A Sampling of NARSAD Grants at Work: Highlights from 2012

Basic Research: Depression
Ronald S. Duman, Ph.D.
Discovers how stress and depression can shrink the brain

Basic Research: Autism
Identify chemicals in the brain that improve symptoms of Fragile X Syndrome (FXS), the most common known genetic cause of autism

Basic Research: Bipolar Disorder, Depression, Schizophrenia
Chiara Nosarti, Ph.D.
Demonstrates that premature birth heightens risk for mental illness

Diagnostic Tools / Early Intervention: Depression
Andrew Miller, M.D.,
Demonstrates antidepressant response by treating inflammation—patient responsiveness predicted with simple blood test

Diagnostic Tools / Early Intervention: Schizophrenia
Anil Malhotra, M.D.
Identification of gene variant linked to antipsychotic-medication-induced weight gain—could help optimize treatment decisions

New Technologies: Schizophrenia
Paola Dazzan, M.D.
Develops new technology that can predict future course of illness after first psychotic episode

Next Generation Therapies: Anxiety / Depression
Olivier Berton, Ph.D.
Identification of protein linked to natural resiliency to stress points to new treatment possibility

Next Generation Therapies: Depression
In separate research projects, investigators demonstrate how dopamine neurons are linked to depression, opening new pathway for treatment

Next Generation Therapies: Schizophrenia
Show targeted computer ‘brain training’ improves behavioral symptoms and brain activity in schizophrenia

SC = Brain & Behavior Research Foundation Scientific Council Member
NARSAD Grantees: YI = Young Investigator II = Independent Investigator DI = Distinguished Investigator