



The Geriatric Mental Health Program at CAMH, under the direction of Dr. Benoit. H. Mulsant is conducting a study in older adults with bipolar disorder examining the relationship between cognitive status and everyday functional abilities.

The purpose of this study is to learn more about how bipolar disorder affects memory, attention, and other aspects of cognitive abilities (language, motor skills, problem-solving) in middle-aged and older adults, and how these cognitive abilities are related to the ability to do everyday activities, such as using the telephone, paying bills, or balancing a checkbook. The study will include two groups of subjects. 60 subjects who have bipolar disorder (cases) and 30 subjects without bipolar disorder (controls). It is expected to continue for 5 years and subject's participation will last up to 2 years.

We would like to invite individuals who are 50 years or older (males or females) with or without a diagnosis of Bipolar disorder to participate in this study. Participation will involve cognitive testing (tests of attention, memory), a blood sample and a brief medical screening. Subjects will be assessed at baseline and after 1 and 2 years to track changes in cognitive functioning over 2 years. We hope that this study will lead to a better understanding of Bipolar disorder and help pave the way for future treatments.

No patient will be identified in any published report and strict confidentiality will be maintained to the extent permitted by law. Travel reimbursement and compensation for time will be provided upon completion of each study visit.

We would like to request your collaboration in recruiting eligible subjects for this study. The protocol has been approved by the CAMH ethics board. To refer a patient or for further information, please contact the study co-ordinator, Ms. Dielle. Miranda at (416) 340-4800 ext. 3120. Please find attached an approved copy of the subject information sheet and consent form.

We thank you for your attention to this letter and for your interest in this study and look forward to your collaboration.

Best Regards,

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