

Shaping the Future of Mood Disorders Care: Discovery, Innovation, and Collective Impact

NNDC Academic Research Agenda – Tuesday, October 20, 2026

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Time (CST)	Topic	Topic Title/Description	Speakers	Location
7:30-8:30am	Registration + Breakfast Buffet			Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom – Catering + Conference Side
8:30-8:55am	Welcome	Welcome Address and NNDC Administrative Updates	NNDC Leadership	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
8:55-9am	Introduction	Opening Remarks	Dr. Claudia Lucchinetti University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
9-9:30am	Symposium: Trauma, Depression, and the Life Cycle	Paradise Lost: The Neurobiology of Child Abuse and Neglect (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Charlie Nemeroff University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School Introduction by Dr. Claudia Lucchinetti	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
9:30-10am		Neuropsychiatric Considerations in Hormonal Contraception (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Jeffrey Newport University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	
10-10:15am		Panel Discussion with Audience Feedback (15 min Q&A)	Joining the panel: Dr. Charlie Nemeroff & Dr. Jeffrey Newport Moderator: Sagar Parikh, MD, FRCPC, University of Michigan, NNDC Medical Director	
10:15-10:30am	Break			
10:30-11am	Mini-Symposia 1: Technology-Driven Innovations in Mood Disorders Care	Beyond Medication: The Emerging Role of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation in Bipolar Depression (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Jorge Almeida University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
11-11:30am		The Digital Advantage: Addressing Stigma and Bridging the Treatment Engagement Gap for Depression and Anxiety (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. A. Pederson Mass General Brigham	
11:30-11:45am	Break			
11:45am-12:45pm	Lunch Options	General Conference Lunch		Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom – Catering or Presentation Side
		Axsome Therapeutics Non-CME + Non-Promotional Symposium	Dr. Henry Nasrallah	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom – Conference Side
		Mood Outcomes Program Lunch Discussion (seating for dining up to 50)		Governor’s Room
12:45-2:10pm	Poster Session			Santa Rita Suite
2:15-2:30pm	Afternoon Kickoff	NNDC Administrative Announcements	NNDC Leadership	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
2:30-2:50pm	Hot Topics: Emerging Frontiers in Mood Disorders Science	Untangling Depression: Novel Biological Subtypes of the Gut-Brain Axis (15 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Jane Foster University of Texas Southwestern	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
2:50-3:10pm		Bipolar Disorder and Alcohol: Modifiable Targets to Move Towards Early Intervention and Better Outcomes (15 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Elizabeth Lippard University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	
3:10-3:30pm		Single Session Interventions for Depression: RCT of 12 Digital Interventions (15 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Benjamin T. Kaveladze Dartmouth College	
3:30-3:45pm	Break			
3:45-4:45pm	Plenary Talk	Mechanism-guided discovery of novel antidepressant treatments (45 min talk, 15 min Q&A)	Dr. Conor Liston Weill Cornell Medicine	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
4:45-5pm	Break and optional poster pick up before 6pm			
5-5:30pm	Mini-Symposia 2: Transformative Therapeutics in Psychiatry	Next Directions for Ketamine in Psychiatry (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Sanjay Matthew Texas A & M	Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom
5:30-6pm		Do Psychedelics need Bespoke Psychotherapy to Work? (25 min talk, 5 min Q&A)	Dr. Gregory Fonzo University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	
6-7pm	Networking Happy Hour			Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom – Catering Side
7-8:30pm	Dinner & Awards	Travel and poster awardees are celebrated		Shirley Bird Perry Ballroom – Conference Side