

WHAT IS THE LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Our purpose is to identify potential illness patterns in bipolar disorder through the analysis of genetic information and continued observation of research participants for at least ten years.

Involvement requires:

- An interview with one of our clinicians
- Neuropsychological tasks to measure attention, memory, perception and reaction times
- Blood sample for genetics
- Saliva collection
- Compensation for your time
- Completion of self report questionnaires every two months
- Annual follow-up visits for ten years

Qualifications:

- Minimum age of 18
- You have a diagnosis of bipolar disorder
- Or, as our control group: you have no mental illness and there is none in your family

This study is sponsored by the Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Fund at the University of Michigan Depression Center.

This study has received approval from IRBMED:
HUM00000606



CONTACT OUR RESEARCH TEAM

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The Heinz C. Prechter
Bipolar Research Fund
at the
University of Michigan
Depression Center

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LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF BIPOLAR DISORDER

WHAT IS BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Bipolar disorder is a medical condition caused by chemical imbalances in the brain and marked by significant changes in mood, thought, energy and behavior. A person's mood can alternate between the "poles" of mania (highs) and depression (lows).

WHY STUDY BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Bipolar disorder is known to run in families, but most genes involved have not yet been identified. Additionally, every individual's response to the illness, life circumstances, and treatment can vary widely. Studying many individuals over time will allow scientists to better understand how to treat and eventually, prevent bipolar disorder.

"What makes this program so unique is that it is 'longitudinal,' meaning it will follow patients over a period of time in order to learn how to predict the outcome of the illness, what treatments specific individuals respond to, and ultimately, to determine how to find a cure."

Melvin G. McInnis, M.D., FRCPsych.
Thomas B. and Nancy Upjohn Woodworth
Professor of Bipolar Disorder and Depression,
U-M Depression Center

WHAT MAKES THIS STUDY UNIQUE?



The Heinz C. Prechter
Bipolar Research Fund
at the
University of Michigan
Depression Center

The Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Fund was established in 2001 and has since supported scientific investigators at more than seven institutions. In 2005, the Fund helped launch the Prechter Bipolar Genetics Repository at the University of Michigan, and with that a large-scale project known as the Prechter Longitudinal Study of Bipolar Disorder.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME IN THIS STUDY?

Investigators plan to monitor bipolar participants for ten years after the initial research evaluation, using bi-monthly questionnaires, neuropsychological testing, and interviews performed at various time intervals. We will also take blood and saliva samples. Compensation is \$100 for the first study visit, and up to \$150 for each year following. All study visits currently take place at the University of Michigan Depression Center on Plymouth Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The Bipolar Research Team is seeking adults with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder and without a history of schizophrenia. We also invite adults without bipolar disorder to be in our healthy comparison group.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Risks are minimal; a member of our team will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the risks of participation. It is important to know that participating in research is completely voluntary and should you decide not to proceed, there will be no adverse consequences.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

There are no direct tangible benefits other than financial compensation. However, many people feel a sense of satisfaction knowing they have contributed to the understanding of bipolar disorder and to our search for more effective treatments of this debilitating disease.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Contact our bipolar research team by phone or email. In order to determine your eligibility, we will conduct a 15 minute phone interview with you.

Any information shared with our research staff will remain confidential.

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Please consider participating in this important research!