

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

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NAME Alexander B. Niculescu III, MD, PhD		POSITION TITLE Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Neuroscience	
eRA COMMONS USER NAME aniculescu			
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Bucharest Carol Davila School of Medicine, Bucharest, Romania	M.D.	1991	Medicine
University of Geneva Medical School, Geneva, Switzerland	M.Sc.	1992	Medical Biology
The Scripps Research Institute Kellog School of Science and Technology, La Jolla, CA,	Ph.D.	1997	Molecular Biology
The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla CA	Postdoctoral	1997-1998	Neurobiology
University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA	Residency	1998-2002	Psychiatry
University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA	Fellowship	2001-2003	Biological Psychiatry and Neuroscience
American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology	Board Certification	2005	Psychiatry

**A. Positions and Honors**

1991-1992 Research Fellow, Department of Pathology, University of Geneva Medical School, Geneva, Switzerland  
 1992-1997 Graduate Student, Program in Macromolecular and Cellular Structure and Chemistry, The Scripps Research Institute Kellog School of Science and Technology, La Jolla, CA, Laboratory of Dr. Steven I. Reed.  
 1997-1998 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department Of Neurobiology, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA, Laboratory of Dr. Gerald M. Edelman.  
 1998- 1999 Internship, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA  
 1999- 2001 Resident, Department of Psychiatry, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA  
 2001- 2002 Chief Resident, Department of Psychiatry, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA  
 2001- 2003 Fellow in Biological Psychiatry and Neuroscience, Department of Psychiatry, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA  
 2003-2004 Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA  
 2002-2004 Staff Psychiatrist, VA San Diego Healthcare System; Chief, Cognitive Disorders Clinic; Associate Medical Director, Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program; Director, Laboratory of Neurophenomics, Department of Psychiatry, UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA.  
 2004- Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Neuroscience, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN; Director, INBRAIN and Laboratory of Neurophenomics, Institute of Psychiatric Research; Staff Psychiatrist, VA Medical Center Indianapolis

**Other Experience and Professional Memberships:**

2005- Reviewer, NIMH Extramural Programs.  
 2006- Assistant Editor, Psychiatric Genetics  
 2007- Editorial Board, American Journal of Medical Genetics, Part B:Neuropsychiatric Genetics  
 American Medical Association  
 American Psychiatric Association  
 International Society for Psychiatric Genetics  
 Society of Biological Psychiatry  
 Society of Neuroscience

**Honors ( selected):**

1999 APA Junior Investigator Travel Award, and oral presentation at the APA Research Colloquium for Junior Investigators, subsection on Genetics of Psychiatric Disorders, at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, Washington D. C., May 1999

2000 International Society for Psychiatric Genetics Junior Investigator Travel Award, and oral presentation at the Eight World Congress on Psychiatric Genetics, Versailles, France, August 2000

**2000 NIMH Outstanding Resident of the Year Award**

2000 Eli Lilly US Resident of the Year Award, US Psychiatric & Mental Health Congress, San Diego, November 2000.

2001 APA Junior Investigator Travel Award, and invited oral presentation at the APA Research Colloquium for Junior Investigators, subsection on Molecular Neurobiology, at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, May 2001.

**2002 Lewis L. Judd Chairman's Research Award, Department of Psychiatry, UC San Diego, For Research Excellence During Psychiatric Residency, June 2002.**

**2002-2005 Pfizer Fellow in Biological Psychiatry**

**2002-2004 NARSAD Young Investigator**

2002 Invited Speaker, Symposium on Functional Genomics, 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Psychiatric Genetics, Brussels, October 2002.

**2004 Department of Veterans Affairs Superior Performance Award, July 2004.**

**2005 American Psychiatric Association/ AstraZeneca Young Minds in Psychiatry Award, APA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, May 2005**

2005 Invited Speaker, 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Psychiatric Genetics, Boston, MA, October 2005.

2006 Invited Speaker, 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Psychiatric Genetics, Cagliari, Sardinia October 2006.

2007 Invited Speaker, Biological Psychiatry Annual Meeting, San Diego, May 2007

**2005-2007 NARSAD Mogens Schou Young Investigator Award**

**2007 Theodore Reich Award from the International Society for Psychiatric Genetics**

2007 Chair, Symposium "Overlap among psychoses", World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics, October 2007, New York, NY

**B. Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order):**

**Niculescu AB**, Chen X, Smeets M, Hengst L, Prives C, Reed SI. Effects of p21 Cip1/Waf1 at both the G1/S and G2/M cell cycle transitions: pRb is a critical determinant in blocking DNA replication and preventing endoreduplication. *Molecular and Cellular Biology*. 1998; 18: 629-643.

**Niculescu AB**. Prophylactic antidepressant treatment before patients are admitted *Lancet* 2000; 355: 406-7.

**Niculescu AB**. Will to live, suicide and euthanasia. *Archives of Internal Medicine* 2000; 160:1706.

**Niculescu AB**, Segal D, Kuczenski R, Barrett T, Hauger R, Kelsoe JR. Identifying a series of candidate genes for mania and psychosis: a convergent functional genomics approach. *Physiological Genomics* 2000; 4: 83-91.

**Niculescu AB**, Kelsoe JR. Convergent functional genomics: application to bipolar disorder. *Annals of Medicine* 2001;

33:263-271.

**Niculescu AB**, Akiskal HS. Proposed endophenotypes of dysthymia: evolutionary, clinical and pharmacogenomic considerations. *Molecular Psychiatry* 2001; 6: 363-366.

**Niculescu AB**, Kelsoe JR. The Human Genome: Genetic Testing and Animal Models. *American Journal of Psychiatry* 2001; 158:1587

**Niculescu AB**, Akiskal HS. Sex hormones, Darwinism and depression. *Archives of General Psychiatry* 2001; 58:1083-1084.

**Niculescu AB**, Kelsoe JR. Finding Genes for Bipolar Disorder in the Functional Genomics Era: From Convergent Functional Genomics to Phenomics and Back. *CNS Spectrums* 2002; 7: 215-226.

Lohr JB, Kuczenski R, **Niculescu AB**. Oxidative Mechanisms and Tardive Dyskinesia. *CNS Drugs* 2003; 17:47-62.

Ogden CA, Rich ME, Schork NJ, Paulus MP, Geyer MA, Lohr JB, Kuczenski R, **Niculescu AB**. Candidate genes, pathways and mechanisms for bipolar (manic-depressive) and related disorders: an expanded convergent functional genomics approach. *Molecular Psychiatry* 2004; 9(11):1007-1029.

**Niculescu AB**. Genomic studies of mood disorders: the brain as a muscle? *Genome Biology*. 2005. 6(4):215. Epub 2005 Mar 24.

Bertsch B, Ogden CA, Sidhu K, Le-Niculescu H, Kuczenski R, **Niculescu AB**. Convergent functional genomics: a Bayesian candidate gene identification approach for complex disorders. *Methods* 2005; 37(3):274-279.

Caligiuri MP, Brown GG, Meloy MJ, Ebersson S, **Niculescu AB**, Lohr JB. Striatopallidal regulation of affect in bipolar disorder. *The Journal of Affective Disorders* 2006; 91(2-3):235-42.

**Niculescu AB**, Lulow L, Ogden CA, Le-Niculescu H, Salomon DR, Schork NJ, Caligiuri MP, Lohr JB. PhenoChipping of psychotic disorders: a novel approach for deconstructing and quantitating psychiatric phenotypes. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B (Neuropsychiatric Genetics)*. 2006. 141(6):653-662.

Rodd ZA, Bertsch B, Strother WN, Le-Niculescu H, Jerome RE, Lumeng L, Nurnberger JI Jr., Edenberg HJ, McBride WJ, and **Niculescu AB**. Candidate genes, pathways and mechanisms for alcoholism and related disorders: an expanded convergent functional genomics approach. *The Pharmacogenomics Journal* 2007;7(4):222-56.

Le-Niculescu H., Balaraman Y, Patel S, Tan J, Sidhu K, Jerome RE, Kuczenski R, Geyer MA, Edenberg HJ, Nurnberger JI, Faraone SV, Tsuang MT and **Niculescu AB**. Towards understanding the schizophrenia code: an expanded convergent functional genomics approach. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B (Neuropsychiatric Genetics)*. 2007; 144B (2):129-158.

Le-Niculescu H, McFarland MJ, Mamidipalli S, Ogden CA, Kuczenski R, Kurian SM, Salomon DR, Tsuang MT, Nurnberger Jr JI, **Niculescu AB**. Convergent Functional Genomics of bipolar disorder: From animal model pharmacogenomics to human genetics and biomarkers. *Neurosci Biobehav Rev*. 2007 31(6):897-903.

Le-Niculescu H, McFarland MJ, Ogden CA, Balaraman Y, Tan J, Patel S, Rich ME, Paulus M, Edenberg HJ, Nurnberger JI, Rodd ZA, Geyer M, Glatt SJ, Faraone SV, Kuczenski R, Tsuang MT and **Niculescu AB**. Phenomic, convergent functional genomic and biomarker studies in a stress-reactive genetic animal model of bipolar disorder and co-morbid alcoholism. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B (Neuropsychiatric Genetics)*. 2008 Mar 5;147(2):134-66.

H. Le-Niculescu, S. M. Kurian, N. Yehyaw, C. Dike, S.D. Patel, H.J. Edenberg, M. T. Tsuang, D. R. Salomon, J. I. Nurnberger Jr, **A. B. Niculescu**. Identifying Blood Biomarkers For Mood Disorders Using Convergent Functional Genomics. *Molecular Psychiatry* 2008 Feb 26; [Epub ahead of print]

Liu L, Foroud T, Xuei X, Berrettini W, Byerley W, Coryell W, El-Mallakh R, Gershon E, Kelsoe J, Lawson W, MacKinnon D, McInnis M, McMahon F, Murphy D, Rice J, Scheftner W, **Niculescu AB**, Meyer ET, Edenberg HJ, Nurnberger Jr. JI Evidence of association between brain-derived neurotrophic factor (*BDNF*) gene and bipolar disorder. *Psychiatric Genetics*. 2008. **In Press**.

**Special Interests:**

Genomics and phenomics of neuropsychiatric disorders

Animal models of mental illness

Brain and tissue banking

Blood biomarkers.

Personalized medicine in psychiatry

Rational polypharmacology in complex and treatment refractory psychiatric patients