Brain Targets for Alcohol Craving in Veterans with mTBI

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Statistical Data Analysis. Safety indicators will be monitored; frequency of adverse events as well as successfully coordinated and completed rTMS and neuroimaging sessions will be tabulated and compared between the active and sham rTMS groups using a Pearson chi-square test or Fisher's exact test. Neuroimaging, alcohol craving and alcohol use data will be analyzed using same methods as those of Aims I and II. To determine the effect of rTMS on alcohol craving a mixed effects regression model with a random intercept will be used. The dependent variable in the model will be alcohol craving score and the covariates will be rTMS treatment (sham *vs.* active rTMS), time (before and after rTMS) and rTMS treatment by time interaction (if the interaction is significant). Similar analyses will be applied using mTBI and PTSD symptoms as the dependent variables. If power is not sufficient for the mixed effects approach, a non-parametric test will be used to compare mean alcohol craving scores pre- and post-rTMS under the guidance of my statistical consultant, Dr. Xue Li.