

The Psychiatric Neurogenetics Section at CAMH, under my leadership, has received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation to conduct a seven year study to identify genetic variants that influence psychiatric drug response and side effects. The project will focus on individuals receiving antipsychotics, antidepressants and mood stabilizers. The overall goal is to improve healthcare to individuals on psychiatric drugs by proactively selecting the appropriate drug and the optimum starting dosage based on the patient's genetic information. The genes to be tested include liver enzymes for drug metabolism and other genes involved in response and side effects. We expect that patient satisfaction and safety should improve, and healthcare costs will be reduced.

We invite you to share the details of our study with your patients who are eligible. This would be anyone 13 years of age and older who:

1. is about to start new antipsychotic/antidepressant/mood stabilizing medication
2. is switching to a new antipsychotic/antidepressant/mood stabilizing medication
3. has been on antipsychotic/antidepressant/mood stabilizing medication with inadequate response
4. has experienced significant and repeated side effects

Participants will be asked to provide a saliva sample for DNA testing and to answer questions regarding their symptoms, medication history and side effects. This will take approximately 45 minutes and he/she will be reimbursed \$20.00 for their time.

The test results may be helpful to you in trying to find the best possible dose of a medication or choosing a new medication for your patients. However, this form of genetic testing is still being evaluated and test results will not be used alone to make decisions about your medical treatment.

If you have a patient who is interested in participating please fax a referral form to **416-979-4666**. If you or your patients require further information, we can be contacted by email at impact@camh.ca, by phone at **416-535-8501** Ext. **30240**, and toll free at **1-800-928-3316**.

Thank-you in advance for your referrals, which will be invaluable in advancing the field of personalized medicine.



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