

Getting at the Root of Psychiatric Illness



Anthony Grace

Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience & Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology

CURRENT RESEARCH

How the biological basis of psychiatric disorders is leading to novel breakthroughs

It is estimated that globally over 350 million people suffer from depression; this startling number of people only begins to scratch the surface of the patients globally that are affected by various psychiatric illnesses. In an effort to combat the often devastating results of such disorders, Dr. Anthony Grace, of the University of Pittsburgh, is focused on understanding the biological bases of psychiatric disorders, with an emphasis on schizophrenia and depression. Using rat models that have been validated to replicate major aspects of these disorders, Dr. Grace and his team have combined evidence regarding risk factors and developmental aspects to construct models that are effective at predicting the actions of novel types of drugs and changing the course of the disease in humans. Therefore, by understanding diseases at the brain circuitry and developmental onset levels, Dr. Grace and his team are in a better position to dramatically decrease the burden of psychiatric disorders in the future.

Dr. Grace's laboratory is unique in its systems-oriented approach to psychiatric disorders. Meaning that by studying activity in the circuits of normal animals as well as in well-validated animal models of disease states, he and his team are in a powerful position to translate their work to the human condition. Due to their high level of translatability and predictability, Dr. Grace and his team are highly sought out by clinical investigators which culminates in incredible collaborations that aim to effectively treat individuals with psychiatric disorders. Dr. Grace and his team have already made enormous advances in this endeavor; their work on schizophrenia has made large strides in the identification of treatment...

[Read More at benefunder.com/](http://benefunder.com/)

AFFILIATION



University of Pittsburgh

EDUCATION

- B.S., in Psychology and Biology, 1977 . Allegheny College
- Ph.D., in Pharmacology, 1983 . Yale University
- Postdoctoral Fellow, 1983-1985 . New York University

AWARDS

- Lilly Basic Scientist Award - Collegium Internationale Neuropsychopharmacologicum, 2008
- Dr. Paul Janssen Schizophrenia Research Award - Collegium Internationale Neuropsychopharmacologicum, 2000
- Daniel H. Efron Award, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, 1999
- National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression Distinguished Investigator Award, 1998
- Elected as Fellow to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2011

RESEARCH AREAS

Life Science, Neurological / Cognitive, Veteran's Causes, Neurological / Cognitive

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Anthony Grace, of the University of Pittsburgh, as he develops an understanding of what causes psychiatric disorders. Donations will fund the necessary costs including personnel and equipment for rodent models. While donations of \$100K will allow Dr. Grace and his team to advance their current research, \$2.5M over the next three years will allow them to make a major transition in their efforts. In choosing to donate, you will play a role in developing more effective treatments and preventative measures for individuals with psychiatric disorders.