

DO YOU HAVE A TEENAGER WITH Depression?

NIH Research Study



This research study seeks to understand the causes of depression in teenagers.

It is part of a larger study looking at irritability and mood dysregulation. This part of the study's goals are to improve our knowledge of which treatments work best in depression, and will compare teenagers with depression to those with severe irritability. The research will also study teenagers with depression as they grow up.

All evaluations, clinical assessments, research tasks, brain imaging, and inpatient (day or full hospitalization) and outpatient visits are free of cost. Both parents and teen must agree to the teen's participation. Teen may or may not be on treatment medications.

Teens are compensated for participation. Schooling is provided during inpatient care. The studies are at the NIH in Bethesda, MD and enroll participants from the local area and from across the United States. Travel and lodging expenses are paid by NIMH.

This study is currently recruiting participants who:

- are ages 12 to 17, and medically healthy
- meet the criteria for major depressive disorder
- are currently in treatment with a physician and not currently hospitalized, psychotic, or suicidal
- are able to perform research tasks that include brain imaging, computer tasks and behavioral & psychological testing

Study participation may include:

Participation begins with an initial 1-day outpatient evaluation that includes clinical assessments, interviews, and questionnaires.

Annual Outpatient Visits

If eligible, participants may return for annual outpatient visits of 1-2 days, up to age 25. This part of the study does not involve treatment.

These visits may include paper-and-pencil and computer tests of mood, memory, and thinking; specialized computer games; and structural and brain imaging.

Inpatient Treatment

Some participants may be eligible for an inpatient treatment stay of 4- to 15-weeks based on clinical judgement. When clinically indicated, some may participate as day treatment patients.

Participation includes standard treatment with medication and cognitive-behavioral therapy along with interviews, research testing, brain imaging and limited psychological testing. Schooling will be provided while on the inpatient unit or in day treatment.

Join A Study

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Intramural Research Studies at NIMH

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