

Clinical Therapeutics
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Overview

The Division of Clinical Therapeutics focuses on clinical research of non-psychotic psychiatric disorders on adults. This division is comprised of six sub-units: Anxiety Disorders Clinic, Anxiety Genetics Unit, Clinical Psychobiology/Biological Studies Unit, Center for Neuroinflammatory Disorders and Biobehavioral Medicine/ Lyme Disease, Depression Evaluation Service and the Eating Disorders Research Unit.

Current investigations include treatment of unipolar and bipolar depressive disorders, of a range of anxiety disorders and eating disorders, of hypochondriasis, of psychiatric symptoms following Lyme disease, and of fatigue associated with HIV.

A variety of techniques are being applied to uncover psychological, biological, genetic, and environmental factors that contribute to the development and persistence of these serious psychiatric problems. These include brain imagining, molecular genetics, and neuropsychological assessment. Treatment trials using both medication and psychotherapy are underway in each of these areas as part of a world-renowned research program; there is no charge to research participants.

Current Research

The research in Clinical Therapeutics centers on the psychobiology and treatment of Anxiety, Mood and Eating Disorders and related conditions in adults.

A selection of more specific new and ongoing research:

Attia, Evelyn, M.D.: "Olanzapine Versus Placebo in Outpatients with Anorexia Nervosa"; R01

Attia, Evelyn, M.D.: "Metropolitan Comprehensive Care Center for Eating Disorders" NYSDOH Contract

Blanco, Carlos, M.D., Ph.D.: "Towards a Comprehensive Developmental Model of Substance Use Disorders"; R01

Blanco, Carlos, M.D., Ph.D.: "2/2 Gambling Addiction: Treatment Mediators and Moderators"; R01

Blanco, Carlos, M.D., Ph.D.: "Improving the Effectiveness of Treatment for Depression in Hispanics"; R01

Blanco, Carlos, M.D., Ph.D.: “Interpersonal therapy for depression in Breast Cancer”; R01

Hellerstein, David, M.D.: “Desvenlafaxine vs. Placebo for Treatment of Chronic Depression”; Pfizer, Inc.

Hellerstein, David, M.D.: “Analysis of 120 MRI Scans Obtained in a Study of Duloxetine vs. Placebo Treatment of Chronic Depression”; Eli Lilly, Inc.

Markowitz, John, M.D.: “Psychotherapies for Chronic Posttraumatic Stress Disorder”; R01

Mayer, Laurel, M.D.: “Weight Suppression, Dieting, and Bulimia Nervosa: A Biobehavioral Study”; R01, subaward with Drexel University

Mayer, Laurel, M.D.: “Functional imaging and eating behavior among FTO genotypes in pre-obese children”; R56 (with Michael Rosenbaum)

Mayer, Laurel, M.D.: “The Quantification of Ingestive Behavior”; AstraZeneca

McGrath, Patrick, M.D.: “Biosignatures of Treatment Remission in Major Depression”; R01 (with Drs Myrna Weissman & Ramin Parsey)

McGrath, Patrick, M.D.: “Developing a PET biomarker to predict response in treatment-resistant depression”; RC1

Neria, Yuval, Ph.D.: “OSITA: Outreach, Screening, and Intervention for Trauma for Internally Displaced Women in Bogota, Colombia”; Grand Challenges Canada

Neria, Yuval, Ph.D.: “Brain Circuitry and Psychological Predictors of PTSD”; R01

Rabkin, Judith, Ph.D.: “Behavioral Activation/Armodafinil to Treat Fatigue in HIV/AIDS”; R34

Rodriguez, Carolyn, M.D., Ph.D.: Critical Time Intervention for Individuals with Hoarding Disorder Threatened with Eviction”; Empire Clinical Research Investigator Program (ECRIP)

Simpson, Blair, M.D., Ph.D.: “1/2-Attaining and Maintaining Wellness in OCD”; R01

Simpson, Blair, M.D., Ph.D.: “1/2-Novel Medication Strategies Targeting Brain Mechanisms in Pediatric OCD”; R01 (with Moira Rynn)

Schneier, Frank, M.D.; Fyer, Abby, M.D.; Simpson, Blair, M.D., Ph.D.: “Distinct & Common Neural Correlates of Fear Disorders, OCD, & Eating Disorders” R01

Schneier, Frank, M.D.: “Combined Mirtazapine and SSRI Treatment of PTSD: A Placebo-Controlled Trial”; R34

Steinglass, Joanna, M.D.: “Delayed Gratification: A biobehavioral characteristic of Anorexia Nervosa”; Klarman Family Foundation Award in Eating Disorders Research

Walsh, B. Timothy, M.D.: “Translational Research on Eating Disorders: Reward Systems”; R01

Walsh, B. Timothy, M.D.: “Physical Activity in Anorexia Nervosa”; R01

Honors and Awards:

Lewis-Fernandez, Roberto M.D

- Elected President of the American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry (2013-2014)
- Elected President-Elect of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture (Pres-Elect 2013-2016, then President 2016-2019)
- Named by Mayor to the Health and Mental Hygiene Advisory Council, an advisory body to the Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene of NYC

Markowitz, John M.D.

- Member of the Virginia Apgar Academy of Medical Educators, Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons
- 2012 Gerald L. Klerman Senior Investigator Award from the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance.

Patel, Sapana Ph.D.

- OMH Policy Scholar Program; New York State Office of Mental Health; Project Period: 07/01/12-06/30/13

Rodriguez, Carolyn M.D., Ph.D.

- First Place Poster Competition - American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry, May 5th, 2012
- Elected Secretary General - American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry 2012-2014
- ACNP Travel Award 2012
- Selected as "Hot Topics" Speaker at ACNP 2012
- Selected for APA Junior Investigator Research Colloquium 2013
- Co-Chair Women Faculty in Columbia Psychiatry Department 2012 to present

Simpson Helen Blair M.D., Ph.D.

- Appointed member of the Working Group on the Classification of Obsessive Compulsive and Related Disorders, WHO International Advisory Group for the Revision of ICD-10 Mental and Behavioral Disorders
- Organizer, Host, and Presenter at the Third Annual OCD Awareness Conference

- Panel member at the World Science Festival for program entitled “A New Look at Mental Illness.”

Walsh, B. Timothy, M.D.

- Distinguished Psychiatrist Lecture; Annual Meeting; American Psychiatric Association, 2012

Publications (Selected)

Blanco C, Krueger RF, Hasin DS, Liu SM, Wang S, Kerridge BT, Saha T, Olfson M. Mapping common psychiatric disorders: structure and predictive validity in the national epidemiologic survey on alcohol and related conditions. *JAMA Psychiatry*, 2013; 70(2): 199-208

Broft A, Shingleton R, Kaufman J, Liu F, Kumar D, Slifstein M, Abi-Dargham A, Schebendach J, Van Heertum R, Attia E, Martinez D, Walsh BT. Striatal dopamine in bulimia nervosa: A pet imaging study. *Int J Eat Disord*. 2012; 45(5):648-56

Neria, Y, Shultz, JM. Mental Health Effects of Hurricane Sandy: Characteristics, Potential Aftermath, and Response. *JAMA*. Vol 308(24), 2012 (pp 2571-2572).

Stewart JA, Deliyannides DA, Hellerstein DJ, McGrath PJ, Stewart JW. Can People with Nonsevere Major Depression Benefit from Antidepressant Medication? *J Clin Psychiatry* 2012; 73(4):518-524

Hellerstein DJ, Stewart JW, McGrath PJ, Deliyannides DA, Batchelder ST, Black SR, Withers A, O'Shea D, Chen Y. A Randomized Controlled Trial of Duloxetine Versus Placebo in the Treatment of Nonmajor Chronic Depression. *J Clin Psychiatry* 2012; 73(7):984-991

Rabkin JG, Ogino M, Goetz R. McElhiney M, Marziliano A, Imai T, Atsuta N, Morita M, Tateishi T, Matsumura T, Mitsumoto H. Tracheostomy with invasive ventilation for ALS patients: Neurologists' Roles in the US and Japan. *ALS*. 2013; 14(2):116-123

Walsh BT. The enigmatic persistence of anorexia nervosa. *Am J Psychiatry*. In Press