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Integrative Study of Psychiatric Disorders

Bipolar Disorder
Depression

Schizophrenia

Anxiety
PTSD

Genetic and Biomarker Studies of Major Psychiatric Disorders

Dr. Alexander B. Niculescu and collaborators at the Institute of Psychiatric Research, Indiana University School of Medicine and R. L. Roudebush Veteran Administration Medical Center of Indianapolis, are carrying out an academic research study on the integration of behavior, biomarkers and genes in psychiatric conditions such as bipolar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and anxiety disorders (including post-traumatic stress disorder). We are interested in collecting data on individuals who may have a history of any of these disorders, as well as from normal controls.

Participants in this study will have a complete diagnostic interview, a set of neuropsychological tests, and donate a small amount of blood and saliva for biomarker and genetic studies. At 3-months and 6-months intervals, each participant will repeat some of the psychological testing and will again donate a small amount of blood. Participants will receive up to \$160.00 for being in the study. All information obtained during this study will be kept in strict confidence.

Benefits of Participating

- Receive up to \$160.00
- Psychiatric assessment, with referrals provided as necessary
- Increased awareness of symptoms and illness to plan better individualized treatment
- Contribute to the better understanding of major psychiatric disorders
- Satisfaction of helping other people and the growth of science

Study Title Mood State and Other Biomarkers: A Discovery-Based Approach

Key Concepts:

Diagnostic Interview: A procedure in which the individual is interviewed with the purpose of reaching some reasonable determination of the nature of the disorder.

Neuropsychological Testing: A comprehensive testing assessing mood, cognition, memory, attention, visuo-motor abilities in a psychological laboratory setting.

Genetics and Biomarkers: In order to find specific genes and biomarkers (gene expression changes) for bipolar disorder, depression, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and anxiety disorders (including post-traumatic stress disorder), blood samples are drawn from participants.

Bipolar Disorder: A disorder consisting of marked mood swings from “high” feelings of extreme happiness or irritability (mania) to deep despair (depression). It is also known as “manic-depressive illness”.

Depression: A disorder consisting of depressed mood or the loss of interest or pleasure in nearly all activities.

Schizophrenia: A disorder characterized by disruption in thoughts and emotion. Symptoms frequently include hearing internal voices or experiencing other sensations not connected to an obvious source (hallucinations) and assigning unusual significance or meaning to normal events or holding beliefs that other people do not hold (delusions). There can also be difficulty keeping thoughts connected.

Schizoaffective Disorder: A disorder in which a person experiences symptoms of depression or mania as well as symptoms of schizophrenia.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): A disorder which may develop following a traumatic experience. Symptoms frequently include flashbacks or re-experiencing the traumatic event, symptoms of anxiety, and increased watchfulness.