# Kansas City Discussion Group

**Speaker:** Dennis P. Owens, M.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Director of the Clinical Trials Division and Director of the Comprehensive Depression Assessment and Treatment Center

**Topics:** Treatment Resistant Depression – Current developments in Pharmacology and Neuromodulation

**Location:** Cinzetti’s; 7201 W. 91st Street, Overland Park, KS 66212; phone: 913-642-0101

**Date:** January 23, 2020

**Time:** Gather and register: 5:30 pm, Dinner: 6:30 pm, and Speaker: 7:30 pm

**Menu:** Buffet style and choice of water, tea, or soft drink

**Reservations:** Please contact Dr. Paul Haney at phaney@mriglobal.org or 816-326-5476. The requested deadline for reservations or cancellations is January 21, 2020.

**Cost:** $25 cash or check, payable at the door ($10 for students with Academic ID).

**Abstract:** Major depressive episodes afflict approximately 20% individuals at some point in their lives. Roughly 30-40% of patients demonstrate suboptimal or poor responses to current treatment options and about 10% are refractory to treatment. For decades, the development of antidepressant drugs has relied upon an understanding of monoamine neurotransmitter systems (serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine) and drugs discovered serendipitously to have antidepressant properties in the 1950’s. In recent years, a variety of lines of evidence have suggested that Glutamate, GABA, endogenous Opioid, and other neurotransmitter systems play important roles in the neuropathophysiology of depressive disorders. These discoveries have provided new molecular targets for pharma in the search for better treatments for this common and disabling medical disorder.

Also, the discovery of metabolic asymmetries in limbic circuitry in depressive disorders has led to a great interest in the development of neuromodulation (i.e., brain stimulation) methodologies. Such approaches include Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS), Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS), Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS), and Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT).

The presentation will provide an overview of the most recent developments in these therapeutically important approaches.
| Biography: | Dr. Owens is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Medicine. He completed his residency in psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis, where he also obtained his doctorate in molecular biology. Dr. Owens is Board Certified in Psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Dr. Owens was a private practitioner for many years in the Kansas City Area and also served as a local consultant for Quintiles. He joined the faculty of the University of Kansas Department of Psychiatry in November, 2018, where he is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Director of the Clinical Trials Division and Director of the Comprehensive Depression Assessment and Treatment Center. |
| Reminder: | Non-members are welcome. Please select Kansas City Discussion Group (KCDG) membership on your AAPS application or dues notices. Thank you! |