

# Sarah M.C. Colbert, B.A.

PhD Candidate, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY

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## EDUCATION

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- 2022-present      **Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai** (New York, NY)  
PhD Student in Biomedical Sciences  
Training area: Genetics and Genomic Sciences
- 2016-2020      **University of Colorado Boulder** (Boulder, CO)  
B.A., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
B.A., Environmental Studies

## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2022-2027      **The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**

## AWARDS & HONORS

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- 2023      **Early Career Investigator Oral Presentation Award**, World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics
- 2023      **Graduate Student Travel Award**, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- 2020      **Early-Career Investigator Travel Award**, World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics
- 2016-2020      **University of Colorado's Presidential Scholarship** - awarded to nonresident freshman in the top 1-3% of the admitted freshman class.
- 2016      **Shredwell Scholarship** – awarded by the OISA

## PUBLICATIONS (24 total; 8 first-author)

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Monson, ET, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Defining and assessing International Classification of Disease suicidality phenotypes for genetic studies. *Psychiatry Research* (2025). doi: 10.1016/j.psychres.2025.116760

**Colbert, SMC**, et al. Defining suicidality phenotypes for genetic studies: perspectives of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group. *Molecular Psychiatry* (2025). doi: 10.1038/s41380-025-03271-y

Johnson, EC, et al. **[middle author]** Multi-ancestral genome-wide association study of clinically defined nicotine dependence reveals strong genetic correlations with other substance use disorders and health-related traits. *Psychological Medicine* (2025). doi:10.1017/S0033291725100883

- Coon, H, et al. **[middle author]** Absence of nonfatal suicidal behavior preceding suicide death reveals differences in clinical risks. *Psychiatry Research* (2025). doi:10.1016/j.psychres.2025.116391
- Colbert, SMC**, et al. Distinguishing clinical and genetic risk factors for suicidal ideation and behavior in a diverse hospital population. *Translational Psychiatry* (2025). doi:10.1038/s41398-025-03287-6
- Paul, SE, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Phenome-wide Investigation of Behavioral, Environmental, and Neural Associations with Cross-Disorder Genetic Liability in Youth of European Ancestry. *Nature Mental Health* (2024). doi:10.1038/s44220-024-00313-2
- Paul, SE, Elsayed, N, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Family income and polygenic scores are independently but not interactively associated with cognitive performance among youth genetically similar to European reference populations. *Development and Psychopathology* (2024). doi:10.1017/S0954579424001573
- Baranger, DAA, et al. **[middle author]** Prenatal cannabis exposure, the brain, and psychopathology during early adolescence. *Nature Mental Health* (2024). doi:10.1038/s44220-024-00281-7
- Johnson, EC, Austin-Zimmerman, I, Thorpe, HH, Levey, DF, Baranger, DA, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Cross-ancestry genetic investigation of schizophrenia, cannabis use disorder, and tobacco smoking. *Neuropsychopharmacology* (2024). doi:10.1038/s41386-024-01886-3
- COVID-19 Host Genetics Initiative **[middle author]** A second update on mapping the human genetic architecture of COVID-19. *Nature* (2023). doi:10.1038/s41586-023-06355-3
- Colbert, SMC**, Wendt, FR, Pathak, GA, Helmer, DA, Hauser, ER, Keller, MC, Polimanti, R & Johnson, EC. (2023). Declining autozygosity over time: an exploration in over 1 million individuals from three large and diverse cohorts. *American Journal of Human Genetics*. doi:10.1016/j.ajhg.2023.04.007
- Hatoum, AS, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Multivariate Genome-Wide Association Meta-analysis of over 1 million subjects identifies loci underlying multiple substance use disorders. *Nature Mental Health* (2023). doi:10.1038/s44220-023-00034-y
- Colbert, SMC**, et al. Polygenic contributions to suicidal thoughts and behaviors in a sample ascertained for alcohol use disorders. *Complex Psychiatry* (2023). doi:10.1159/000529164
- Gorelik, AJ, et al. **[middle author]** A Phenome-Wide Association Study (Phewas) Of Late Onset Alzheimer Disease Genetic Risk in Children of European Ancestry at Middle Childhood: Results From the ABCD Study. *Behavior Genetics* (2023). doi:10.1007/s10519-023-10140-3
- Johnson, EC, Paul, SE, Baranger, DAA, Hatoum, AS, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Characterizing alcohol expectancies in the ABCD Study: associations with sociodemographic factors, the immediate social environment, and relevant polygenic scores. *Behavior Genetics* (2023). doi:10.1007/s10519-023-10133-2
- Johnson, EC, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Associations between cannabis use, polygenic liability for schizophrenia, and cannabis-related experiences in a sample of cannabis users. *Schizophrenia Bulletin* (2022). doi:10.1093/schbul/sbac196

**Colbert, SMC**, Keller, MC, Agrawal, A & Johnson, EC. Exploring the relationships between autozygosity, educational attainment, and cognitive ability in a contemporary, trans-ancestral American sample. *Behavior Genetics* (2022). doi:10.1007/s10519-022-10113-y

**Colbert, SMC** & Johnson, EC. Commentary on Lannoy et al.: The continued value of within-family designs in addiction and psychiatric research. *Addiction* (2022). doi:10.1111/add.16040

Baranger, DAA, Paul, SE, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Increased mental health burden associated with prenatal cannabis exposure persists from childhood to early adolescence: Longitudinal results from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study. *JAMA Pediatrics* (2022). doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2022.3191

Lai, D, Johnson, EC, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Evaluating risk for alcohol use disorder: comparing polygenic risk scores and family history. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* (2021). doi:10.1111/acer.14772

**Colbert, SMC**, et al. Exploring the genetic overlap of suicide-related behaviors and substance use disorders. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B: Neuropsychiatric Genetics* (2021). doi:10.1002/ajmg.b.32880

Hatoum, AS, Johnson, EC, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. The Addiction Risk Factor: A Unitary Genetic Vulnerability Characterizes Substance Use Disorders and Their Associations with Common Correlates. *Neuropsychopharmacology* (2021). doi:10.1038/s41386-021-01209-w

**Colbert, SMC**, et al. Novel characterization of the multivariate genetic architecture of internalizing psychopathology and alcohol use. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B: Neuropsychiatric Genetics* (2021). doi:10.1002/ajmg.b.32874

Hatoum, AS, Morrison, CL, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Genetic Liability to Cannabis Use Disorder and COVID-19 Hospitalization. *Biological Psychiatry Global Open Science* (2021). doi:10.1016/j.bpsgos.2021.06.005

## PRE-PRINTS AND IN-PREP (5)

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**Colbert, SMC**, et al. Genome-wide association studies identify 77 loci for suicidality and provide novel biological insights. (Pre-print). doi: 10.1101/2025.10.22.25338076

Han, S, Cabrera-Mendoza, B, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Genome-wide association study of suicide mortality in North American individuals of Hispanic and Indigenous American ancestry admixtures. (In prep).

Grotzinger, AD, et al. [**consortium author**, PGC Substance Use Disorders Working Group]. Genome-wide association study of suicide mortality in North American individuals of Hispanic and Indigenous American ancestry admixtures. (Pre-print). doi: 10.1101/2025.01.14.25320574

Banerjee, S, O'Connell, S, **Colbert, SMC**, et al. Convex approaches to isolate the shared and distinct genetic components of complex traits. (Pre-print). doi: 10.1101/2025.04.15.25325870

Coon, H, et al. **[middle author]** Different genetic liabilities to neuropsychiatric conditions in suicides with no prior suicidality. (Pre-print). doi: 10.1101/2025.05.02.25326877

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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**Colbert, SMC** & Johnson, EC (2023). Genetic explanations for the association between cannabis and schizophrenia. In D'Souza D., Castle D., and Murray R. (Eds.), *Marijuana and Madness*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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*Genome-wide association studies of suicidality phenotypes: An update from the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group.* Symposium talk presented at the World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (2025, Cancun, Mexico).

*Genome-Wide Association Studies of Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors in the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium.* Oral presentation at the Suicide Research Symposium (2025, virtual).

*Genome-wide association studies of suicidal thoughts and behaviors: An update from the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group.* Symposium talk presented at the World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (2024, Singapore, Singapore).

*Distinguishing Clinical and Genetic Risk Factors for Suicidal Ideation and Suicidal Behavior in a Diverse Hospital Population.* Oral presentation at the World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (2024, Singapore, Singapore).

*Genome-wide association studies of suicidal thoughts and behaviors: An update from the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group.* Oral presentation at the World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (2023, Montreal, Canada).

*Declining autozygosity over time: an exploration in over 1 million individuals from three large and diverse cohorts.* Poster presentation at the Friedman Brain Institute Neuroscience Retreat (2023, New York, NY).

*Cross-disorder genome wide analyses of problematic alcohol use, suicide attempt and depression reveal shared risk loci.* Symposium talk presented at the Research Society on Alcoholism Scientific Meeting (2022, Orlando, FL).

*Exploring the genetic overlap of suicide-related behaviors and substance use disorders.* Poster presentation presented at the Annual Behavioral Genetics Association Meeting (2021, virtual).

*Differential shared genetic influences on anxiety with problematic alcohol use compared to alcohol consumption.* Poster presentation presented at the Annual World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (2020, virtual).

*Differential shared genetic influences on anxiety with problematic alcohol use compared to alcohol consumption.* Oral presentation presented at the 50th Annual Behavioral Genetics Association Meeting (2020, virtual).

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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- 2023-present **Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**, Department of Genetics  
PhD student  
Supervisor: Niamh Mullins, Ph.D.
- Fall 2022 **Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**, Department of Genetics  
Rotating PhD student  
Supervisor: Alison Goate, Ph.D.
- Fall 2022 **Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**, Department of Psychiatry  
Rotating PhD student  
Supervisor: Niamh Mullins, Ph.D.
- 2021-2022 **Washington University School of Medicine**, Department of Psychiatry  
Statistical Data Analyst  
Supervisors: Arpana Agrawal, Ph.D., Emma Johnson, Ph.D.
- 2020-2021 **University of Colorado Boulder**, Institute for Behavioral Genetics  
Professional Research Associate  
Supervisor: Luke Evans, Ph.D.
- 2020 **University of Colorado Boulder**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Undergraduate Research Project, "*Differential shared genetic influences on anxiety with problematic alcohol use compared to alcohol consumption*"  
Supervisor: Luke Evans, Ph.D.
- 2019- 2020 **Rocky Mountain Wild**, Colorado Pika Project  
100 Women for the Wild Research Intern

## TEACHING POSITIONS

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- 2019 **EBIO 2070: Genetics: Molecules to Populations**, University of Colorado Boulder  
Teaching Assistant | Instructor: Cheryl Pinzone

## AD-HOC REVIEW ACTIVITIES

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*Addiction, American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B: Neuropsychiatric Genetics, The American Journal of Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry, BMC Psychiatry, European Psychiatry, Molecular Psychiatry, Translational Psychiatry*

## SERVICE

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- 2023-present Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group, Data Receiving Committee Representative

2023-present

Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Suicide Working Group, Stage 1 and Stage 2 Analyst