

Tkach, Colleen

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Subject: EM: Neuroscience Speaker Series: Dr. Kate Kuhlman UCI

From: Tom Borowski

NEUROSCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES



Dr. Kate Kuhlman

**Joe C. Wen School of Population and Public Health
University of California, Irvine**

**Early Life Adversity, Depression, and Disease in
Adolescence: A Psychoneuroimmunological
Perspective**

Tuesday, October 29

4:30 PM

**Hahn Hall, Rm 108
Pomona College**

Abstract: Early life adversity (ELA) pleiotropically impacts mental and physical health, with long-term consequences that manifest during adolescence and extend into adulthood. This lecture will explore how ELA shapes the immune system's response to stress, influencing the onset and course of depression and other health outcomes. Drawing from the field of psychoneuroimmunology, Dr. Kate Kuhlman will discuss recent research on the bidirectional relationship between immune activation and psychological outcomes in adversity-exposed youth, with a focus on inflammation and reward sensitivity. Using findings from prospective longitudinal studies, including the UCLA Vaccine Study, the Teen Resilience Project, and the UCI Eating Patterns and Activity Study, this talk will explore whether ELA changes the way the immune system responds to threat, whether ELA increases psychological sensitivity to immune activation, and whether these pathways can be mitigated through intervention. This talk is aimed at students, researchers, and clinicians interested in the intersection of mental health, immunology, and developmental psychology. Learn more about Dr. Kuhlman and her lab at UCI by visiting teenresilience.org!