

# PATIENT-CENTERED CARE GRAND ROUNDS

## *Genetic Dissection of Common Diseases: The Case of Schizophrenia*

An international research consortium recently discovered common genetic variants contribute to a person's risk of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, and many of these DNA variants contribute to both diseases. The outstanding team of researchers included **Dr. Ayman Fanous and Dr. Richard Amdur of the Washington, DC VA Medical Center (DCVAMC)**. The findings, reported by the Psychiatric Genome-Wide Association Study Consortium (PGC) and published online in two papers in the journal *Nature Genetics*, represent significant advances in understanding the causes of these chronic, severe, and debilitating disorders. Join Drs. Fanous and Amdur on November 16 at 12 p.m. at the VA Medical Center, 50 Irving Street, N.W., Washington, DC as they discuss the application of genomics to questions of diagnosis and classification. Speakers will be introduced by **Dr. Marc Blackman, ACOS R&D and Assistant Dean for VA Research at Georgetown University**.



**Ayman H. Fanous, MD**

Chief, Psychiatric Genetics Research Program, DCVAMC  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
Georgetown University School of Medicine



**Richard L. Amdur, PhD**

Chief of Biostatistics, DC VAMC  
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Surgery  
Georgetown University School of Medicine

### Panel Discussion

At 1:00 p.m. Dr. Fanous will be joined by the following distinguished individuals for a panel discussion. This session will be open for questions and audience participation and will be moderated by **Maria Llorente, MD, Associate Chief of Staff for Mental Health, DCVAMC**

**Howard J. Federoff, MD, PhD**, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and Executive Dean, School of Medicine, Georgetown University. Dr. Federoff has conducted pioneering research in gene therapy and neurodegenerative disorders.

**Francis J. McMahon, MD**, Chief, Human Genetics Branch and Genetic Basis of Mood and Anxiety Disorders Section, National Institute of Mental Health Intramural Research Program

**O. Joseph Bienvenu, MD, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Director, Johns Hopkins Anxiety Disorders Clinic

**Brien P. Riley, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Departments Psychiatry and Human Genetics and Director, Molecular Laboratory at the Virginia Institute of Psychiatric and Behavioral Genetics, Virginia Commonwealth University.

### When:

Wednesday , November 16, 2011

Speakers: 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Panel Discussion: 1:00 - 2:00 PM

### Where:

Washington DC VA Medical Center  
Abraham Lincoln Auditorium, 4th Floor  
50 Irving St. NW  
Washington, DC 20422

### For more information:

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