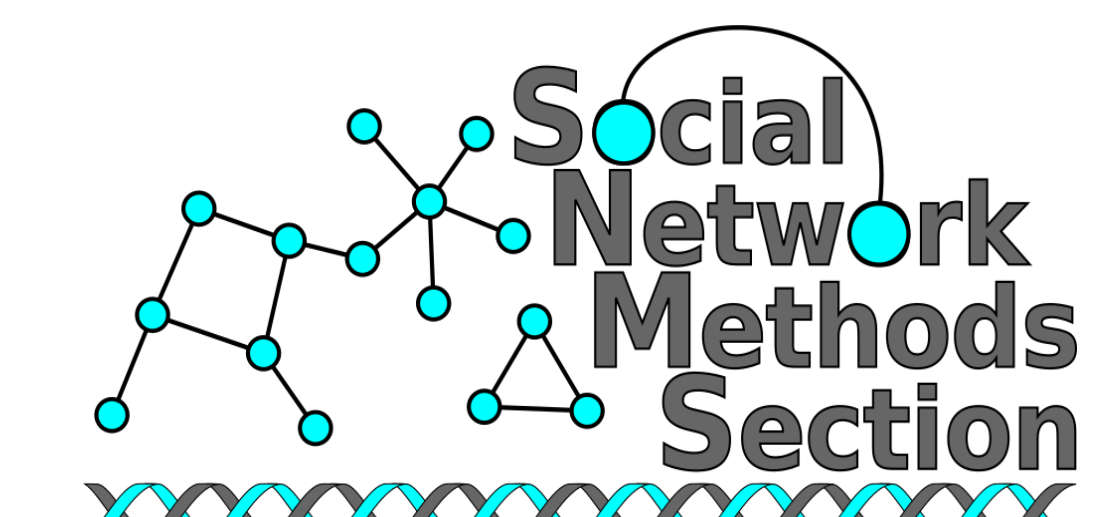




Linking “Drinking to Cope” with Network Properties and Caregiving Context

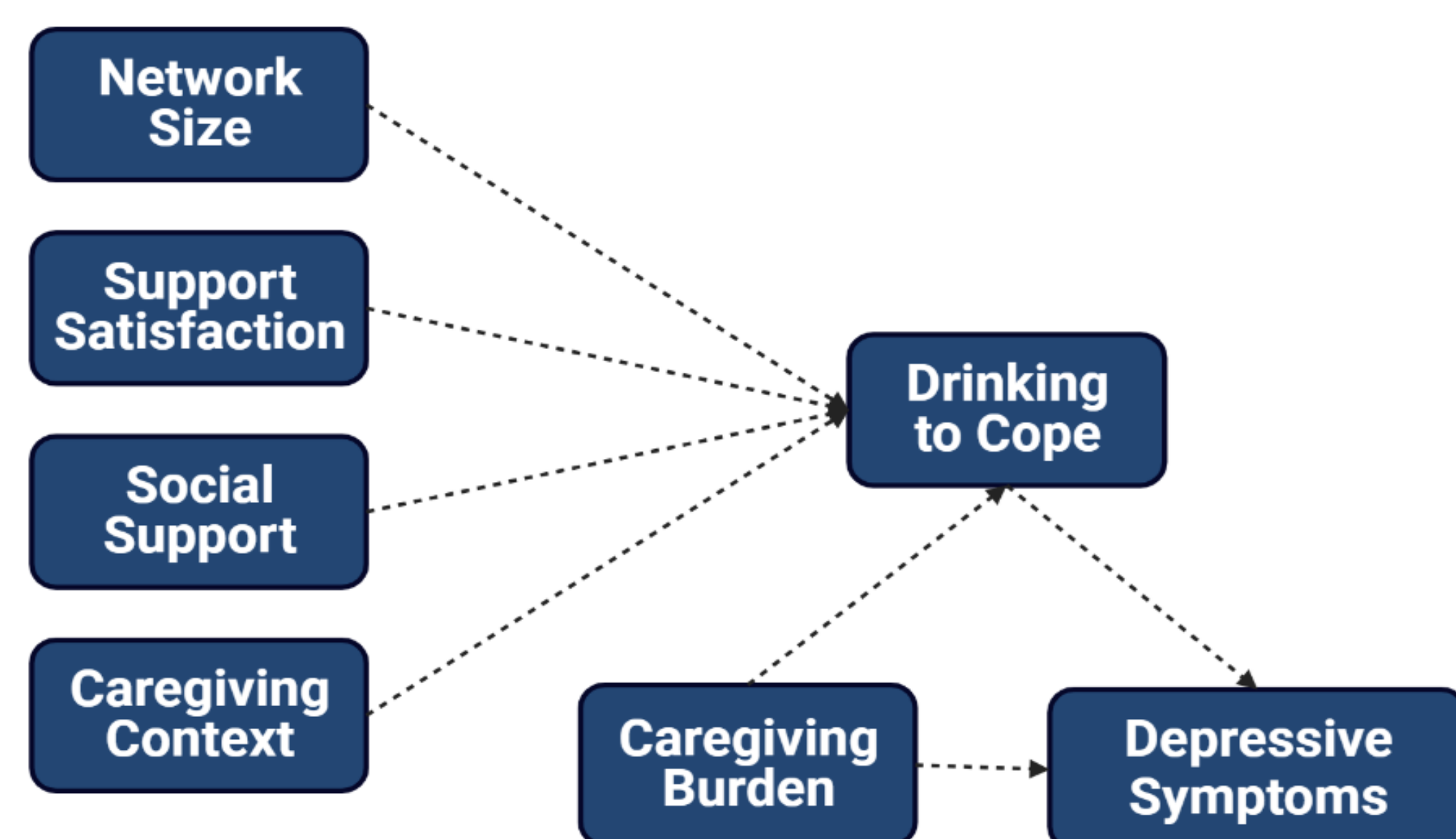
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Introduction

- Caregivers under immense stress often have poor physical and/or mental wellbeing
- Drinking to Cope linked to depression and solitary drinking
 - Loneliness and lack of social support
- Mixed results on social network patterns of people who drink to cope



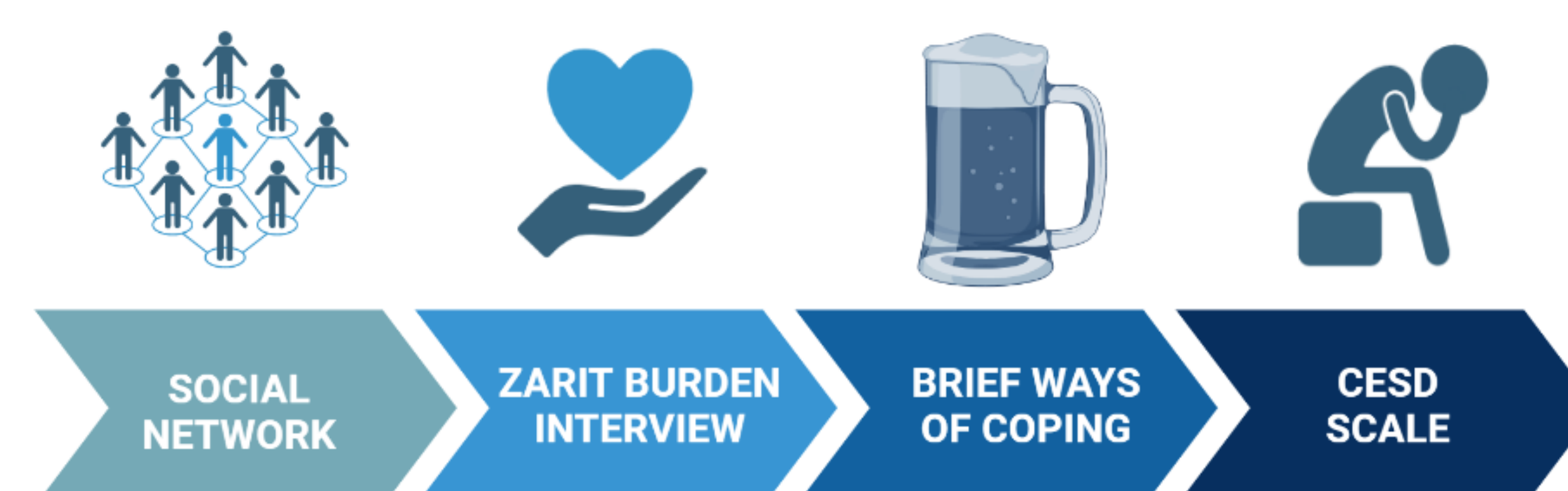
Aims

- Does drinking to cope mediate relationships between caregiving burden and depressive symptoms?
- Is caregiving context (i.e., children with rare diseases vs. healthy children) associated with drinking to cope?
- What network factors (e.g., network size, support satisfaction, number of support ties, etc.) are associated with drinking to cope in caregivers?

Methodology

- Utilized Data from the Inherited Diseases, Caregiving, and Social Networks Study

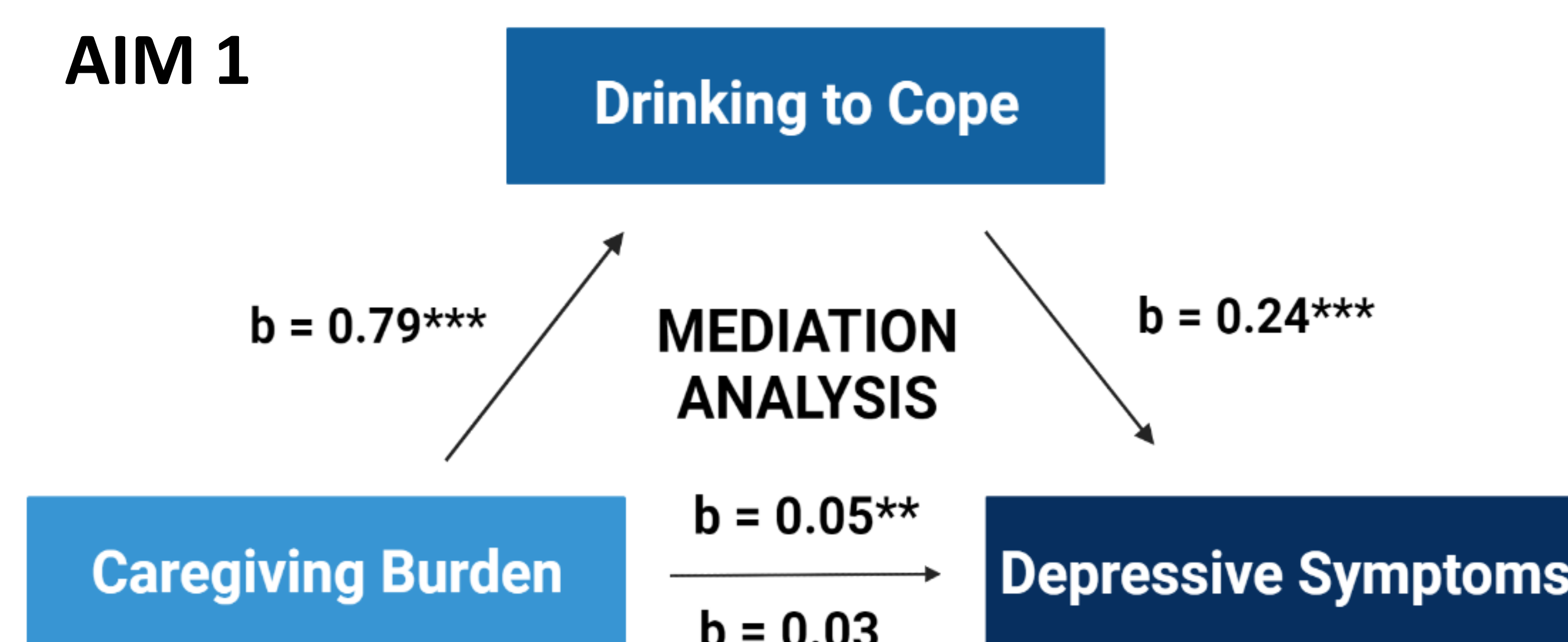
STUDY MEASURES



- Dichotomized Drinking to Cope (1 = Yes, 0 = No)
- Averaged scores for Burden (0 - 3) and Depressive Symptoms (0 - 4)
- Tallied support ties for instrumental and emotional support
- Multilevel modeling to account for clustering

Results

AIM 1



Mediation via Baron & Kenny Method

AIM 2 & 3

Antecedents of Drinking to Cope

Variable	OR	Confidence Interval		p value
		Lower	Upper	
Aim 2				
Rare Disease	2.02	0.98	4.17	0.058
Aim 3				
Network Size	1.01	0.99	1.04	0.367
Support Satisfaction	0.59	0.45	0.76	<.001***
Instrumental Support	0.98	0.89	1.08	0.712
Emotional Support	0.95	0.88	1.02	0.179

Discussion & Conclusions

- Drinking to cope mediates the relationship between caregiving burden and depressive symptoms
- Caregiving Context not significantly related to Drinking to Cope
 - Trend of increased drinking to cope in caregivers of children with rare diseases
- Support Satisfaction linked to Drinking to Cope
 - Network Size and Support ties (Instrumental and emotional) are not
- Limitations
 - Cross-sectional study
 - No causal inference
 - Underreporting of drinking to cope

Future Directions

- Expand to include if drinking to cope is associated with quantity of alternative network factors
 - Interpersonal strain and support
- Examine processes over time in a longitudinal study to assess directionality

Acknowledgments

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