



INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS

TUESDAY, JULY 3RD, 2018 AT 8:00AM

Invisible Light! Can the Treatment of Depression Be Beyond What is Seen?

FOLLOWED BY COFFEE HOUR FROM 9-10AM

Description: Transcranial photobiomodulation (t-PBM) with invisible near-infrared radiation (NIR) has emerged as a potential antidepressant treatment in both animal models and human studies. t-PBM consists of delivering NIR –or red light– to the scalp of the patient, which penetrates the skull and modulates function of the adjacent cortical areas of the brain. A case on the use of t-PBM for the treatment of Major Depressive Disorder will be presented, with discussion of evidence from a recent clinical trial.

Location: Bornstein Family Amphitheater
45 Francis Street, Boston, MA 02115



Presenter:
Paolo Cassano
MD, PhD



Discussant:
Margaret Naeser,
PhD, LAc

MONTHLY | FIRST TUESDAY'S 8:00–9:00AM

August 7: Dr. David Mischoulon presents “Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Mood Disorders and other Psychiatric Conditions” - MGH

September 4: Dr. Daniel Hall presents “Managing Uncertainty and Fear of Recurrence in Cancer: A Mind-Body Perspective” - MGH

HMS CME CREDITS AVAILABLE

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Biographies



Presenter: Paolo Cassano, MD, PhD is assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and director of photobiomodulation at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Depression and Clinical Research Program and at the MGH Center for Anxiety and Traumatic Stress Disorders.

Dr. Cassano received both his MD in medicine and surgery, and his PhD in clinical neuro-psychopharmacology from the University of Pisa in Italy. He pursued post-doctoral studies in mood and anxiety disorders with the MGH Depression and Clinical Research Program (DCRP) and graduated from the MGH-McLean Adult Psychiatry Residency Program in 2009.

Dr. Cassano's research has focused on developing new treatments for major depressive disorder (MDD) and better characterizing response to treatment by examining comorbid conditions, cultural factors and trauma.

Since 2014, Dr. Cassano has held a dual appointment at the MGH Center for Anxiety and Traumatic Stress Disorders and DCRP. Since 2009, he has served as principal investigator on several studies on transcranial photobiomodulation for MDD, GAD and in healthy subjects, including a Brain and Behavior Research Foundation (2012 NARSAD YI) Award and a Dupont Warren/Livingston Fellowship from Harvard Medical School.



Discussant: Margaret Naeser, PhD, LAc is Research Professor of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine, and Boston VA Medical Center. She has had VA/ NIH-funded research for over 40 years, with emphasis on neuroanatomy of lesion localization on CT/MRI scans in stroke patients with aphasia. She has over 100 publications. She has published research on using red and near-infrared (NIR), low-level laser to treat paralysis in stroke, and pain in carpal tunnel syndrome. Since 2009, she has studied the effect of transcranial, NIR light-emitting diodes (LED) to treat chronic, traumatic brain injury, PTSD, Gulf

War Veterans' Illnesses, stroke/aphasia and most recently, dementia. She has a strong interest in neuroplasticity and utilizing transcranial, photobiomodulation (t-PBM) to promote neuromodulation for brain recovery. She serves on the editorial board, Photomedicine and Laser Surgery, and is Fellow, American Society for Lasers in Medicine and Surgery.