

# AI-Driven Drug Repurposing for cocaine/ methamphetamine use disorder

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**ASAM 55th Annual Conference  
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# Disclosure Information (Required)

**AI-Driven Drug Repurposing for cocaine/ methamphetamine use disorder**

**April 6, 2024, ASAM 55th Annual Conference**

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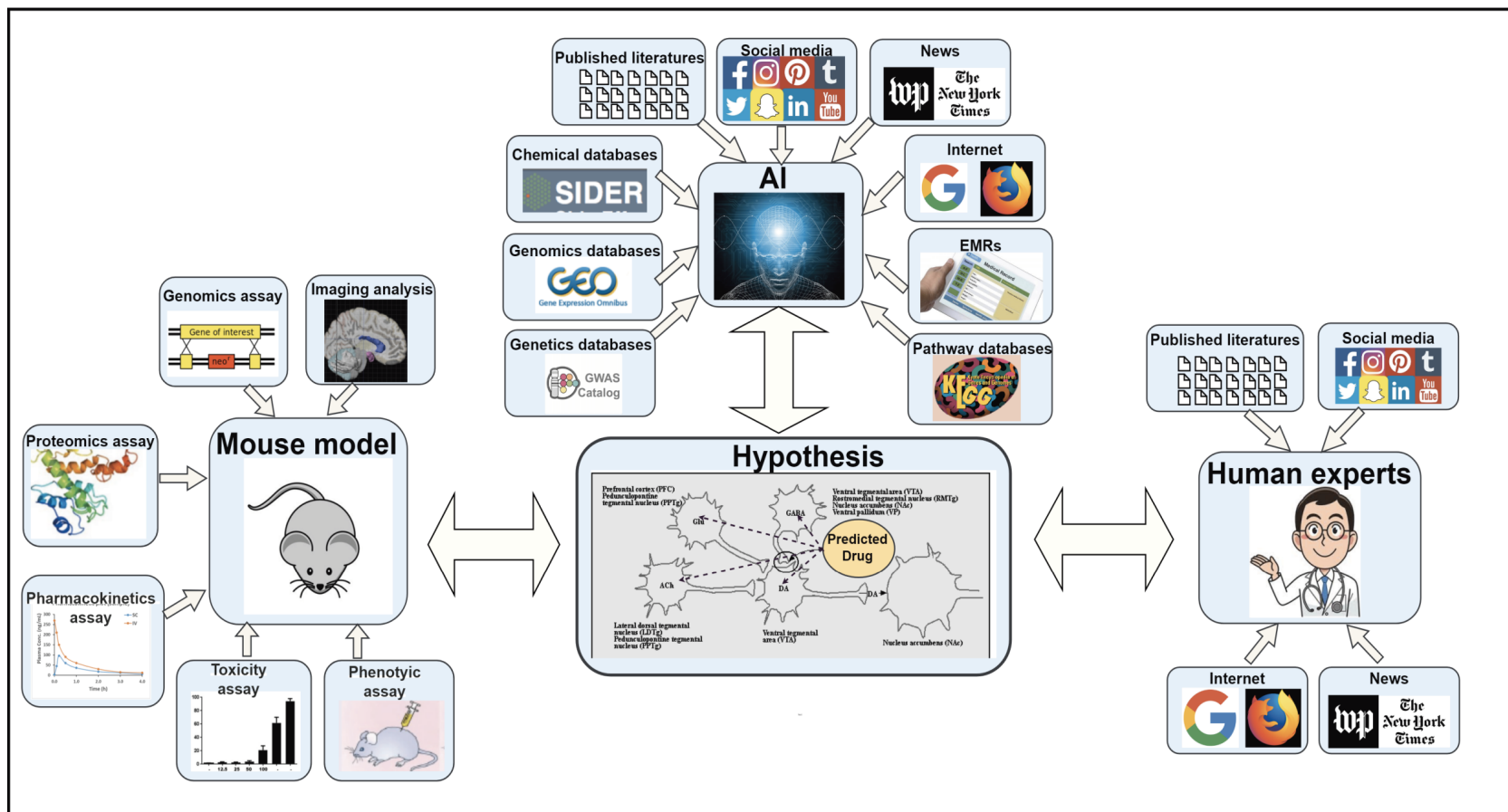
☀ No Disclosures



# Learning Objectives (Suggested)

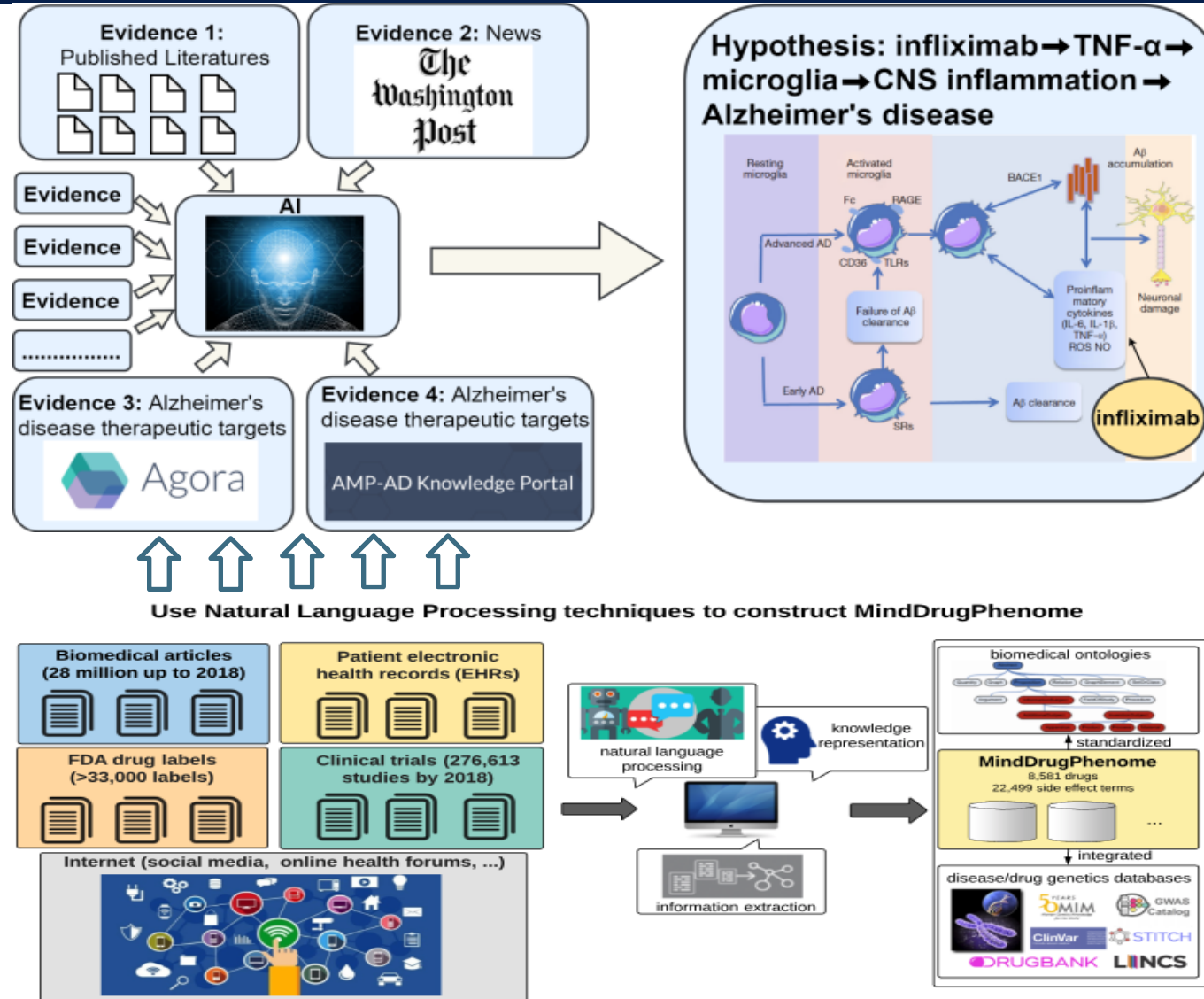
- ✦ To demonstrate the potential of advanced AI technologies in drug repurposing to treat stimulant use disorders

# Knowledge-driven AI-Human-Animal Reinforcement Learning



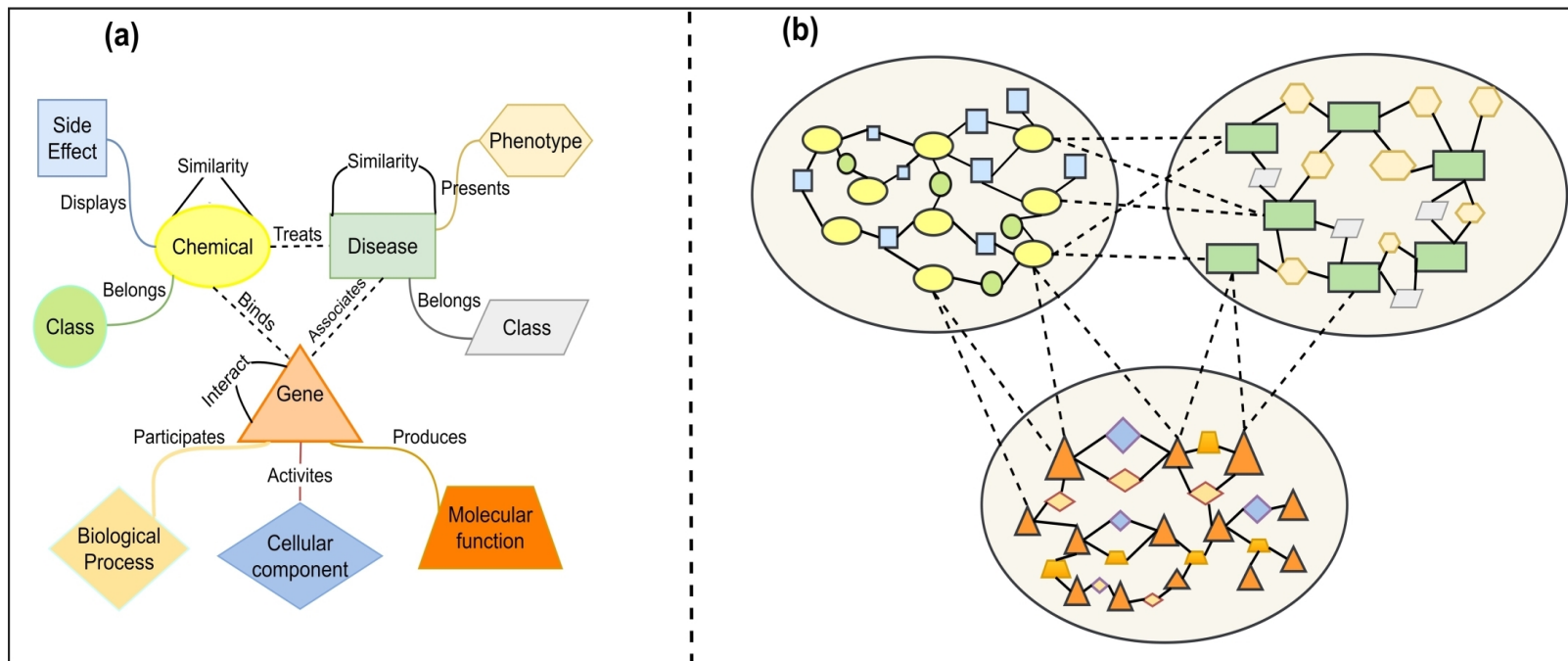
# Knowledge-driven AI-Human-Animal Reinforcement Learning

The majority of biomedical knowledge is buried in free-text documents (“wisdom of the crowd”)



# Wiring of the AI “brain”

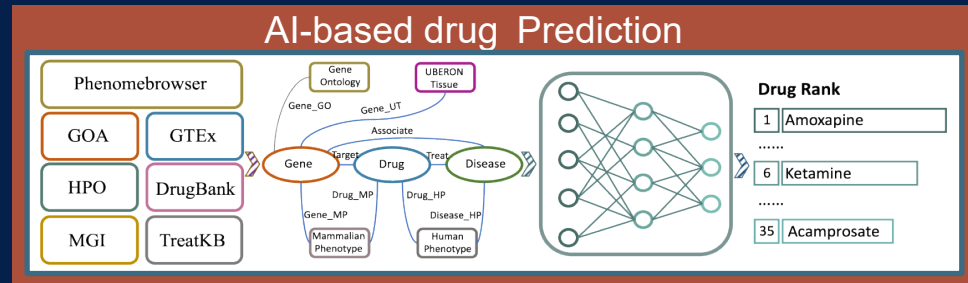
- Context-sensitive network, knowledge graph
- **Explainable, transparent**



CUD “is a comorbidity of” opioid use disorder, depression “is a risk factor for” CUD, CUD “is a risk factor for” depression, BDNF “is associated with” CUD, ketamine “targets” BDNF, ketamine “treats” depression, ketamine “causes” hypertension, .....

# Drug Repurposing for cocaine use disorder (CUD): integration of AI, human intelligence, clinical corroboration, and mechanism of action analysis

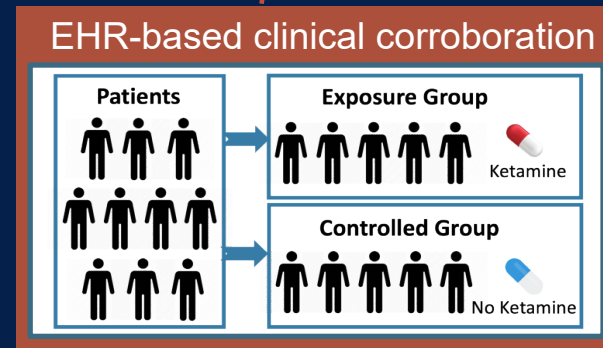
## 1. AI-based Prediction



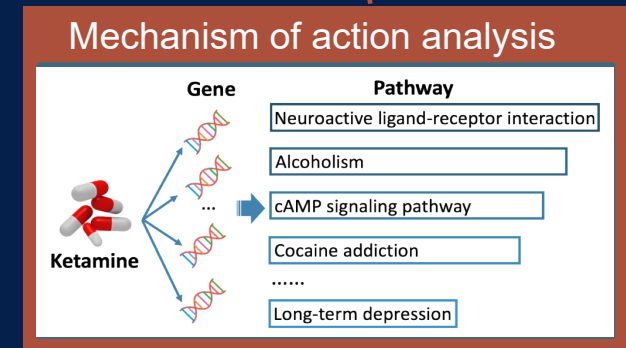
## 2. Expert review



## 3. Clinical evaluation



## 4. Mechanisms of action analysis



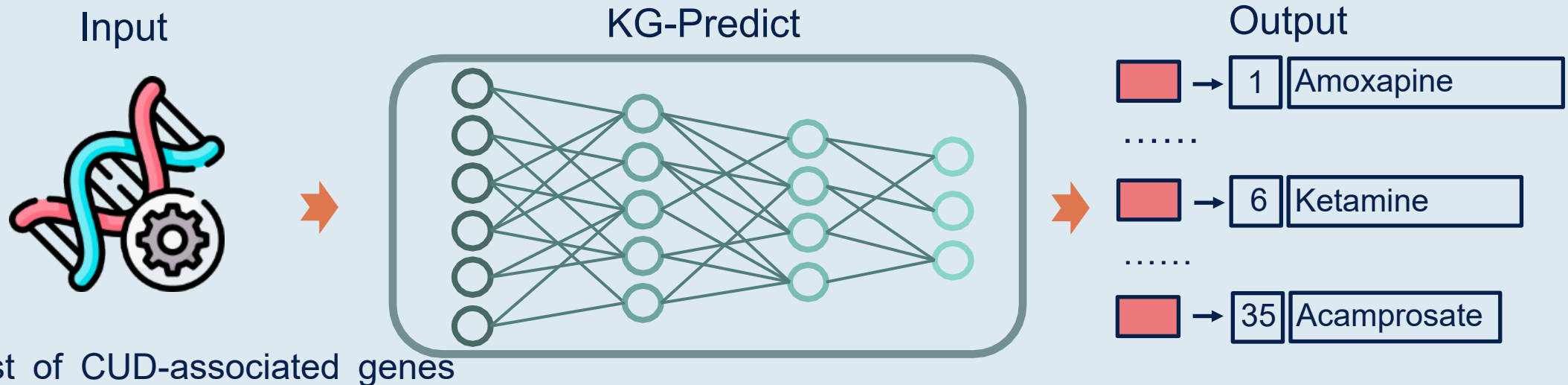


# Step 1: AI-based drug repurposing for CUD

**Input:** a list of CUD-associated genes.

**Output:** a list of prioritized candidate drugs

**Algorithm:** KG-Predict

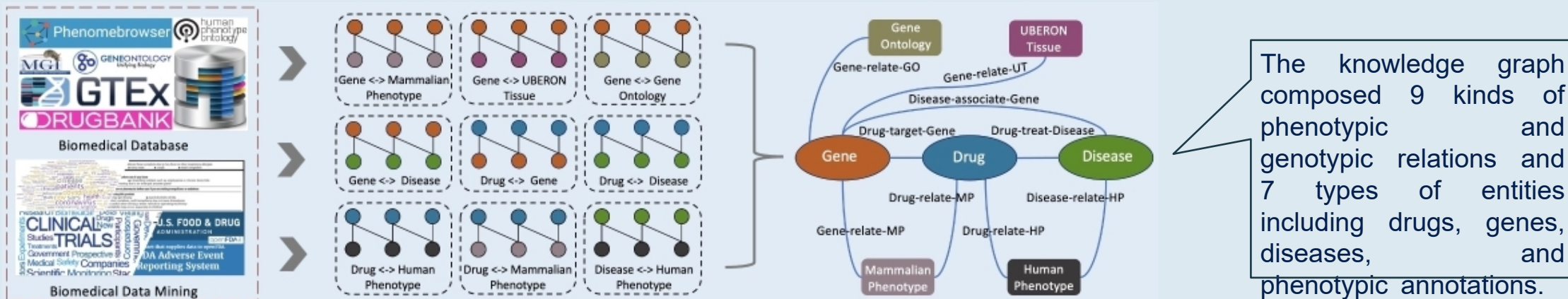




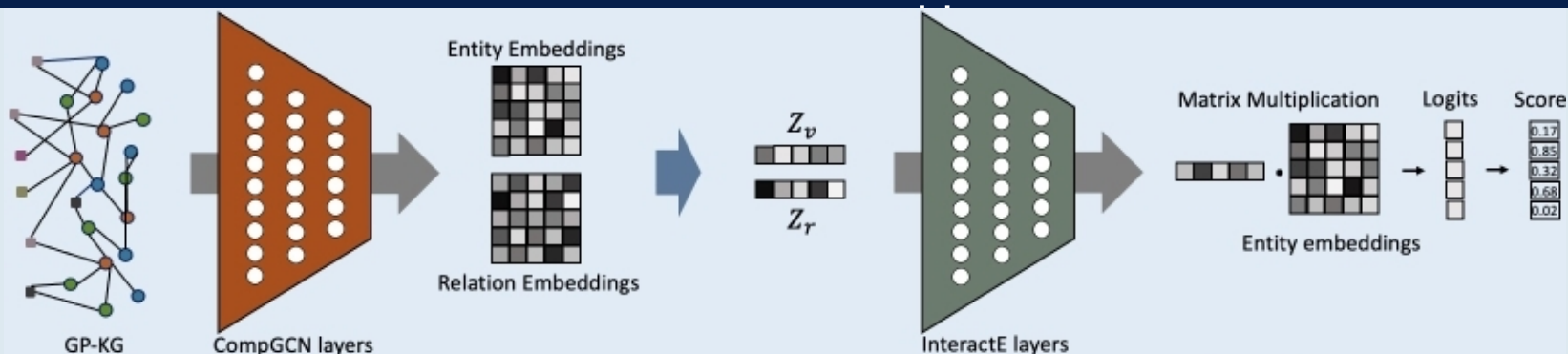
# KG-Predict: knowledge graph-based prediction

## Phase 1: Flow chart of knowledge graph construction

- (a) Extracted raw interactions from biomedical databases and text-mined knowledge base
- (b) Mapped entities into standard identifiers and merged raw interactions into a knowledge graph



## Phase 2: From knowledge graph to entity/relation embedding to prediction, i.e. Drug



(a) GP-KG Representation

(b) Prediction based on GP-KG Representation

# Step 2: Expert Panel Review of top candidates

The CTN-0114 advisory committee members



- ☀ Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD
- ☀ Todd Korthuis, MD, MPH
- ☀ Sean Luo, PhD
- ☀ Edward Nunes, MD
- ☀ John Rotrosen, MD
- ☀ Andrew Saxon, MD
- ☀ Steven Shoptaw, PhD.

# Expert Panel Review

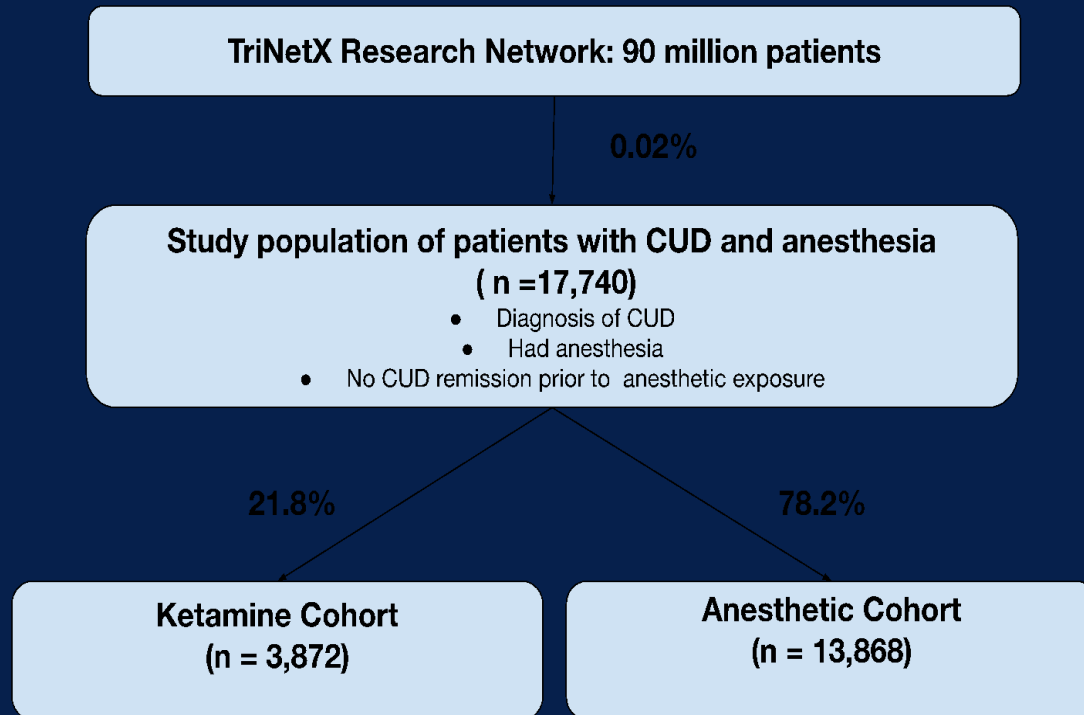
Should each of the **top 35** drug candidates (out of a ranked list of **1,430** drugs) be included in the EHR analysis taking into account :

- ✱ Existing pre-clinical and clinical trials evidence
- ✱ Likely challenges with clinical utilization
- ✱ Potential to address co-occurring substance use and/or phenotypes which patients frequently report as being prominent barriers to their recovery
- ✱ On-going (or soon to start investigations)

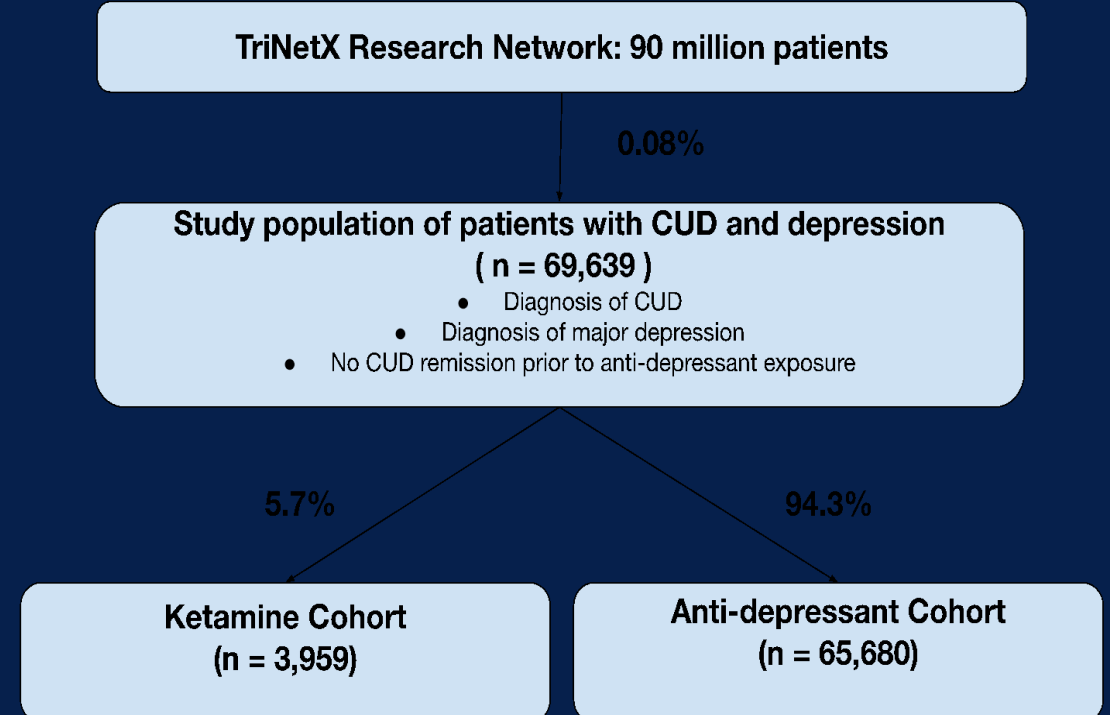
Drug	Likely Poor Adherence? No*	Likely helpful for co-occurring substance use? Yes*	Likely helpful for phenotypes that are barriers to recovery? Yes*	EHR analysis? Yes*
Ketamine	7 (100%)	7 (100%)	6 (85.7%)	7 (100%)

# Step 3: EHR-based clinical evaluation: cohort selection

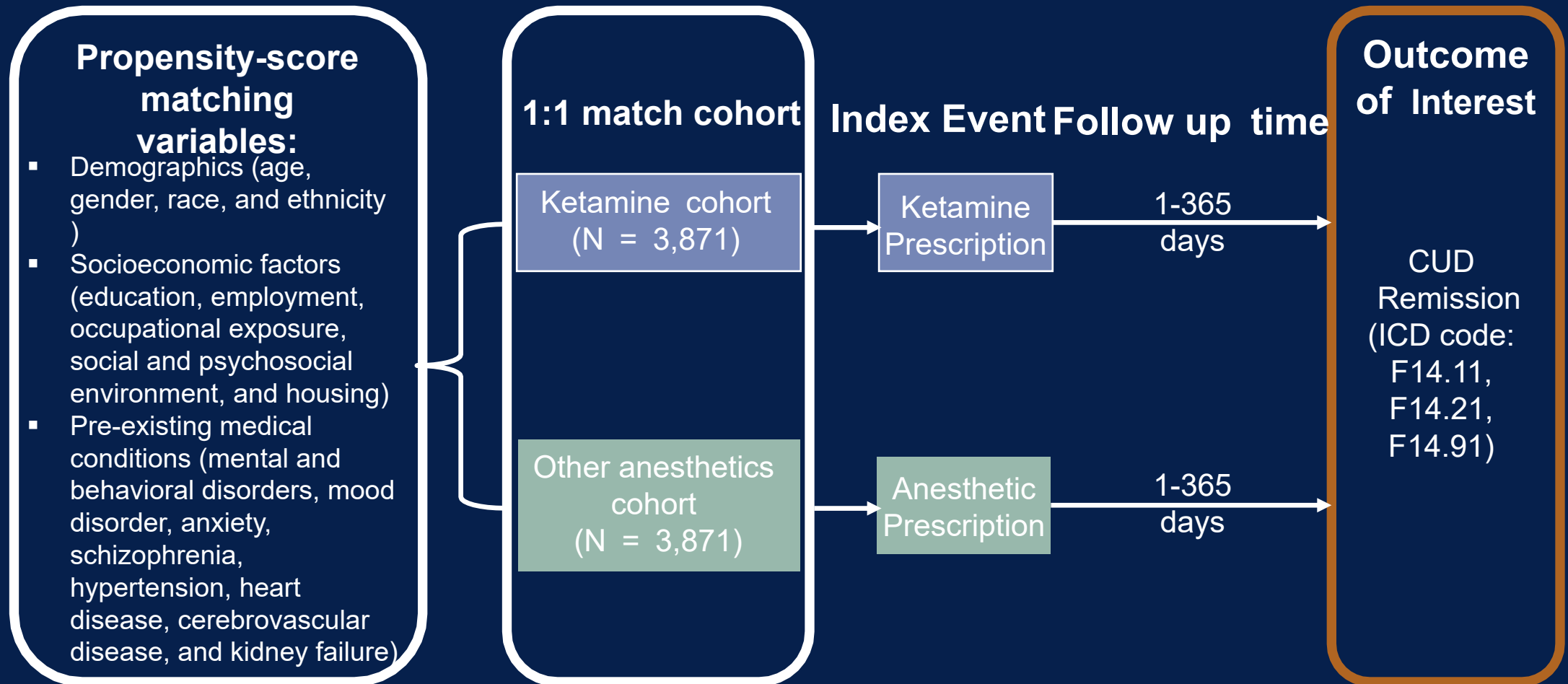
## Study population #1: patients with CUD + anesthesia



## Study population #2: patients with CUD + major depression

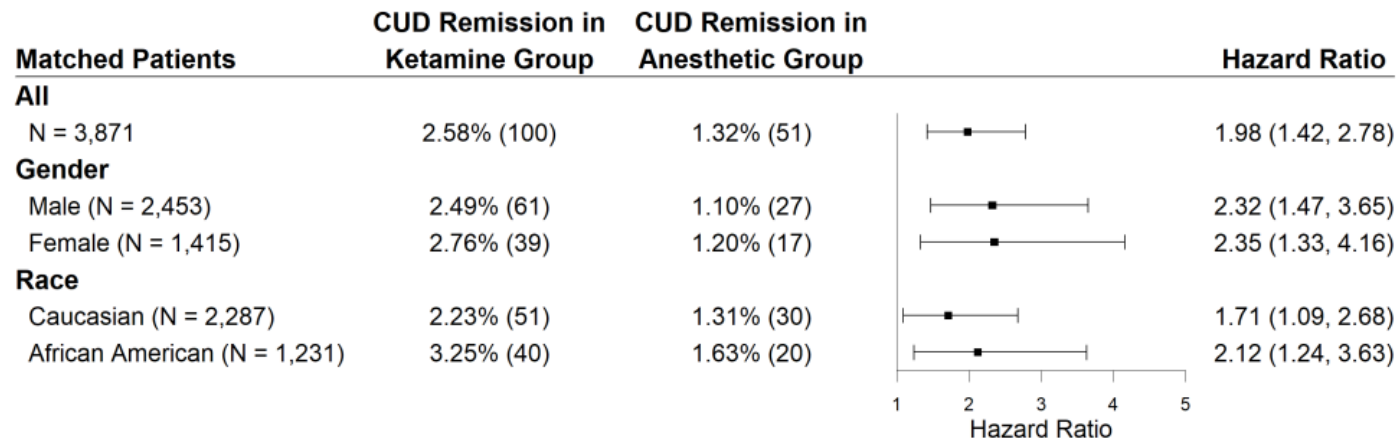


# Comparing hazard rate of CUD remission within 1-year following ketamine vs. anesthetic prescription between matched cohorts

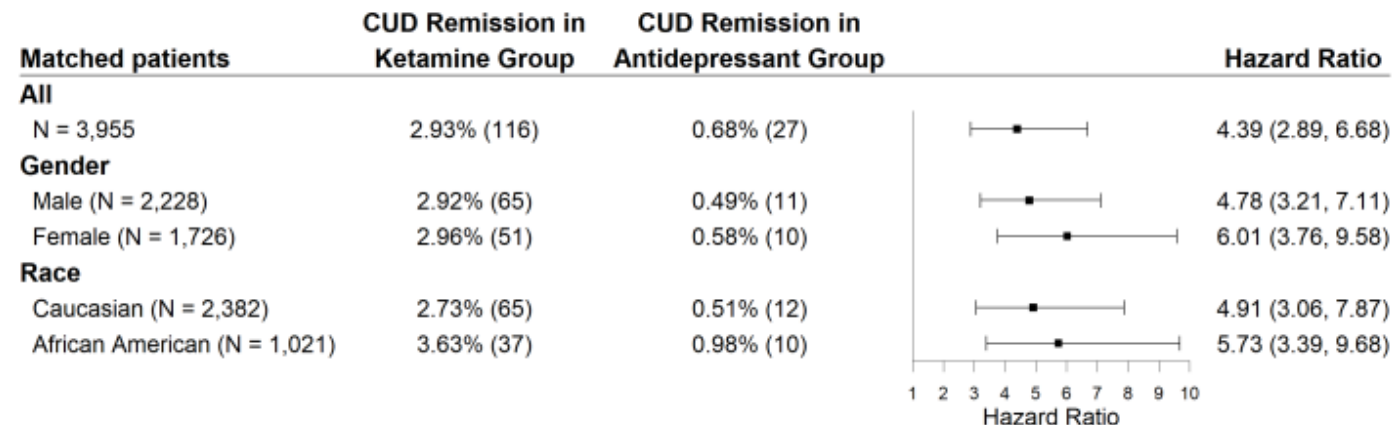


# Ketamine was associated with improved CUD remission compared with other anesthetic or anti-depressants

- ☀ Ketamine is associated with greater remission from CUD in patients prescribed ketamine as an anesthetic (HR=1.98, CI=1.42-2.78)



- ☀ Ketamine is associated with greater remission from CUD in patients prescribed ketamine as an antidepressant (HR=4.39, CI=2.89-6.68)



# Step 4: Mechanisms of action analysis of ketamine in the context of CUD

## ☀ Ketamine targets CUD-associated genes

Drug	Total Target Genes	Target CUD Genes	CUD Genes
Ketamine	154	10	BDNF, CNR1, DRD2, GABRA2, GABRB3, GAD1, OPRK1, OPRM1, SLC6A3, SLC6A4

## ☀ Ketamine targets CUD-related pathways

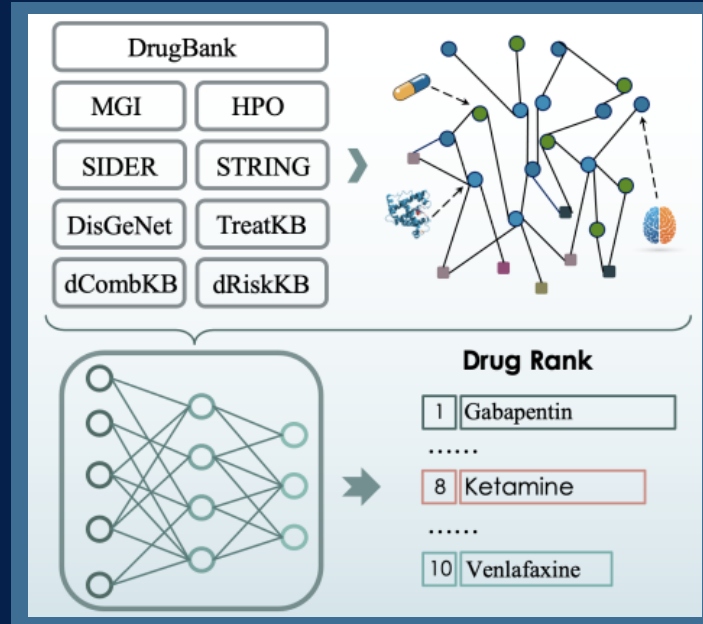
Pathways			
1	Neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction	2	Alcoholism
3	cAMP signaling pathway	4	Cocaine addiction
5	Dopaminergic synapse	6	Amphetamine addiction
7	GABAergic synapse	8	Morphine addiction
9	Serotonergic synapse	10	Nicotine addiction
11	Retrograde endocannabinoid signaling	12	Long-term depression



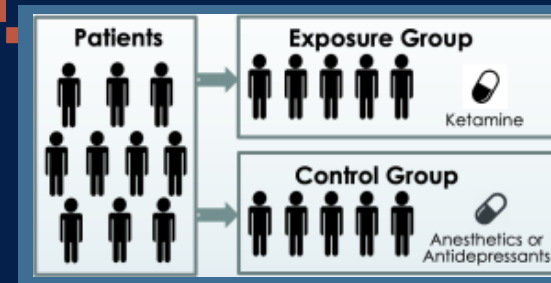
**Does the AI system work  
for other StUDs?**

# Drug Repurposing for methamphetamine use disorder (MethUD)

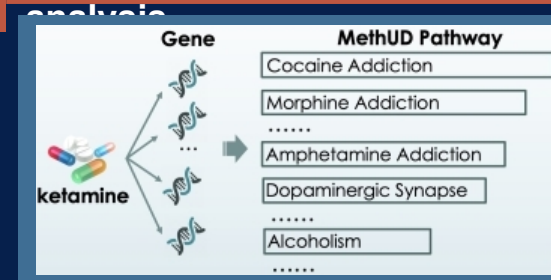
(A) AI prediction for MethUD



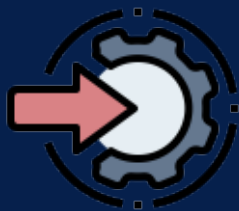
(b) EHR-based clinical corroboration



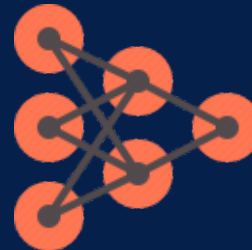
(c) Mechanism of action analysis



Input: MethUD



AI prediction

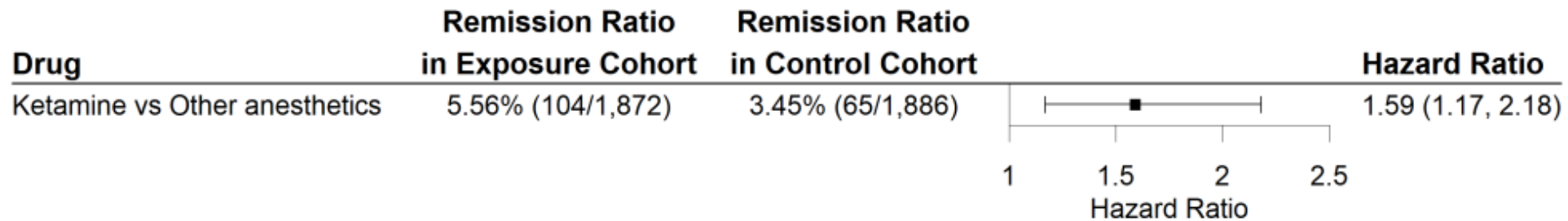


Output

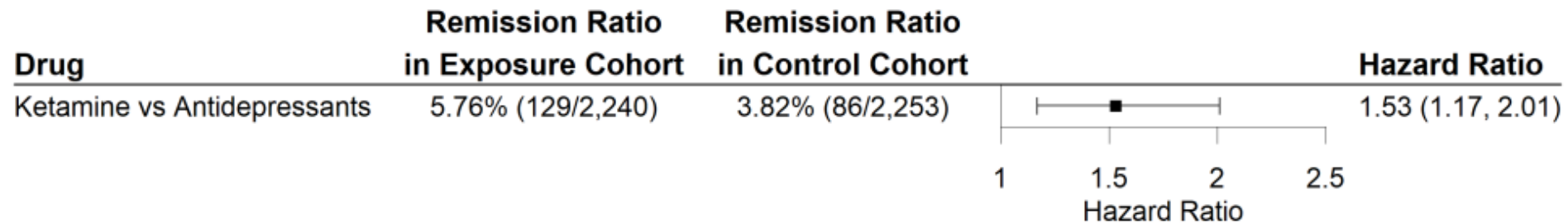
Gabapentin  
Naltrexone  
Baclofen  
Aripiprazole  
Olanzapine  
Mexiletine  
Quetiapine  
Ketamine  
Propranolol  
.....

# Results: Ketamine is associated with higher rate of MethUD remission compared with other anesthetic or anti-depressants

- ☀ Ketamine is associated with greater remission from MethUD in patients prescribed ketamine as an anesthetic (HR=1.59, CI=1.17-2.18 )



- ☀ Ketamine is associated with greater remission from MethUD in patients prescribed ketamine as an antidepressant (HR=1.53 , CI=1.17-2.01 )



# Mechanisms of action analysis of ketamine in the context of MethUD

## ☀ Ketamine targets MethUD-associated genes

Drug	Total Target Genes	Target MethUD Genes	MethUD Genes
Ketamine	154	12	NPY1R, HTR3A, GRM2, BDNF, ACHE, OPRM1, SLC6A4, GABRG2, SLC6A3, ADORA2A, DRD2, FOS

## ☀ Ketamine targets MethUD-related pathways

Pathways	
1 Cocaine addiction	2 Morphine addiction
3 Neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction	4 Amphetamine addiction
5 Dopaminergic synapse	6 cAMP signaling pathway
7 Gap junction	8 Serotonergic synapse
9 Neurotrophin signaling pathway	10 Fluid shear stress and atherosclerosis
11 Relaxin signaling pathway	12 Alcoholism
13 MAPK signaling pathway	14 Chemical carcinogenesis - receptor activation
15 Chemical carcinogenesis - reactive oxygen species	

# Summary, limitations and future directions

## Summary:

- This study demonstrates the potential of knowledge-driven AI in drug discovery for substance use disorders including StUD
- Findings suggest the potential of ketamine for treating CUD/MethUD

## Limitations:

- AI-prediction: Incomplete, noisy, evolving knowledge
- Expert evaluation: time-consuming
- Cohort studies: confounders and biases
- Mechanism of action analysis: in-silico

## Future works:

- Other substance use disorders
- Polysubstance use disorders
- Substance use disorders with comorbidities.



Gao Z, Winhusen TJ\*, Gorenflo M, Ghitza UE, Davis PB, Kaelber DC, Xu R\*. Repurposing ketamine to treat cocaine use disorder: Integration of artificial intelligence-based prediction, expert evaluation, clinical corroboration, and mechanism of action analyses. *Addiction*. 2023 Feb 15. doi: 10.1111/add.16168.

# Acknowledgement

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- ✴ CTN-0114 Advisory Committee:
  - ✴ Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD
  - ✴ Todd Korthuis, MD, MPH
  - ✴ Sean Luo, PhD
  - ✴ Edward Nunes, MD
  - ✴ John Rotrosen, MD
  - ✴ Andrew Saxon, MD
  - ✴ Steven Shoptaw, PhD
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# QUESTIONS?

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