

UW-CTRI News Release

Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, UW School of Medicine and Public Health

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School of Medicine's Prof. Timothy Baker Receives Prestigious "Senior Scientist" Award

Prof. Timothy Baker of the School of Medicine and Public Health is the recent recipient of a five-year \$860,000 career scientist award from the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The grant will allow Baker to more fully concentrate leading groundbreaking research -- both transdisciplinary and translational -- on tobacco use and its consequences.

According to the NCI Web site, a prestigious grant such as Baker's goes to those who are, "Outstanding, established scientists who have demonstrated a sustained, high level of productivity, research accomplishments, and contributions to cancer prevention, control and population sciences research, and who can demonstrate the need to sustain an intensive research focus that will enhance the progress of their own research and provide them greater opportunity to serve as mentors to new scientists."

As part of the NCI grant, Baker will provide training to graduate students, post-doctoral students and physicians-in-training. Other grant activities will involve his taking classes, engaging in intensive reading and study, and consulting with experts in targeted areas of special relevance to his research.

It's also expected that Baker will design and conduct new tobacco-use research studies.

"I am honored by this award. It will allow me to make further contributions to the effort to reduce the harms of tobacco use and dependence," Baker said.

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Baker serves as the director of research at the University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention. He has held the position since the center's founding in 1992. A clinical psychologist, he is particularly interested in motivational factors in addiction, having led many studies in the area and published extensively. Most recently, Baker served as the senior scientist on the panel that produced the blueprint for clinicians treating tobacco addiction, United States Public Health Service Clinical Practice Guideline: *Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence 2008*.

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