



**Psychiatrische** 

Universitätsklinik Zürich

## Veranstaltungsinformationen

### **Anmeldung**

Ist nicht erforderlich

#### Kosten

Die Veranstaltung ist kostenlos

### Anreise

Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel: Tram 11 Richtung Rehalp bis Haltestelle Balgrist oder Forchbahn S18 Richtung Forch / Esslingen bis Haltestelle Balgrist oder Bus 77 bis Haltestelle Flühgasse. Zirka 5 Minuten Fussweg ab Haltestellen

## Scientific Seminar

# The neuroscience of Major **Depression - Focus on Anhedonia**

Prof. Dr. Diego Pizzagalli Harvard Medical School



Freitag, 6. Juli 2018, 13:00 – 14:00 Uhr Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik Zürich Lenggstrasse 31, 8008 Zürich, Hörsaal Z1 03





## **Dear colleagues**

I am pleased to invite you to the scientific seminar with Prof. Diego Pizzagalli.

Anhedonia – the loss of pleasure or lack of reactivity to pleasurable stimuli – is a core symptom of depression and a potential risk factor for various forms of psychopathology. Few studies have employed laboratory-based measures to objectively characterize this important depressive phenotype. Further, although preclinical data have emphasized stress-mediated disturbances of mesocorticolimbic dopaminergic functions in the pathophysiology of depression, the mechanisms underlying these processes are largely unknown in humans. Findings from recent studies in Dr. Pizzagalli's laboratory combining behavioral, functional neuroimaging, and molecular imaging approaches to study the neurobiology of anhedonia will be reviewed. Collectively, these findings indicate that depression is characterized by an impaired tendency to modulate behavior as a function of prior reinforcements and dysfunction in brain reward pathways. The potential role of stressors and dopamine in depression will be discussed.

Best wishes

Prof. Dr. med. Erich Seifritz

### **Programme**

13:00 – 13:05	Introduction Erich Seifritz
13:05 – 13:50	The neuroscience of major depression: focus on anhedonia Diego Pizzagalli
13:50 – 14:00	Discussion

## Prof. Diego Pizzagalli



Dr. Pizzagalli received his M.A. (1995) and Ph.D. (1998) from the University of Zurich, Switzerland and did post-doctoral work at University of Wisconsin, Madison. From 2002-2010 he was a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at Harvard University, where he served as the John and Ruth Hazel Associate Professor of the Social Sciences. In

2010, he was recruited to McLean Hospital to serve as the Founding Director of the newly established Center for Depression, Anxiety and Stress Research (CDASR), as well as the Director of the McLean Imaging Center (MIC). Since September 2015, he also serves as the Director of Research for the Division of Depression and Anxiety. He is currently a Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

The main goals of his research are to improve our understanding of the psychological, environmental, and neurobiological factors associated with mood disorders, particularly major depression. To this end, he integrates behavioral, electrophysiological, neuroimaging, and, more recently, molecular genetics approaches to investigate three putative endophenotypes of depression: anhedonia (loss of pleasure), increased stress sensitivity, and negative processing biases.

Dr. Pizzagalli has published over 170 papers and chapters and serves on the editorial board of 10 journals. Among several awards, he received the Distinguished Scientific Award for an Early Career Contribution to Psychophysiology from the Society for Psychophysiological Research (2006), the Early Career Award from the EEG and Clinical Neuroscience Society (2007), the Anne M. Cataldo Excellence in Mentoring Award from McLean Hospital (2015), a MERIT award from the National Institute of Mental Health (2016), The Stuart T. Hauser, M.D. PhD. Mentorship Award in Psychiatry from Harvard Medical School (2017), the Joel Elkes Research Award from the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (2017), and a NARSAD Distinguished Investigator Award (2018).