

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

Co-Sponsored by
**Addiction Research Treatment &
Training Center of Excellence**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2021
12:00pm – Virtual Presentation**

Carrie R. Ferrario, Ph.D.
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The University of Michigan Medical School
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Alterations in Brain and Behavior Contributing to Obesity

While urges to eat are regulated by hunger, satiety, and energy demand, they are also strongly influenced by sights, sounds, and smells that are associated with food (food cues). Dr. Ferrario's lab examines the neurobiological mechanisms of cue-triggered food 'craving' and how these processes are influenced by susceptibility to obesity and consumption of sugary, fatty, "junk-foods". Her studies use a variety of approaches in preclinical models including behavioral pharmacology, biochemistry, and slice electrophysiology. In her talk, she will discuss how alterations in excitatory transmission within the brain's reward pathway influence food craving, and the relationship of these neurobehavioral alterations to aberrant vs. normative reward-seeking behaviors.
