

Dr. William Barta

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Research Associate

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Biography

Dr. Barta was born in Rhode Island; he earned a Bachelor's degree at the University of Rhode Island in 1988. After advancing in a non-academic career for several years, he returned to an academic setting to earn a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Current Research Interests

Dr. Barta is Principal Investigator on a National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)-sponsored project, "Alcohol-involved sexual risk behavior among HIV+ persons". This grant has allowed him to pursue his interest in the study of emotional self-regulation and the relationship between self-regulation lapses and sexual risk behavior among people living with HIV/AIDS. The use of electronic daily diary data reflects both his interest in temporal processes -- that is, the factors promoting stability and change in behavior over time -- and his interest in the applications of technology to basic research as well as intervention.

Dr. Barta is also Co-Principal Investigator on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant aimed at producing an HIV/STI prevention entertaining, educational computer game. Among his publications, Dr. Barta is the author of a widely-cited article on infidelity among dating couples. He has presented empirical findings relating to the use of a computer-delivered intervention to change HIV preventive behaviors, as well as the application of message framing to the development of tailored condom use messages.