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Alexander Charney, MD, PhD, is an Assistant Professor with primary appointments in the Departments of Psychiatry and Genetics & Genomic Sciences, as well as secondary appointments in the Departments of Neuroscience and Neurosurgery at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. His interest, both in clinical practice and research, is in understanding the complexities of human brain function in both healthy and pathological states.

Dr. Charney has been the lead data scientist on genetic studies of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, including genome-wide association studies, copy number variant studies and rare sequencing variant studies. To date, he is best known for using multiple types of genetic data to dissect the clinical features of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Currently, He plays a lead role in several projects. These include the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium Targeted Schizophrenia Sequencing Study, a sequencing study of 20,000 individuals that he now leads following the passing of the study founder, his mentor Dr. Sklar.

Dr. Charney is the founder and primary investigator of the Living Brain Project, a multiscale, data-driven investigation of the human brain wherein a single living population is being studied using all the tools available for human-subject neuroscience, including the tools of molecular and cellular neurobiology that to date have been applied primarily in the post-mortem setting. As a clinician-scientist, he considers his responsibility to translate genomic discoveries to new treatments and diagnostics for severe mental illness.