Reactive oxygen species and heart failure."

**INVITED LECTURES:**

- Department of Physiology, Louisiana State University Medical Center, "Role of the rostral ventrolateral medulla in the control of autonomic cardiovascular function in conscious normotensive and hypertensive rats." 11-25-91
- Department of Physiology, Tulane University, "Sympathetic Nervous System Involvement in the cardiovascular responses to cocaine." 11-30-92
- Louisiana State University Neuroscience Center of Excellence, "Sympathetic nervous system involvement in the cardiovascular responses to cocaine." 5-20-93.
- Department of Physiology, Louisiana State University Medical Center, "Central nervous system control of cardiovascular function." 11-28-94.
- Department of Physiological Sciences, Federal University of Espirito Santo, E.S., Brazil, "Effects of cocaine on sympathetic nerve activity and cardiovascular function." 4-3-95.
- Department of Physiological Sciences, Federal University of Espirito Santo, E.S., Brazil, "Control of arterial pressure by brain stem nuclei in normotensive and hypertensive states." 4-5-95.

- Department of Pharmacology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, "The effects of cocaine on sympathetic nerve activity and cardiovascular function.", 6-26-95.
- Department of Physiology, Louisiana State University Medical Center, "Amphetamine analogs: Agony or Ecstasy?", 12-15-97.
- Department of Physiological Sciences, Federal University of Espirito Santo, E.S., Brazil, "Cardiovascular and cardiac responses elicited by amphetamine-like stimulants.", 4-6-98.
- Department of Pharmacology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-Shreveport, "MDMA: agony or ecstasy?", 2-5-01.
- Department of Epidemiology, Tulane University School of Public Health, "MDMA: agony or ecstasy?", 3-21-01.
- Department of Pharmacology, Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University School of Medicine "MDMA: agony or ecstasy?", 5-21-01.
- Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine, "Ecstasy: Physiological and pathological responses." 11/30/01.
- Data Sciences International, Southern Telemetry users group, Baylor College of Medicine, "Cardiovascular responses elicited by chronic amphetamine", 5/2003.
- Data Sciences International, Southeast Telemetry Users Group, Medical College of Georgia, "GHB: the sleeping stimulant", 3/2004.
- Department of Pathology, LSUHSC, "After the party: the cardiovascular and cardiac actions of Ecstasy." 7/14/10
- Department of Physiology, LSUHSC, "Mechanisms of ecstasy and methamphetamine-induced cardiac toxicity". 10-7-10
- Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University School of Medicine, "After the party: the cardiovascular and cardiac actions of Ecstasy." 10-22-10
- Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University School of Medicine, "Cardiac toxicity of environmentally persistent free radicals: just when you thought it was safe to breathe.
- NIEHS Annual Superfund Meeting. "Cardiovascular effects of Environmentally Persistent Free Radicals (EPFRs). Baton Rouge, LA October 2013.

### **SYMPOSIA AND MEETINGS ORGANIZED**

- Member, Southeastern Pharmacology Society, Planning Committee for annual scientific meeting, New Orleans, LA, 1991.
- Principal organizer, Symposium Honoring American and Brazilian Collaboration in Neuroscience Research, held at LSUHSC on October 25, 1997 in conjunction with the annual Society of Neuroscience Meeting in New Orleans.
- Organizing Committee and Host, Third National Directors of Pharmacology Graduate Programs, held at LSUHSC and Tulane University, April 22-24, 2009.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Given:

Alexandria Pineville Alcohol and Drug Abuse Clinic, Pineville, LA "Update on Dependence Producing Drugs", October 14, 1998.

Fairview Outpatient Drug Treatment Court Clinic, Bayou Vista, LA "Update on

Dependence Producing Drugs”, February 26, 1999.

**PUBLICATIONS:**

1. Piercey, M.F., Varner, K. and Schroeder, L.A. Analgesic activity of intraspinally administered dynorphin and ethylketocyclazocine. *Eur. J. Pharm.* 80: 283, 1982.
2. Varner, K.J., Gebber, G.L., Barman, S.M. and Huang, Z.-S. The medial thalamus as a potential generator of sympathetic tone. In: Organization of the Autonomic Nervous System: Central and Peripheral Mechanisms, ed. by C. Polosa, F.R. Calaresu and J. Ciriello. New York: A.R. Liss, 1986, pp. 203-212.
3. Huang, Z.-S., Gebber, G.L., Barman, S.M. and Varner, K.J. Forebrain contribution to sympathetic nerve discharge in anesthetized cats. *Am. J. Physiol.* 252: (Regulatory Integrative Comp. Physiol. 21): R645-R652, 1987.
4. Huang, Z.-S., Varner, K.J., Barman, S.M. and Gebber, G.L. Diencephalic regions contributing to sympathetic nerve discharge in anesthetized cats. *Am. J. Physiol.* 254 (Regulatory Integrative Comp. Physiol. 23): R249-R256, 1988.
5. Varner, K.J., Barman, S.M. and Gebber, G.L. Cat diencephalic neurons with sympathetic nerve-related activity. *Am. J. Physiol.* 254 (Regulatory Integrative Comp. Physiol. 23): R257-R267, 1988.
6. Barres, C.P., Lewis, S.J., Grosskreutz, C.L., Varner, K.J., and Brody, M.J. Role of renal nerves in experimental hypertension: Evaluation of neurogenic mechanisms. *Clin. Exp. Hyper.*, A11: 117-124, 1989.
7. Varner, K.J., Grosskreutz, C.L., Cox, B.F. and Brody, M.J. Differential regulation of sympathetic nerve activity by lateral and medial subregions of the rostral ventral medulla. *Prog. Brain Res.*, 81:99-103, 1989.
8. Varner, K.J., Vasquez, E.C., Lewis, S.J., Machado, B.H., Grosskreutz, C.L., Simon, J.S. and Brody, M.J. Regulation of autonomic cardiovascular function by the rostral ventromedial medulla (RVMM). In: Central Neural Mechanisms in Blood Pressure Regulation (G. Kunos and J. Ciriello, eds.), Birkauser Boston Inc., 1990, p. 29-36.
9. Varner, K.J., Rutherford, D.S., Vasquez, E.C. and Brody, M.J. Identification of cardiovascular neurons in the rostral ventromedial medulla in rats. *Hypertension*, 19(2) (suppl. II): II-193-II-197, 1991.
10. Vasquez, E.C., Lewis, S.J., Varner, K.J. and Brody, M.J. Chronic lesion of rostral ventrolateral medulla in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Hypertension*, 19(2) (suppl. II): II-154-II-158, 1991.
11. Brody, M.J., Varner, K.J., Lewis, S.J. and Vasquez, E.C. The central nervous system and the pathogenesis of hypertension: sites and mechanisms. *Hypertension*, 18(5) (suppl. III): III-7-III-

- 12, 1991.
12. Varner, K.J., Vasquez, E.C., Lewis, S.J. and Brody, M.J. Lesions of rostral ventromedial or ventrolateral medulla prevents neurogenic hypertension. *Hypertension*, 24:91-96, 1994.
  13. Abrahams, T.P., Cuntapay, M.C. and Varner, K.J. Sympathetic nerve responses elicited by cocaine in anesthetized and conscious rats. *Physiol. Behav.* 58:109-115, 1995.
  14. Songu-Mize, E., Vassallo, D.V., Rashed, S.M. and Varner, K. Ouabain amplifies contractile responses to phenylephrine in rat tail arteries in hypertension. *J. Basic Clin. Physiol. and Pharm.*, 6:309-319, 1995.
  15. Abrahams, T.P., Faust, M.L. and Varner, K.J. Depletion of monoamines blocks the sympathoinhibitory response to cocaine. *J. Auto. Nerv. Sys.* 58:170-176, 1996.
  16. Abrahams, T.P., Liu, W. and Varner, K.J. Blockade of  $\alpha_2$ -adrenergic receptors in the rostral ventrolateral medulla attenuates the sympathoinhibitory response to cocaine. *J. Pharm. Exp. Ther.*, 279:1-8, 1996.
  17. Cabral, A.-M., Varner, K.J. and Kapusta, D.K. Renal excretory responses produced by central administration of opioid agonists in ketamine and xylazine-anesthetized rats. *J. Pharm. Exp. Ther.* 282:609-616, 1997.
  18. Liu, W. and Varner, K.J. Characterization of the sympathetic nerve responses to amphetamine: role of central  $\alpha_2$ -adrenergic receptors. *J. Cardiovasc. Pharm.* 28:712-722, 1996.
  19. Petersen, J.S., Liu, W., Kapusta, D.R. and Varner, K.J. Metformin inhibits ganglionic neurotransmission in renal nerves. *Hypertension* 29:1173-1177, 1997.
  20. Abrahams, T.P. and Varner, K.J. Effects of cocaine on adrenal sympathetic nerve discharge in anesthetized rats. *Physiol. Behav.* 63(4):629-634, 1998.
  21. Cabral, A.-M., Kapusta, D.K. and Varner, K.J. Central alpha-2 mechanisms contribute to the enhanced renal responses during ketamine/ xylazine anesthesia. *Am. J. Physiol*, 275:R1867-R1874, 1998.
  22. Rossoni, L.V., Amaral, S.M.C., Vassallo, P.F., Franca A, Oviveria, E.M., Varner, K.J., Mill, J.G. and Vassallo, D.V. Effects of mercury on the arterial blood pressure of anesthetized rats. *Br. J. Med. Biol. Res.* Br. J Med Biol. Res. 32: 989-997, 1999.
  23. O'Cain, P.A., Hletko, S., Ogden B.A. and Varner, K.J. Cardiovascular and sympathetic responses and reflex changes elicited by MDMA. *J. Physiol. Behav*, 70: 141-148, 2000.
  24. Varner, K.J., Hein, N., Ogden, B.A., Arsenault, J.R., Carter, K.M. and Soine, W.H. Chloroephedrine: contaminant of methamphetamine synthesis with cardiovascular activity. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 64:299-307, 2001.

25. Varner, K.J., Ogden, B.A., Delcarpio, J.B. and Meleg-Smith, S. Cardiovascular responses elicited by the “binge” administration of methamphetamine. *J. Pharmacol. Exp Ther.*, 301:152-159, 2002.
26. Badon, L.A., Hicks, A., Ogden, B.A., Meleg-Smith, S. and Varner, K.J.: Changes in cardiovascular responsiveness and cardiotoxicity elicited during "binge" administration of “ecstasy”. *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 302:1-10, 2002.
27. Hicks, A.R., Ogden, B.A. and Varner, K.J. Cardiovascular responses elicited during the binge administration of cocaine. *J. Physiol. Behav.* 80:115-122, 2003.
28. Hicks, A.R., Kaupsta, D.R. and Varner, K.J. Mechanisms underlying the sympathomimetic cardiovascular responses elicited by  $\gamma$ -hydroxybutyrate. *J. Cardiovasc. Pharm.* 44:631-638, 2004.
29. Gerak, L.R., Hicks, A.R., Winasuer, P.J. and Varner, K.J. Rate-decreasing effects of and cardiovascular responses elicited by 1,4-butanediol administered alone in combination with ethanol. *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 506:75-82, 2004.
30. Gottlieb, H.B., Varner, K.J., Kenigs, V.A., Cabral, A.M. and Kapusta, D.R. Differential cardiovascular and renal responses produced by microinjection of the  $\kappa$ -opioid U-50488H [(trans-3,4-dichloro-N-methyl-N-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)cyclohexyl]-benzene-acetamide) methane sulfonate] into subregions of the paraventricular nucleus. *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 312:678-685, 2005.
31. Liles, J.T., Dabisch, P.A., Hude, K.E., Pradhan, L., Varner, K.J., Porter, J.R., Hicks, A.R., Corrl, C., Baber, S.R. and Kadowitz, P.J. Pressor responses to ephedrine are mediated by a direct mechanism in the rat. *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 316:95-105, 2006.
32. Hicks, A.R. and Varner, K.J. Cardiovascular responses elicited by intragastric administration of BDL and GHB. *J. Receptor Sig. Trans.* 28:429-436, 2008. PMC2860846
33. Shenouda S.K., Lord, K.C., McIlwain, E., Lucchesi, P.A. and Varner, K.J. Ecstasy produces left ventricular dysfunction and oxidative stress in rats. *Cardiovasc. Res.* 79:662-70, 2008. PMC2732062
34. Blumer, J.B., Lord, K., Saunders, T.L., Pacchioni, A., Black, C., Lazartigues, E., Varner, K.J., Gettys, T. W. and Lanier, S.M. Activator of G-protein signaling 3 null mice: I. unexpected alterations in metabolic and cardiovascular function. *Endocrinology* 149: 3842-3849, 2008. PMC2488243
35. Shenouda, S.K. Varner, K.J., Carvalho, F. and Lucchesi, P.A. Metabolites of MDMA induce oxidative stress and contractile dysfunction in adult rat left ventricular myocytes. *Cardiovasc. Tox.* 9(1): 30-38, 2009. PMC2859611.
36. Lord, K.C., Shenouda, S.K., McIlwain, E., Charalampidis, D., Lucchesi, P.A. and Varner, K.J. Oxidative stress contributes to methamphetamine-induced left ventricular dysfunction. *Cardiovasc. Res.* 87(1):111-118, 2010. PMC2883898.

37. Walsh, M., Dellinger, B., Cormier, S., and Varner, K.J. By-products of the thermal treatment of hazardous waste-formation and health effects. *EM*, April: 26-30, 2010. PMC3368582.
38. Molina, P.E., Winsauer, P., Walker, E., Birke, L., Amedee, A., Zhang, P., Vande Stouwe, C., Troxclair, D., Byerley, L., Lamotte, L. and Varner K.J. Cannabinoid administration attenuates the progression of simian immunodeficiency virus. *AIDS Res Human Retroviruses*, 27(6):585-592, 2010. PMC3131805.
39. Lord, K., Moll, D., Lindsey, J.K., Mahne, S., Raman, G., Dugas, T., Cormier, S., Troxclair, D., Lomnicki, S., Dellinger, B and Varner, K.J. Environmentally persistent free radicals decrease cardiac function before and after ischemia/reperfusion injury in vivo. *J. Receptor Sig. Trans.* 31:157-167, 2011. PMC3152960.
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### **REVIEWS:**

1. Shenouda, S.K., Carvalho, F. and Varner, K.J. The Cardiovascular and Cardiac Actions of Ecstasy and its metabolites. *Cur. Pharm Biotech*, 11: 470-475, 2010.

### **ABSTRACTS:**

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**CIVIC AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:**

American Heart Association-Louisiana Affiliate, Community Advocacy Group  
Contributed to WWL Channel 4 news report on dangers of Ecstasy  
Contributed to Times Picayune news report on dangers of drugs used at “Rave” dance parties.