

Kreshnik Burani, Ph.D.

Center for Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Research
McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School
Belmont, MA
kburani@gmail.com

Employment

2023 **Research Fellow**
Center for Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Research
McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School
Belmont, MA
Advisor: Daniel G. Dillon, Ph.D.

Education

2023 **Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical Psychology**
Florida State University
Department of Psychology
Advisor: Greg Hajcak, Ph.D.

2023 **Predoctoral Intern in Clinical Psychology**
The Charleston Consortium Psychology Internship, Charleston, SC
Adult Psychopathology Track
Research Preceptor: Lisa M. McTeague, Ph.D.

2017 **Master of Science, Clinical Psychology**
Florida State University
Department of Psychology
Advisor: Greg Hajcak, Ph.D.

2015 **Bachelor of Science,**
Biology: Neuroscience Specialization
Stony Brook University

Research Grants

Awarded
2020 **National Institutes of Health (T32) Training Grant**
Impact of Cumulative Life Stress Exposure on Stress-Induced Anhedonia: Linking
HPA-axis Reactivity and Reward Circuit Function
Sponsors: Dr. Greg Hajcak, Dr. Lisa Eckel
**Awarded through a competitive application process*

Manuscripts

2023

16. **Burani, K.,** Brush, C.J., Spahr, C., Slavich, G.M., Meyer, A., Hajcak, G. (2023). Corporal punishment is associated with increased error processing and decreased reward sensitivity. *Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging.*

2022

15. Morabito, D.M., **Burani, K.**, & Hajcak, G. (2022) Depression elicits peer victimization: A longitudinal prospective study among adolescent females. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 53 (1), 39 - 47.
14. Gallyer, A.J., **Burani, K.**, Mulligan, E.M., Santopetro, N., Dougherty, S.P., Jeon, M.E., Joiner, T.E., Hajcak, G. (2022). Examining Blunted Initial Response to Reward and Recent Suicidal Ideation in Children and Adolescents Using Event-Related Potentials: Failure to Conceptually Replicate Across Two Independent Samples. *Clinical Psychological Science*.
13. **Burani, K.**, Brush, C.J., Shields, G.S., Klein, D.N., Nelson, B.D., Slavich, G.M. & Hajcak., G., Greater Cumulative Lifetime Stressor Exposure Predicts a Blunted RewP in Adolescent Girls Over Two Years, *Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging* (2022), doi: [https:// doi.org/10.1016/j.bpsc.2022.05.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpsc.2022.05.011).
12. **Burani, K.**, Brush, C.J., Shields, G.S., Slavich. G. M., Klein, D.N., Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (2022). Cumulative Lifetime Acute Stressor Exposure Interacts with Reward Responsiveness to Predict Longitudinal Increases in Depression Severity in Adolescence. *Psychological Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291722001386>
11. Dell'Acqua, C., Brush, C.J., **Burani, K.**, Santopetro, N.J., Klawohn, J., Messerotti Benvenuti, S., & Hajcak, G. (2022). Reduced electrocortical responses to pleasant pictures in depression: A brief report on time-domain and time-frequency delta analyses. *Biological Psychology*. In press.

2021

10. **Burani, K.**, Brush, C.J., Gallyer, A., Joiner, T., Nelson, B., Hajcak, G. (2021). Maternal suicidality interacts with blunted reward processing to prospectively predict increases in depressive symptoms in 8-to-14-year-old girls. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*.
9. Gallyer, A.J., Dougherty, S.P., **Burani, K.**, Albanese, B.J., Joiner, T.E., Hajcak, G. (2021). Suicidal thoughts, behaviors, and event-related potentials: A meta-analysis. *Psychophysiology*
8. Brush, C.J., **Burani, K.**, Schmidt, K.M., Santopetro, N., Hajcak, G., (2021). The impact of a single session of aerobic exercise on positive emotional reactivity in depression: Insight into individual differences from the late positive potential. *Behavior Research and Therapy*
7. Santopetro, N., Brush, C.J., **Burani, K.**, Bruchnak, A., Hajcak, G. (2021). Doors P300 Moderates the Relationship Between Reward Positivity and Current Depression Status in Adults. *Journal of Affective Disorders*.
6. **Burani, K.**, Gallyer, A.J., Ryan, J., Jordan, C., Joiner, T.E., & Hajcak, G. (2021). Acute stress reduces reward related neural activity: Evidence from the reward positivity. *Stress*, DOI: 10.1080/10253890.2021.1929164
5. **Burani, K.**, Klawohn, J., Levinson, A. R., Klein, D. N., Nelson, B. D., & Hajcak, G. (2021). Neural response to rewards, stress and sleep interact to prospectively predict depressive symptoms in adolescent girls. *Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology*, 50(1), 131-140.

2020

4. Klawohn, J., Bruchnak, A., **Burani, K.**, Meyer, A., Lazarov, A., Bar-Haim, Y., Hajcak, G. (2020). Aberrant attentional bias to sad faces in depression: Evidence from an eye-tracking paradigm and the role of stressful life events. *Behavior Research and Therapy*, 135, 103762
3. **Burani, K.**, Nelson, B.D. (2020). Gender differences in anxiety: The mediating role of sensitivity to unpredictable threat. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 153, 127 – 134.
2. Klawohn, J., **Burani, K.**, Bruchnak, A., Santopetro, N., Hajcak, G. (2020). Reduced neural processing of reward and pleasant stimuli independently relate to depression. *Psychological Medicine*, 1, 9. doi:10.1017/S0033291719003659.

2019

1. **Burani, K.**, Mulligan, E.M., Klawohn, J., Luking, K.R., Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (2019). Longitudinal increases in reward-related neural activity in early adolescence: Evidence from event-related potentials (ERPs). *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 36, 100620.

Book Chapters

Brush, C.J., **Burani, K.** (2021). Exercise and physical activity for depression. In Z. Zenko & L. Jones (Eds.), *Essentials of exercise and sport psychology: An open access textbook* (pp. 338 – 368). Society for Transparency, Openness, and Replication in Kinesiology.

Conference Talks

2. **Burani, K.**, Klawohn, J., Klonsky, D., Nelson, B., Hajcak, G., (September 2022). The Role of Positive Emotionality in the Association Between the Late Positive Potential and Depressive Symptoms in Adolescence. Talk presented at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Vancouver BC, Canada.
1. **Burani, K.**, Hajcak, G. (October 2020). Acute Stress Reduced Reward-Related Neural Activity: Evidence from the Reward Positivity. Cancelled due to COVID-19. Talk was to be presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Vancouver BC, Canada.

Poster Presentations

12. Dell'Acqua, C., Brush, C.J., **Burani, K.**, Santopetro, N., Klawohn, J., Benvenuti, S.M., Hajcak, G. (September 2023). Reduced electrocortical responses to pleasant pictures in depression: A time-domain and time-frequency delta analyses. Poster presented at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
11. Brush, C.J., Santopetro, N., Kallen, A., **Burani, K.**, Winkler, A., Hajcak, G. (September 2022). Associations between physical activity, sedentary behavior, and the P300 during adolescence. Poster presented at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
10. **Burani, K.**, Brush, C.J., Shields, G., Slavich, G., Nelson, B., Hajcak, G. (October 2021). Acute, but not chronic, lifetime stress exposure prospectively predicts increased depressive symptoms in adolescent girls. Poster virtually presented at the 61st Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*.

9. Renault, H., **Burani, K.**, MacNamara, A., Foti, D., Kujawa, A., Hajcak, G., Klein, D., Kotov, R., Weinberg, A. (October 2020). Establishing norms for the reward positivity (RewP) from childhood to older adulthood in a sample of 3,222. Poster virtually presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*.
8. Kallen, A.M., Threadgill, A.H., Ryan, J., **Burani, K.**, Hajcak, G. (October 2020). Alcohol Hangover and Reduced P300 to Feedback in a Gambling Task. Poster virtually presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*.
7. Gallyer, A.J., **Burani, K.**, Mulligan, E. M., Jeon, M., Dougherty, S. P., Joiner, T. E., Hajcak, G. (April 2020). Examining neural reward processing in children and adolescents with recent suicidal ideation. Cancelled due to COVID-19. Poster was to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the *American Association of Suicidology*, Portland, OR, USA.
6. Jordan, C., Klawohn, J., **Burani, K.**, Kegley, M., Hajcak, G. (September 2019). Signaling rewards increases the reward positivity. Poster to be presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Washington, DC, USA.
5. **Burani, K.**, Klawohn, J., Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (September 2019). Stressful life events moderate the relationship between reward processing and prospective increases in depression. Poster to be presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Washington, DC, USA.
4. Gallyer, A. J., **Burani, K.**, Ryan, J., Jordan, C., Joiner, T. E., & Hajcak, G. (September 2019). Cold off the press: Neural response to rewards is blunted during an acute stressor. Poster presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Washington, DC, USA.
3. **Burani, K.**, Klawohn, J., Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (March 2019). Stressful life events moderate the relationship between reward processing and prospective increases in depression. Poster presented at the *Anxiety and Depression Association of America*, Washington, DC, USA.
2. **Burani, K.**, Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (October 2018). Longitudinal increases in reward-related neural activity: Evidence from event-related potentials (ERPs). Poster presented at the 58th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Quebec City, Quebec, CA
1. **Burani, K.**, Nelson, B.D., Hajcak, G. (September 2016). Sex differences in the anticipation of different types of predictable and unpredictable threat. Poster presented at the 56th Annual Meeting of the *Society for Psychophysiological Research*, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Burani, K., Mulligan, E.M., Brush, C.J., Hajcak, G. (under preparation). Estrogen and Increased Reward Processing in adolescent females.

Riddhi, J., **Burani, K.**, Frances, J., Nelson, B., Hajcak, G. (under review). Increased reward processing is related to drift rate in adolescent girls.

Burani, K., Threadgill, A.H., Brush, C.J., Klawohn, J., Hajcak, G. (under review). Recording event-related potentials: Comparison between a mobile dry EEG system and a stationary gel-based EEG system.

Burani, K., Brush, C.J., Eckel, L., Hajcak, G. (under review). Acute stress-induced reductions in the RewP are related to acute stress-induced increases in cortisol.

Guest Lecture

1. **Burani, K.** (2019). Stress, Reward Processing, and Depression. Clinical Psychology 3314: Health Psychology, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

Awards and Honors

- 2021 Student Poster Award at the *Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)* 61st Annual Meeting
- 2019 - 2020 Travel Award from the Florida State University Congress of Graduate Students
- 2013 - 2014 Stony Brook University's Dean's List

Research Experience

- 2017- 2023 **Risk for Anxiety and Depression**
Department of Psychology - Florida State University
Director: Greg Hajcak, Ph.D.
Graduate Research Assistant
- 2015 - 2017 **Cognitive and Affective Psychophysiology Lab**
Department of Psychology - Stony Brook University
Director: Greg Hajcak, Ph.D.
Research Coordinator
- 2014 - 2015 **Cognitive and Affective Psychophysiology Lab**
Department of Psychology - Stony Brook University
Director: Greg Hajcak, Ph.D.
Undergraduate Research Assistant

Clinical Experience

- 2022 – 2023 **The Charleston Consortium Psychology Internship, Charleston, SC**
 Adult Psychopathology Track
 Clinical Rotations:
 - The Psychotherapy Clinic at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center (Supervisor: Dr. Barr)
 - Sleep and Anxiety Treatment Research Program at the Institute of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina (Supervisor: Dr. Wilkerson)
 - Telehealth Resilience & Recovery Program at the Institute of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina.
 - Behavioral Medicine at the Institute of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina.
- 2021 - 2022 **FSU Behavioral Health at Apalachee Center**
 FSU Mood and Anxiety Center of Excellence
 Associate Member of National Network of Depression Centers
Therapist
 Supervisor: *Dr. Christina Riccardi*
 Delivered telehealth individual therapy to adults in an outpatient mental health setting using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectic Behavioral Therapy, Interpersonal Therapy, and Behavioral Activation. Conducted intake diagnostic interviews using the SCID and self-report measures.

- 2021 - 2021 **Florida State University Psychology Clinic**
Department of Psychology
Peer Supervisor
 Supervisor: *Dr. Michael Kofler; Dr. Therese Kemper*
 Provided weekly individual supervision for junior therapist; reviewed and provided feedback on session tapes and notes.
- 2020 - 2021 **Anxiety and Behavioral Health Clinic**
Department of Psychology
Florida State University
 Psychological Therapist Trainee
 Supervisor: *Dr. Brad Schmidt*
 Provided telehealth individual therapy in an outpatient mental health setting using Exposure Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Conducted intake diagnostic interviews using the SCID and self-report measures.
- 2020 - 2021 **Florida State University Psychology Clinic**
Department of Psychology
Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Group Leader
 Supervisor: *Dr. Jessica Ribeiro; Dr. Therese Kemper*
- 2018 - 2020 **Florida State University Psychology Clinic**
Department of Psychology
Psychological Therapist Trainee
 Supervisors: *Dr. Brad Schmidt, Dr. Therese Skubic Kemper, Dr. Christina Riccardi, Dr. Jessica Ribeiro, Dr. Jesse Cogle*
 Provided individual in-person and telehealth therapy for Adults and Child psychiatric outpatients using Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectic Behavioral Therapy, Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Analysis System of Psychotherapy. Conducted intake diagnostic interviews with the SCID-5 and self-report measures.

Professional Memberships

2015 - Present	Member, Society for Psychophysiological Research
2018 - Present	Member, Anxiety and Depression Association of America
2019 - Present	Member, Society for a Science in Clinical Psychology
2019 - Present	Member, Association for Psychological Science
2021 - Present	Member, Society for Neuroscience
2022 - Present	Member, Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies

Service to Profession

2020 – 2025	Committee to Promote Students Interest for Society for Psychophysiological Research
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Ad-hoc Reviewer

SLEEP

Psychophysiology
 International Journal of Psychophysiology
 Journal of Affective Disorders Reports
 Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment
 PeerJ – The Journal of Life and Environmental Sciences
 Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
 Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology

Journal of Experimental Child Psychology
Cognitive, Affective & Behavioral Neuroscience
Biological Psychology
Journal of Psychiatric Research
Neurobiology of Stress

References

Greg Hajcak
Professor
Department of Psychology
Florida State University
hajcak@gmail.com

Brady D. Nelson
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
Stony Brook University
brady.nelson@stonybrook.edu

Lisa Eckel
Professor
Department of Psychology
Florida State University
eckel@psy.fsu.edu