As announced by NYU Langone Medical Center, Dan Iosifescu, MD, MSc, will soon join NKI and NYU Langone. Dr. Iosifescu is a clinician and scientist specializing in mood disorders. He will direct the Clinical Research department at NKI beginning in March.

Dr. Iosifescu’s research is focused on novel pharmacological treatments (such as ketamine and other glutamatergic drugs) and devices (such as novel forms of magnetic stimulation) for patients with severe mood disorders (major depression and bipolar disorder) and anxiety disorders (PTSD). In his research, Dr. Iosifescu uses neuroimaging (MRI, MRS) and neurophysiology (quantitative EEG) techniques to evaluate structural, biochemical, and functional brain abnormalities in mood disorders and their impact on clinical treatment. In parallel, Dr. Iosifescu also focuses on the recognition and treatment of cognitive deficits associated with mood disorders.

After completing medical studies at the “Carol Davila” University in Bucharest, Romania, Dr. Iosifescu completed his internship and psychiatry residency at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and McLean Hospital. His research training included a neuroimaging fellowship in the Neuroscience Laboratory at Harvard Medical School, a psychopharmacology fellowship in the MGH Mood and Anxiety Disorders Institute, and a fellowship in the Clinical Investigator Training Program at Harvard and MIT. Dr. Iosifescu also received a Master of Medical Science degree from Harvard University. Until 2010, Dr. Iosifescu was Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and a mood disorder researcher at MGH; he then was the Director of the Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Dr. Iosifescu has authored more than 100 papers in peer-reviewed medical journals, 14 book chapters, and more than 100 abstracts. He has received a series of prestigious prizes: the NARSAD Young Investigator Award (which he received twice), the Kaplen Award and the Livingston Award from Harvard Medical School, the American Psychiatric Association Young Investigator Award, the NCDEU New Investigator Award, and a National Institute for Mental Health K23 Career Development Award.

Welcome, Dan, to NKI!
Understanding Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

Good Clinical Practice (GCP) refers to the regulations and requirements that govern the conduct of clinical research. It is an international ethical and scientific quality standard for the design, conduct, analysis, recording, performance, monitoring, and reporting of clinical trials that provides assurance that the data and reported results are credible and accurate, and that the rights, integrity, and confidentiality of research subjects are protected.

Over the next few months, the Compliance Corner will be featuring aspects of GCP pertinent to the research enterprise at NKI. This issue will focus on requirements related to reporting and conduct of research.

Research Conduct Requirements for Investigators

NIH requires all investigators and staff involved in the conduct and managements of clinical trials to receive training on GCP. The requirement extends to cover individuals involved in the design, conduct, oversight, or management of clinical trials. The policy defines an investigator as the individual(s) responsible for the design and conduct of the clinical trial at a site. The policy also delineates that clinical trial staff that are responsible for study coordination, data collection, and data management should also complete the training. The policy applies to all NIH funded clinical trials, no matter where they are in the life cycle of the trial.

Although the federal policy only applies to studies that are supported by NIH funds, NKI has chosen to request that all human subject researchers at NKI complete the GCP training module offered in the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program. CITI is a web-based research educational curriculum designed to enhance the professionalism of investigators and staff conducting research. The topics available in the CITI courses cover both animal and human research. CITI provides comprehensive programs in multiple areas including the protection of human subjects in research, understanding how to protect different animals used in research, the responsible conduct of research, and health information privacy. At a minimum, human subject researchers should complete the Basic and the GCP courses available at https://www.citiprogram.org.

Reporting Requirements for Clinical Trials

At the end of 2016, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued new rules on announcing clinical trials and reporting their results. The rule addresses clinical trials registration and summary results information submissions that should be made to the ClinicalTrials.gov website. HHS published a summary of changes from current practice to clarify which trials need to register and what information they need to report under the new rules. Investigators at NKI should be familiar with the requirements for posting to ClinicalTrials.gov.

If you have questions, please contact the NKI IRB at NKIIRB@nki.rfmh.org.

FUNDING NEWS

Tracy Butler, MD, a Research Assistant Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry at New York University, was awarded a NARSAD Young Investigator grant in 2015. Currently, Dr. Butler is conducting PET imaging research with schizophrenia patients at Manhattan Psychiatric Center, where she is on staff as a neurologist.
The pioneering role played by NKI researchers in the sharing of neuroimaging data is mentioned in the Technology Feature in the January 26 issue of *Nature* (“Big Brain, Big Data”). Although previously, “no one was even thinking about sharing data, only software,”

“That changed in late 2009, when researchers at the Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research in Orangeburg, New York, released resting-state functional MRI (fMRI) data into the NITRC from more than 1,200 volunteers, collected for the 1000 Functional Connectomes Project (FCP). These were just pooled raw data — yet within a few weeks, NITRC users had downloaded the data set 700 times. ‘There was such a pent-up demand for data people could freely download and play with.’”

The rest, as they say, is history – with thousands of data downloads, and many dozens of publications resulting from the use of NKI’s shared datasets.

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**FROM AROUND THE INSTITUTE**

Come to **BRAIN DAY** at NKI! Saturday, March 11, 2017

Click for more info

http://rocklandsample.org/

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**PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE**

**Dr. Ralph Nixon**, Director of the Center for Dementia Research, served as Guest Editor for a special issue of *Ageing Research Reviews* on “Lysosomes in Aging”. In addition to an editorial by Dr. Nixon, the issue includes two articles by CDR investigators.


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Drs. **Crystal Lewis** and **Pamela Valera** (Social Solutions and Services) both recently published papers in *AIDS and Behavior*.


Josha Kantrowitz, MD (Schizophrenia Research) is the first author of this paper on d-Cycloserine appearing in the December issue of The American Journal of Psychiatry.


Deputy Director Antonio Convit, MD, is the senior author of this recent paper appearing in Childhood Obesity.


Xavier Castellanos, MD (Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) and colleagues published this paper on alcohol abuse using NKI-Rockland Sample data.


Dr. Kantrowitz, Dr. Daniel Javitt, and others at NKI (Schizophrenia Research) published an article on D-serine in schizophrenia in the December issue of Brain. This research is described in a Columbia University Medical Center press release titled “Hearing deficits in schizophrenia tied to specific brain receptor”.


Kristine Jones, PhD, who recently retired from the Services Research department, coauthored this paper on mental health and employment.


Drs. Michael Milham and Stan Colcombe (Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation) are coauthors or this Trends review on connectomics.

Elizabeth Phelps, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) is a coauthor of this paper published online in *Nature Neuroscience*. This work on emotion and memory was highlighted in an [NYU press release](https://www.nyu.edu/releases/2016/december/20161222-emotional-brain-states-future-memory.html).


Efrat Levy, PhD (Center for Dementia Research) and several NKI colleagues have a paper in a recent *Methods in Molecular Biology* volume.


Two papers by Emotional Brain Institute coauthors Robert Sears, Joseph LeDoux, and Elizabeth Phelps appear in the January issue of *Learning & Memory*.


Dr. Menahem Krakowski (Clinical Research) and Pal Czobor published a paper on aggression in schizophrenia in *Schizophrenia Research*. Also in this journal, Jim Robinson (Information Sciences) is a coauthor of the latest RAISE publication.

Krakowski MI, Czobor P. Proneness to aggression and its inhibition in schizophrenia: Interconnections between personality traits, cognitive function and emotional processing. Schizophr Res. 2016 Dec 19.

**INFO UPDATE**

**PsychiatryOnline** has integrated Altmetric badges into its journals content. Altmetric LLP collects article level data and tracks the online conversations around research papers via a selection of online indicators (both scholarly and non-scholarly) to give a measurement of digital impact and reach. For more information, you can read this interview with the Editorial Director of Journals at APA Publishing. And this video provides background on Altmetric badges.

**ALTBIB** is a National Library of Medicine (NLM) portal providing Resources for Alternatives to the Use of Live Vertebrates in Biomedical Research and Testing. If you are not familiar with ALTBIB, a recent webinar – Using ALTBIB: What, Why and How! – provides some guidance.

For more where that came from, you can find a variety of tutorials and other training materials on PubMed and other NLM topics here.

The **Human Genome Resources** site is a new portal from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). The site organizes a variety of visualization, analysis, and molecular data tools relevant to the human genome. The portal also includes a listing of related learning resources such as webinars and tutorials.

The **NKI publications database**, which contains over 5,000 references dating back to 1995, can now be accessed on myNKI. In the right hand column under Research Resources and Information, look for the Publications link near the bottom. Just above Publications, you will also find a link to the **NKI Health Sciences Library** site. The publications search provides a convenient way to discover work done by NKI-affiliated researchers. You can search using author names, journal titles, dates, reference type, and keywords. The NKI publications database is updated regularly.

**NOVELNY** is the New York Online Virtual Electronic Library, which provides a wide variety of resources – books, magazines, newspapers, research and reference sources, and more to all New York State residents. These resources are available online at no cost. Recently, a change was implemented to enable more accurate authentication by using geolocation. Users accessing NOVELNY databases may now be asked for permission to use their location to determine if they are in New York. This will provide them with seamless access to all NOVELNY resources. If the user prefers not to give permission, the authentication will use their IP number to determine if they are in New York, and if the system cannot determine if they are in the state, it will allow them to log in using their public library card or New York Driver License/New York Non-Driver ID.

For more information about NOVELNY and to search the databases, go to novelnewyork.org.
The NKI librarian is always available to assist with literature searching, citation searching (Web of Science, Scopus), bibliographic reference management, and the like. When you have any information needs, or questions about available resources, don’t hesitate to turn to us.

The library offers a comfortable, quiet space for reading, work, and small meetings. To use the library’s Wi-Fi network, ask the library staff for the password.

You can link to the NKI Library’s website from myNKI. The Library site includes quick links to the NYU Health Sciences Library and to the New York State Library, as well as links to NKI’s own library resources (journal finder, online catalog, PsychiatryOnline, etc.). Remote access is available using NKI’s VPN.

The New York Times

If you feel like medical and nutritional advice (including recommendations from respected organizations) seems to change from week to week, you are not alone. This New York Times article explains why this occurs, and recommends a healthy skepticism about these recommendations, especially regarding nutrition.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SEMINARS

Center for Dementia Research Seminar Series

Held on Thursdays at 10 am

Laszlo Zaborszky, MD, PhD
Professor of Neuroscience
Rutgers University – Newark, NJ

Title TBA
February 16th
Hosted by Dr. Helen Scharfman

Ann Marie Schmidt, MD
Professor, Departments of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, and Pathology
NYU School of Medicine

Title TBA
February 23rd
Hosted by Dr. Paul Mathews

Martin Sadowski, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology
NYU School of Medicine

Title TBA
March 16th
Hosted by Dr. Efrat Levy

NIH
National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

At the end of the year, NIH Research Matters again compiled an annual sampling of NIH-funded research highlights, covering Clinical Breakthroughs, Promising Medical Advances, and Insights from the Lab. In 2016, basic research highlights in neuroscience included an improved map of the brain and insight into the brain’s waste disposal system.

Click here for a printable PDF of the 2016 Research Highlights.

You’ll find more 2016 research highlights in the first NIH Director’s Blog of 2017. There, Dr. Collins features some of the NIH-funded advances that were lauded by Science magazine as Breakthroughs of the Year.

DEPARTMENT OF WONDER
The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) regularly hosts an interactive video broadcast covering the latest research, technology, and treatment implementation in the fields of psychiatry and psychology. These programs are recorded, and the archived Statewide Grand Rounds programs can be viewed by OMH employees on the OMH intranet. Anyone can view the programs on the OMH website.

**NKI PUBLICATIONS UPDATE**

Below is a list of references that have been added to the NKI publications database since the previous update. The full database contains over 5,300 items dating back to 1995, and can be searched from the NKI web site.


Krakowski MI, Czobor P. Proneness to aggression and its inhibition in schizophrenia: Interconnections between personality traits, cognitive function and emotional processing. Schizophr Res. 2016 Dec 19.


