

# Alexander J. Millner

## Contact Information:

Harvard University  
Department of Psychology  
William James Hall 1206  
33 Kirkland St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Email: [amillner@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:amillner@fas.harvard.edu)  
Website: [www.alexmillner.com](http://www.alexmillner.com)

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**2015-Present**                      **Harvard University**  
Postdoctoral Fellow

## EDUCATION

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**2008-2015**                      **Harvard University**  
Ph.D. Clinical Science, Department of Psychology  
Advisor: Matthew Nock

**2014-2015**                      **McLean Hospital\Harvard Medical School**  
Pre-Doctoral Clinical Internship

**2008-2011**                      **Harvard University**  
A.M. Clinical Science, Department of Psychology  
Advisor: Diego Pizzagalli

**1998-2002**                      **Northwestern University**  
B.A. History

## FUNDING

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### Current Support

**2018-2019**                      **National Institute of Mental Health (R21 MH115293-01S1)**  
Administrative supplement to Using Ambulatory Physiological Monitoring  
to Improve Detection of Harmful Behaviors on Adolescent Inpatient  
Psychiatry Units  
Role: Co-Investigator

Amount awarded: \$67,605

**2018 – 2019**

**Military Suicide Research Consortium (W81XWH-16-2-0004)**

Enhancing Identification of Suicide Risk among Military Service Members and Veterans: A Machine Learning Approach to Suicidality

Role: Consultant (PI: Andrew Littlefield)

Amount awarded: \$260,992

Harvard subcontract: \$37,940

**2017-2019**

**Harvard University Foundations of Human Behavior Initiative**

Title: “The relationship between aberrant escape decision-making and suicidal behaviors.”

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount awarded: \$5,000

**2017-2018**

**National Institute on Drug Abuse (K23 DA 035297-04S1)**

Title: “Gender differences in mechanisms of recovery from opioid use disorder and anxiety – supplement.”

Role: Consultant (PI: Kathryn McHugh)

**2016-2018**

**American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Postdoctoral Research**

Fellowship Innovation Grant

Title: “The Relationship between decision-making in a negative environment and suicidal behaviors.”

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount awarded: \$104,000

**Completed Support**

**2013-2016**

**Department of Defense, Military Suicide Research Consortium**

Title: “New approaches to the measurement of suicide-related cognition.”

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (PI: Matthew Nock)

Amount awarded: \$777,564

**2012**

**The Sackler Scholar Programme in Psychobiology, Dr. Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation**

Title: “Clarifying the pathway to suicide: An examination of subtypes of suicidal behavior and their association with impulsiveness.”

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount awarded: \$11,595

**2012**

**Restricted Funds Research Grant Recipient, Harvard University  
Department of Psychology**

Title: "Piloting and validating a task of impulsive behavior to relieve distress."

Role: Principal Investigator

Amount awarded: \$3,000

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### *Under Revision/Invited for Resubmission*

Patzelt, E.H., Kool, W., **Millner, A.J.**, Gershman, S.J. (under review). The transdiagnostic structure of mental effort avoidance.

Wilson, K.M.,\* **Millner, A.J.**,\* Auerbach, R.P., Glenn, C.R., Kearns, J.C., Kirtley, O.J., Najmi, S., O'Connor, R.C., Stewart, J.G., Cha, C.B. (under review). Investigating the psychometric properties of the Suicide Stroop task.

\*Equal Contribution

Coppersmith, D.D.L., Kleiman, E.M., Glenn, C.R., **Millner, A.J.**, & Nock, M.K. (under review). The dynamics of social support among suicide attempters: A smartphone-based daily diary study.

### *Available Online/In Press*

**Millner, A.J.**, den Ouden, H.E.M., Gershman, S.J., Glenn, C.R., Kearns, J., Bornstein, A.M., Marx, B.P., Keane, T.M., Nock, M.K. (in press). Suicidal thoughts and behaviors are associated with an increased decision-making bias for active responses to escape aversive states. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

Glenn, C. R., **Millner, A. J.**, Esposito, E. C., Porter, A. C., & Nock, M. K. (in press). Implicit identification with death predicts suicidal thoughts and behaviors in adolescents. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M.D., Hoyt, K., Buckholtz, J.W., Auerbach, R.P., & Nock, M.K. (available online). Are suicide attempters more impulsive than suicide ideators? *General Hospital Psychiatry*.

Nock, M.K., Han, G., **Millner, A.J.**, Gutierrez, P.M., Joiner, T.J., Hwang, I., King, A., Naifeh, J.A., Simpson, N.A., Zaslavsky, A.M., Stein, M.B., Ursano, R.J., & Kessler, R.C. (available online). Patterns and predictors of persistence of suicide ideation: Results from the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Servicemembers (Army STARRS). *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

Patzelt, E.H., Kool, W., **Millner, A.J.**, Gershman, S.J. (available online). Incentives boost model-based control across a range of severity on several psychiatric constructs. *Biological psychiatry*.

Nock, M.K., **Millner, A.J.**, Joiner, T.E., Gutierrez, P.M., Hwang, I., King, A.J., Naifeh, J.A., Sampson, N.A., Zaslavsky, A.M., Stein, M.B., & Kessler, R.C. (available online). Risk factors for the transition from suicide ideation to suicide attempt: Results from the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Servicemembers (Army STARRS). *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

**Millner, A.J.**, Coppersmith, D.D.L., Teachman, B.A., & Nock, M.K. (available online). The Brief Death Implicit Association Test: Scoring recommendations, reliability, validity and comparisons with the Death Implicit Association Test. *Psychological Assessment*.

**Millner, A.J.**, Augenstein, T.M., Visser, K.H., Gallagher, K., Vergara, G.A., D'Angelo, E.J., & Nock, M.K. (available online) Implicit cognitions as a behavioral marker of suicide attempts in adolescents. *Archives of Suicide Research*.

**Millner, A.J.**, Ursano, R.J., Hwang, I., King, A.J., Naifeh, J.A., Sampson, N.A., Zaslavsky, A.M., Stein, M.B., Kessler, R.C., & Nock, M.K. (available online). Prior mental disorders and lifetime suicidal behaviors among U.S. Army soldiers in the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Servicemembers (Army STARRS). *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*.

Fox, K.R., **Millner, A.J.**, Mukerji, C.E., & Nock, M.K. (available online) Examining the role of sex in self-injurious thoughts and behaviors. *Clinical Psychology Review*.

### *Peer-reviewed publications*

**Millner, A. J.**, Gershman, S. J., Nock, M. K., & den Ouden, H. E. M. (2018). Pavlovian Control of Escape and Avoidance. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 30(10), 1379–1390.

**Millner, A.J.**, Ursano, R.J., Hwang, I., King, A.J., Naifeh, J.A., Sampson, N.A., Zaslavsky, A.M., Stein, M.B., Kessler, R.C., & Nock, M.K. (2018). Lifetime suicidal behaviors and career characteristics among U.S. Army soldiers: Results from the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Servicemembers (Army STARRS). *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*. 48(2), 230-250.

Kleiman, E.M., Coppersmith, D.D.L., **Millner, A.J.**, Franz, P.J., Fox, K.R., & Nock, M.K., (2018). Are suicidal thoughts reinforcing? A preliminary real-time monitoring study on the affect regulation function of suicidal thinking. *Journal of Affective Disorders*. 232, 122-26.

Gomez, S.H., Tse, J., Wang, Y., Turner, B., **Millner, A.J.**, Nock, M.K., & Dunn, E.C. (2017). Are there sensitive periods when child maltreatment substantially elevates suicide risk? Results from a nationally representative sample of adolescents. *Depression and Anxiety*, 34(8), 734–741.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M.D., & Nock, M.K. (2017). Describing and measuring the pathway to suicide attempts: A preliminary study. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 47(3), 353–369.

Fox, K.R., **Millner, A.J.**, & Franklin, J.C. (2016). Classifying nonsuicidal overdoses: Nonsuicidal self-injury, suicide attempts, or neither? *Psychiatry Research*, 244, 235-242.

Beard, C.\*, **Millner, A.J.**\*, Forgeard, M.J.C., Fried, E.I., Hsu, K.J., Treadway, M.T., Leonard, C.V., Kertz, S.J. & Björgvinsson, T. (2016). Network analysis of depression and anxiety symptom relationships in a psychiatric sample. *Psychological Medicine*, 46(16), 3359–3369.

\*Authors contributed equally

Robinaugh, D. J., **Millner, A.J.**, & McNally, R. J. (2016). Identifying highly influential nodes in the complicated grief network. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 125(6), 747–757.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M.D., & Nock, M.K. (2015). Single-Item measurement of suicidal behaviors: Validity and consequences of misclassification. *PLoS ONE*, 10(10), e0141606.

Auerbach, R.P., **Millner, A.J.**, Stewart, J.G., & Esposito, E.C. (2015). Identifying differences between depressed adolescent suicide ideators and attempters. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 186, 127–133.

Teslovich, T., Mulder, M., Franklin, N.T., Ruberry, E.J., **Millner, A.J.**, Somerville, L.H., Simen, P., Durston, S., & Casey, B.J. (2013). Adolescents let sufficient evidence accumulate before making a decision when large incentives are at stake. *Developmental Science*, 17(1):59-70.

Tottenham, N., Hertzog, M.E., Gillespie-Lynch, K., Gilhooly, T., **Millner, A.J.**, & Casey, B.J. (2013). Elevated amygdala response to faces and gaze aversion in autism spectrum disorder. *Social Cognitive, & Affective Neuroscience*, 9(1):106-17.

**Millner, A.J.**, Jaroszewski, A.C., Chamarthi, H., & Pizzagalli, D.A. (2012) Behavioral and electrophysiological correlates of training-induced cognitive control improvements. *Neuroimage*, 63(2), 742-53.

Tottenham, N., Hare, T.A., **Millner, A.J.**, Gilhooly, T., Zevin, J.D., & Casey, B.J. (2011). Elevated amygdala response to faces following early deprivation. *Developmental Science*, 14(2), 190-204.

Tottenham N, Hare T.A., Quinn B.T., McCarry T.W., Nurse M., Gilhooly T., **Millner, A.J.**, Galvan A., Davidson M.C., Eigsti I, Thomas K.M., Freed P.J., Booma E.S., Gunnar M.R., Altemus M., Aronson J., & Casey B.J. (2010). Prolonged institutional rearing is associated with atypically large amygdala volume and difficulties in emotion regulation. *Developmental Science*, 13(1), 46-61.

Casey, B.J., Epstein, J.N., Buhle, J., Liston, C., Davidson, M.C., Tonev, S.T., Spicer, J., Niogi, S., **Millner, A.J.**, Reiss, A., Garrett, A., Hinshaw, S.P., Greenhill, L.L., Shafritz, K.M., Vitolo, A., Kotler, L.A., Jarrett, M.A., & Glover, G. (2007) Frontostriatal connectivity and its role in cognitive control in parent-child dyads with ADHD. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 164:1729-1736.

### **Book chapters**

**Millner, A.J.**, & Nock, M.K. (2018) Self-injurious thoughts and behaviors. In Hunsley, J. & E.J. Mash (Eds.), *A guide to assessments that work*, second edition. New York: Oxford University Press.

Glenn C.R., Jaroszewski, A.C., **Millner, A.J.**, Kearns, J.C., & Nock, M.K. Nonsuicidal self-injury: Old problem, new disorder, limited data. In Bromet, E.J. (Ed.), (2016) *Long-term outcomes in psychopathology research: Rethinking the scientific agenda*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Nock, M.K., **Millner, A.J.**, Deming, C.A., & Glenn, C.R. (2014) Depression and suicide. In Gotlib, I. H. & Hammen, C. L. (Eds.), *Handbook of depression*, third edition. New York: The Guilford Press.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**Millner, A.J.**, Nock, M.K. (2017). Improving the Death Implicit Association Test. Symposium presentation at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, San Diego, CA.

Ramirez, F., Pixley, H., **Millner, A.J.**, Marx, B., & Nock, M.K. (2016) Combat experiences and suicidal behavior among US veterans. Poster presented at the 50th Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, New York, NY.

Jaroszewski, A.C., **Millner, A.J.**, & Nock, M.K. (2016) Thinking about suicide influences evaluations of suicidal stimuli. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Baltimore, MD.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M. & Nock, M.K., (2016). Describing and Measuring the Pathway to Suicide. Symposium presentation at American Association of Suicidology Convention, Chicago, IL.

**Millner, A.J.** (2015). The Reliability of Between-Individual Networks. Symposium presentation at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, Chicago, IL.

Murman, N.M., Ramirez, F., Lauricella, T., Hicks, C.B., Bird, S.A., Donovan, A.J., **Millner, A.J.**, Pixley, H.S., Reis, B.Y., Kessler, R.C., Smoller, J.W., & Nock, M.K. (2015) Development of a novel method for the short-term prediction of suicidal behavior: study design and feasibility. Poster presented at the 49th Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M. & Nock, M.K., (2014). Validity of Single-Item Assessment of Suicidal Behaviors. Symposium presentation at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

**Millner, A.J.**, Lee, M., & Nock, M.K., (2013). Examining the Pathway to Suicide. Symposium presentation at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, Nashville, TN.

Knepley, M.J., Jaroszewski, A.C., Slama, S., **Millner, A.J.**, & Nock, M.K. (2013). Suicide attempt among those without a mental disorder. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Nashville, TN.

**Millner, A.J.**, Kastman, E.K., Dorfman, H.M., Baskin-Sommers, A., Kiehl, K.A., Newman, J.P., & Buckholtz, J.W., (2013) Parsing self-control in incarcerated criminals: Aggression and impulsive-antisocial behavior track variability in reward-related corticostriatal circuit function. Poster presented at Society for Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

**Millner, A.J.** & Nock, M.K., (2012). New Directions in the Classification and Assessment of Suicidal Behaviors. Symposium presentation at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention, Washington, D.C.

**Millner, A.J.**, & Pizzagalli, D.A. (2011). Behavioral and neural correlates of cognitive control training: implications for major depression. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

**Millner, A.J.**, & Pizzagalli, D.A. (2010). Three-day cognitive control training improves action monitoring abilities: potential implications for depression research. Poster presented at Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

Buhle, J., **Millner, A.J.**, Kober, H., Raz, A., Ochsner, K., McCarry, T., & Casey, B.J. (2007). Expert meditators show enhanced vigilance, alerting and conflict resolution. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

Amso, D., Soliman, F., Getz, S., Davidow, J., **Millner, A.J.**, Hare, T., Bath, K., Lee, F., & Casey, B.J. (2007) Impact of Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor Val66Met Polymorphism on Hippocampal and Striatal Learning; Evidence from Functional Imaging. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

Tottenham, N., Gilhooly, T. Soliman, F., Hare, T., Getz, S., **Millner, A.J.**, Amso, D., & Casey, B.J. (2007). Conditioning of Emotional Faces in Children, Adolescents, and Adults. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

Prosser, J.M., Eisenberg, D.P., **Millner, A.J.**, Matochik, J.A., London, E.D., Derbyshire, S., & Galynker, I.I., (2006) Differences in sustained attention in methadone maintained and abstinent opiate dependent subjects. Poster presented at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, Toronto.

## **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

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2009 – Present

**Association for Psychological Science**

2010 – Present

**Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies**

## OTHER RESEARCH POSITIONS

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2006 – 2008

**Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences**

Research Assistant

Sackler Institute for Developmental Psychobiology

Principal Investigator: Dr. B.J. Casey

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Harvard University**

Teaching Fellow

2010

**Science of Living Systems 20: Psychological Science**

2011

**Psych1900: Introduction to Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences**

Awarded Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

2012

**Psych1900: Introduction to Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences**

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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2015-Present

**McLean Hospital, Belmont, MA**

Providing therapy through affiliation with OnTrack

2014-2015

**McLean Hospital, Belmont, MA**

Clinical Internship

2011-2012

**Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA**

Bipolar Clinic and Research Program

2010-2011

**McLean Hospital, Belmont, MA**

3-East Adolescent Day Program

2009-2010

**McLean Hospital, Belmont, MA**

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Institute



**2009**

**Cambridge Hospital, Cambridge, MA**

Department of Psychiatry

**2006**

**Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, NY**

Department of Psychiatry

## **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Ad-hoc Reviewer**

- Archives of Suicide Research
- BMJ Open
- Behavior Research and Therapy
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health
- Clinical Psychological Science
- Cognitive Therapy & Research
- JAMA Psychiatry
- General Hospital Psychiatry
- Harvard Review of Psychiatry
- Journal of Early Adolescence
- Journal Affective Disorders
- Journal Social Clinical Psychology
- PLOS One
- Psychiatry Research
- Psychological Methods
- Public Health Reports
- Scientific Reports