Mark Rasenick, PhD
University of Illinois Chicago
Department of Psychiatry

AREA(S) OF FOCUS:

Discovering biomarkers to improve depression diagnosis and treatment

The Rasenick lab is investigating the molecular linkage between depressive disorders & effectiveness of antidepressant drugs.

KEY RESEARCH AREAS:

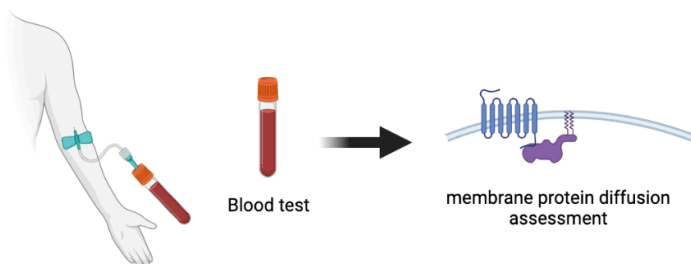**Discovery of depression biomarkers**
Develop strategies to personalize mood disorder therapeutic regimens to reduce patient treatment burden.

Underlying mechanisms of mood disorders
Understand the role of cell membrane heterogeneity in patient response (or lack of response) to anti-depressants.

Model outcomes of anti-depressant discontinuation syndrome
Support the development of novel drugs with less adverse effects through characterization of molecular mechanisms underlying withdrawal symptoms.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS:

pax Neuroscience

Pax Neuroscience is an early-stage biotechnology company that aims to support depression diagnosis and guide treatment decisions.

Through use of molecular/cellular biology and healthcare technology, Pax Neuroscience is also developing approaches to predict efficacy of antidepressant therapy for patients.

MoodMark test suite, a diagnostic blood test to:

- Identify biomarkers supporting depression diagnosis
- Formulate recommendations for optimal treatment efficacy
- Predict the response to antidepressants
- Deliver personalized therapy for depression

Over $1.5M of grant funding raised.

Blood test

membrane protein diffusion assessment

CBC CHICAGO BIOMEDICAL CONSORTIUM

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