



Husseini K. Manji, M.D., F.R.C.P.C
Global Therapeutic Area Head, Neuroscience

Husseini K. Manji, MD, FRCPC is Global Therapeutic Head for Neuroscience at Janssen Research & Development, LLC, one of the Johnson & Johnson pharmaceutical companies. He is also Visiting Professor at Duke University. Dr. Manji was previously Chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Pathophysiology & Experimental Therapeutics at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Director of the NIH Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program, the largest program of its kind in the world.

The major focus of Dr. Manji's research has been the investigation of disease- and treatment-induced changes in gene and protein networks that regulate synaptic and neural plasticity in neuropsychiatric disorders. His work has helped to conceptualize these illnesses as genetically-influenced disorders of synaptic and neural plasticity and has led to the investigation of novel therapeutics for refractory patients. Notably, Dr. Manji's research demonstrated that AMPA- and NMDA-mediated synaptic plasticity may underlie the pathogenesis of depression, and that targeting these pathways may produce robust and rapid antidepressant effects. Under his leadership, this has led to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of the first novel antidepressant mechanism (NMDA-antagonism) in decades. Spravato™ (esketamine) nasal spray, an NMDA antagonist, is approved for adults with treatment-resistant depression. Phase 3 studies are underway to investigate its efficacy in the treatment of patients with major depressive disorder at imminent risk of suicidal ideation.

Dr. Manji has received a number of prestigious awards, including the National Institute of Mental Health Director's Career Award for Significant Scientific Achievement, the A. E. Bennett Award for Neuropsychiatric Research, the Ziskind-Somerfeld Award for Neuropsychiatric Research, the NARSAD Mood Disorders Prize, the Mogens Schou Distinguished Research Award, the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology's (ACNP) Elkes Award for Distinguished Research, the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance Klerman Senior Distinguished Researcher Award, the Briggs Pharmacology Lectureship Award, the American Federation for Aging Research Award of Distinction, the Caring Kind Alzheimer's Disease Leadership Award, and the Global Health & the Arts Award of Recognition. He has received PhRMA's Research & Hope Award for Excellence in Biopharmaceutical Research, and has also been recognized as one of 14 inaugural "Health Heroes" by *Oprah* magazine.

Dr. Manji has been inducted into the National Academy of Medicine (NAM, formerly IOM) and the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Future Councils, and has held numerous leadership positions within the NAM, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health Biomarkers Consortium Executive Committee, the ACNP, and the Society of Biological Psychiatry.

Throughout his career, Dr. Manji has been committed to undertakings related to medical and neuroscience education and has worked with the National Board of Medical Examiners, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Scholars Program, and numerous national curriculum committees. He founded and co-directed the NIH Foundation for the Advanced Education in the Sciences Graduate Course in the Neurobiology of Neuropsychiatric Illness, and has received several teaching and mentoring awards. He has also served as editor and on editorial boards of numerous scientific journals.

Dr. Manji has published extensively on the molecular and cellular neurobiology of severe neuropsychiatric disorders and the development of novel therapeutics, with over 300 publications in peer-reviewed journals, including *Science*, *Science Translational Medicine*, *Nature Neuroscience*, *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *The Journal of Neuroscience*, *JAMA Psychiatry*, and *Molecular Psychiatry*.