Under the direction of Jair C. Soares, M.D., PhD. the UTHealth Center of Excellence on Mood Disorders focuses on the search for the causes and the development of new treatments for severe mental illnesses, such as bipolar disorder and major depressive disorder. It is comprised of an active research team who specialize in clinical neurosciences (neuroimaging, neurophysiology, cognitive neurosciences, and genetics), as well as clinical psychopharmacology and interventions research.

Our team has over 20 years of experience working with NIH-funded, locally funded, and sponsor-funded grants. Our site has a large patient database with over 10,000 interested research participants and continues to grow.

Some recruitment resources include:

- Harris County Psychiatric Center: a 250-bed psychiatric hospital with units specializing in the inpatient treatment of pediatric, adult, and geriatric patients suffering from Bipolar Disorder and Major Depressive Disorder.
- Harris Health Community Clinics: a community of 16 separate clinics in suburban communities throughout the Houston Metropolitan area.
- UTHealth Physicians Mood Disorder Clinic: an outpatient clinic specializing in Mood Disorders run by our trained psychiatrists.
The Research Clinic focuses on the study of mood disorders, such as Bipolar Disorder and Depression, for a better understanding of the disease process and development of new therapeutic approaches.

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Welcome to Houston, TX!
Houston is the 4th largest city in the United States. A city filled with cultural diversity and expansive medical resources. Our site is located just south of Downtown Houston and situated central to all major suburbs of Houston. Our site sees a unique population which is very representative of the Houston metro area.

Texas Medical Center (TMC) is the world’s largest medical complex. Since opening in 1945, TMC has been pioneering patient care, research, education, and prevention.

Today, the TMC system includes:
- 21 renowned hospitals
- 13 support organizations
- 8 academic and research institutions
- 6 nursing programs
- 3 public health organizations

The Houston population has risen to over 2.2 million. Of the 2.2 million in the Houston metro area: 50% are female and 50% are male, 50.5% are Caucasian, 24% are African American, 6% are Asian, 37% are Hispanic or Latino, 3% are more than one race, and less than 1% are American Indian/Alaskan Native. Approximately 15% of the population describes themselves as Other. The Median age is 31 years old.

With such a diverse population, our site is able to capture a broad range of genetic backgrounds and environments.