PARTICIPANT CRITERIA

We are looking for participants who:

- Are 22+ years of age
- Currently diagnosed with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD)
- Have a psychiatric provider
- Have been on an antidepressant for at least 6 weeks

We reluctantly cannot accept any participants who:

- Have any non-MRI safe metal implants
- Have a history of epilepsy/seizures
- Are pregnant
- Have any structural brain lesions
- Have received any previous TMS

If you or a loved one are interested in learning more about TMS, or have any questions or concerns about our study, please contact us below.

CONTACT US

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Participant’s rights questions, contact 1-866-680-2906.
STUDY BACKGROUND

TMS has shown to be an effective form of treatment in individuals with treatment-resistant depression.

By using a form of rTMS termed accelerated intermittent theta-burst stimulation (aiTBS), we hope that this will result in a more effective treatment by producing faster symptom reduction in individuals diagnosed with depression.

This study is not a replacement for your usual therapist or psychiatric treatment. We work closely with your psychiatric provider in order to understand your treatment history and provide the best course of treatment possible.

As part of this study, there is a 50% chance you may be randomly placed into the placebo control group, which will initially receive a "sham" form of treatment. However, each participant will receive real aiTBS treatment within 1 month of beginning the study, if they choose.

This is a double-blinded study, so neither you nor the lab personnel will know whether you are receiving the real or 'sham' treatment, allowing us to eliminate any bias and yield the best results.

MRI SCANS

Before receiving TMS treatment, participants will undergo an MRI scan of their brain (pictured below). This MRI allows us to target each participant's unique brain structure in order to provide individualized treatment.

Additional MRI scans will be required throughout the trial to monitor brain changes.

WHAT IS TMS?

Background

Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) is an FDA-approved, non-invasive form of brain stimulation for treatment-resistant depression.

About the TMS technology

Our lab utilizes the FDA-cleared Magventure MagPro System, which consists of the stimulation coils and all relevant software (pictured left). More information can be found at: www.magventure.com

Procedure

During rTMS, a magnetic coil is placed on your scalp over a targeted brain region which has been linked to depression by research.

Sessions

Standard FDA-approved protocols involve a 5-minute stimulation session 5 days a week for a total of 6 weeks.

We are trialing a novel form of accelerated rTMS, where we will deliver ten 10-minute sessions per day, for up to 5 days.

During your TMS treatments, you will be awake and sitting in a chair.

Potential Side Effects/Risks

The treatment is generally painless; however, common side effects may include discomfort at the stimulation site, headache and/or fatigue. The potential risk of rTMS is seizure, but this is quite rare with an incidence rate of one in every 100,000 cases (1:100,000).