



# Role of Neurostimulation in Depression

**Joan A. Camprodon, MD MPH PhD**

Chief, Division of Neuropsychiatry

Laboratory for Neuropsychiatry and Neuromodulation  
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) clinical service  
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

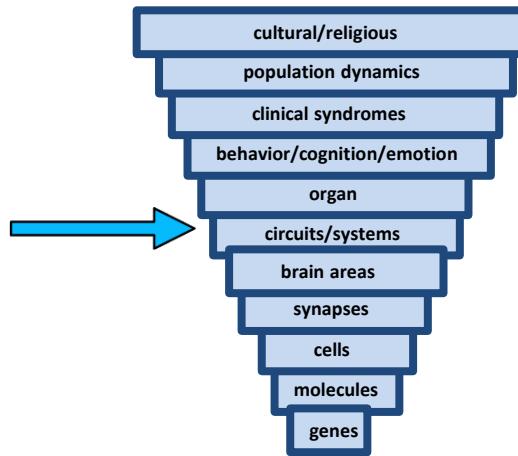
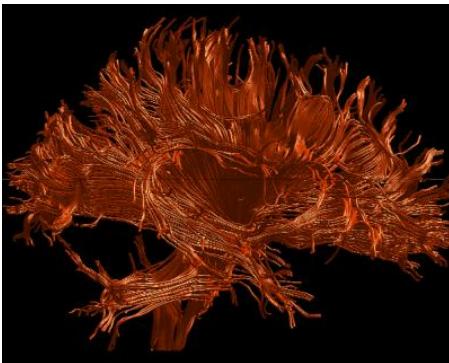
# Disclosures

- Funding: NIMH, NIDA, NIAAA, NIA, NIH Brain Initiative, PCORI, Harvard Players Health Study, Harvard Brain Initiative, Gerstner Foundation, AE Foundation, Solinsky Foundation.
- Editorial Royalties: Springer.
- Scientific Advisory Board: Feelmore Labs, Hyka Therapeutics
- Consulting: Neuronetics

# Outline

- A Clinical Neuroscience Paradigm: Circuits and Clinical Dimensions
- General Principles of Neuromodulation: Pacemakers in the Brain
- TMS Parameters and Mechanisms
- Introduction to Applications: Diagnostic and Therapeutic

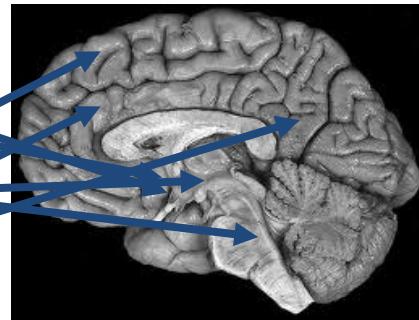
# Neuropsychiatry: Disorders of Connectivity



# Neuroanatomy of MDD

## From Clinical Dimensions to Brain Circuits

- Depressed mood
- Motivation/Drive
- Energy
- Sleep/Appetite
- Cognition/Attention
- Rumination/Guilt
- Self-Harm

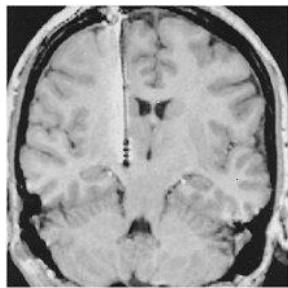


Clinical/Behavioral dimensions shared by different syndromes!

# Brain Stimulation – Neuromodulation

## Invasive

Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS)  
Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS)  
Epidural Stimulation (ES)



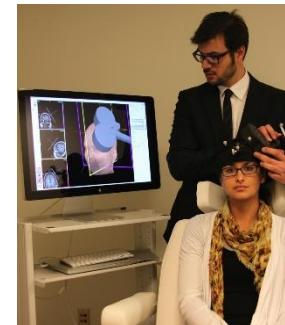
## Convulsive

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)  
Magnetic Seizure Therapy (MST)



## Noninvasive

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)  
Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS)

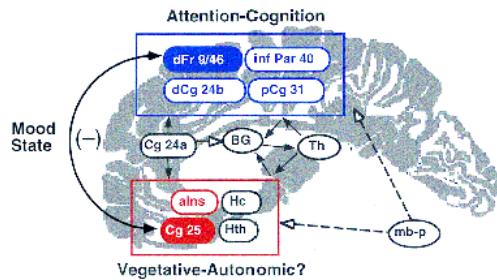


# Therapeutic Neuromodulation and the FDA

DEVICE	CONDITION	FDA STATUS
<b>Deep Brain Stimulation</b>	Chronic Pain	First indication, now revoked
	Parkinson's Disease	General Approval
	Essential Tremor	General Approval
	Dystonia	Humanitarian Device Exception
	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	Humanitarian Device Exception
	Major Depressive Disorder	Experimental
<b>Vagus Nerve Stimulation</b>	Epilepsy	General Approval
	Major Depressive Disorder	General Approval
<b>Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation</b>	Major Depressive Disorder	General Approval
	Migraines: acute management	General Approval
	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	General Approval
	MDD, TBI, Stroke Rehabilitation, etc.	Experimental
<b>Transcranial Current Stimulation</b>		

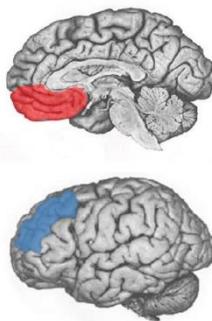
# Neuromodulation: Need to know...

The circuit(s)



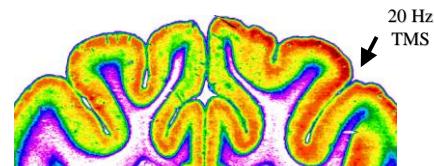
Mayberg et al., 2010

The target(s)



Koenigs et al. 2009

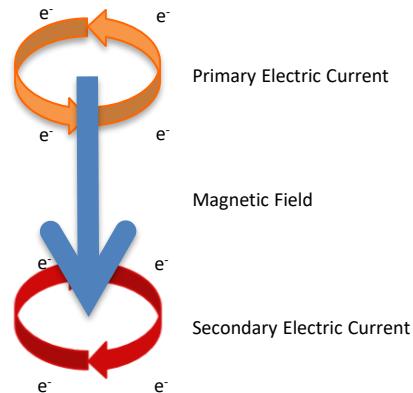
Direction of modulation



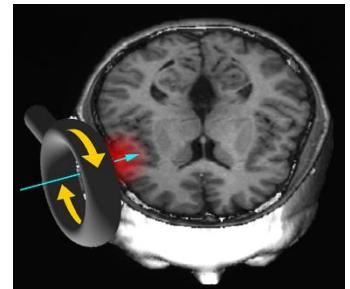
Valero Cabré et al., 2008

# Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

1831 Faraday's Electromagnetic Induction

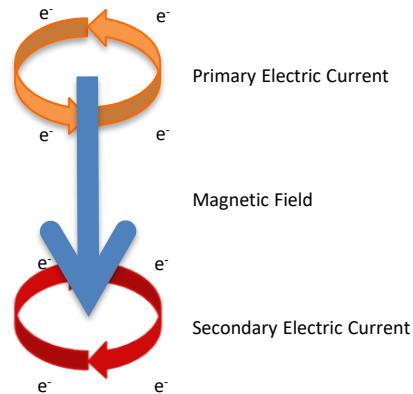


Anthony Barker 1984



# Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

1831 Faraday's Electromagnetic Induction



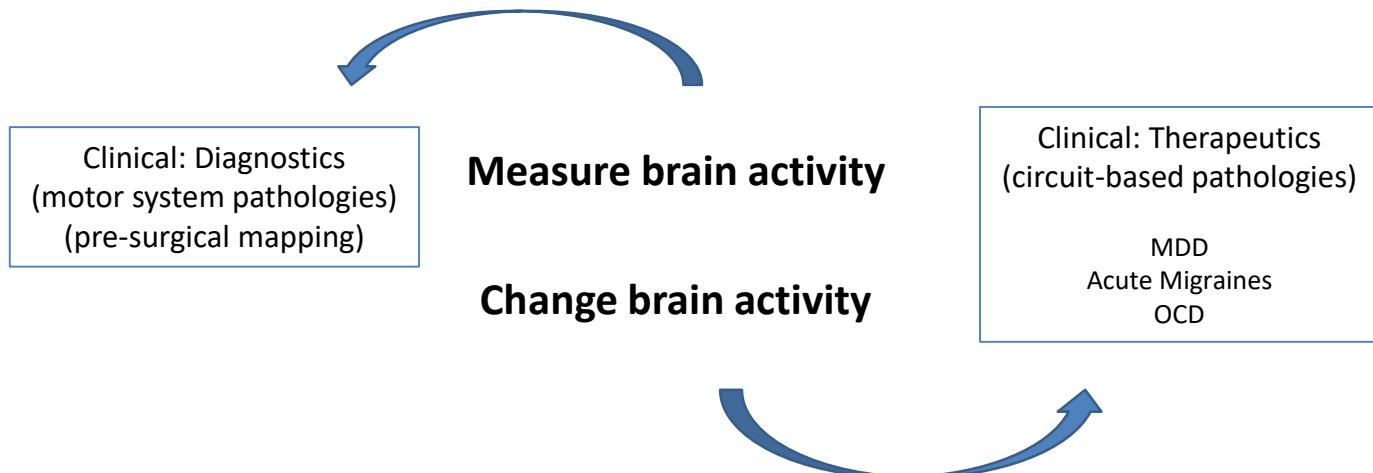
Anthony Barker 1984



MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL  
PSYCHIATRY ACADEMY

[www.mghcme.org](http://www.mghcme.org)

# TMS Applications

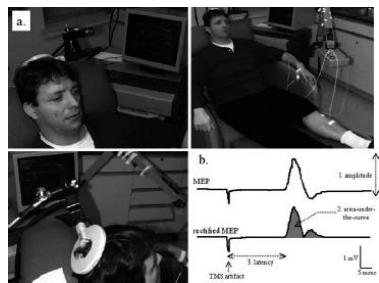


# Relevant TMS Parameters

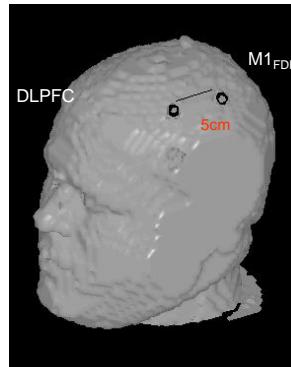
- 1) Location (low tech vs. neuronavigation)
- 2) Focality & Depth (coil selection)
- 3) Frequency (up- or downregulate)
- 4) Intensity (relative to stimulator or subject)
- 5) Duration (number of pulses / sessions)

# Localization: Non-Imaging Based

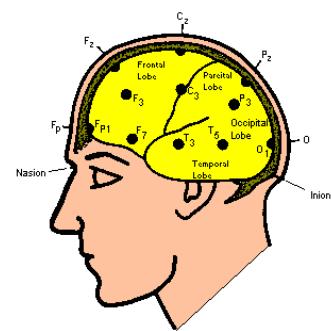
Motor & Phosphene Threshold



DLPFC Localization

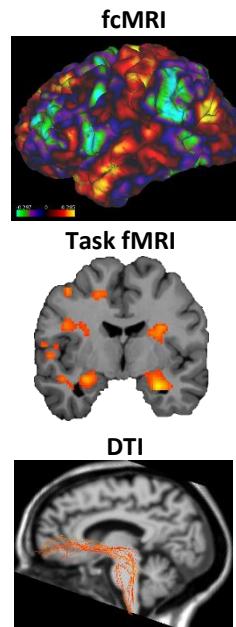
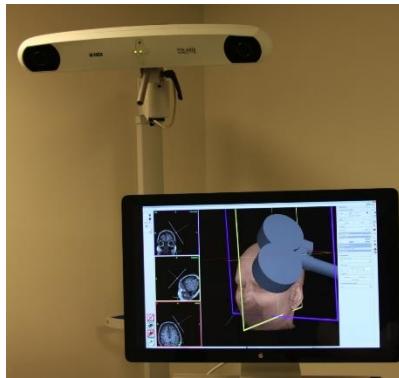


10-20 EEG coordinate system

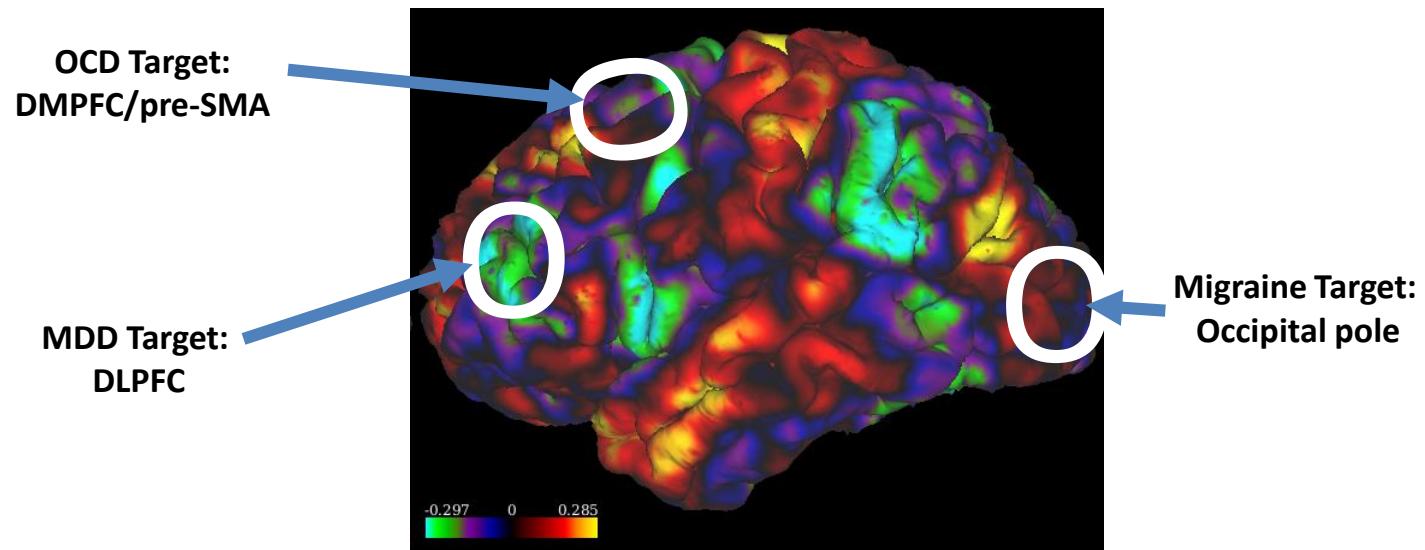


Tormos et al., 2008

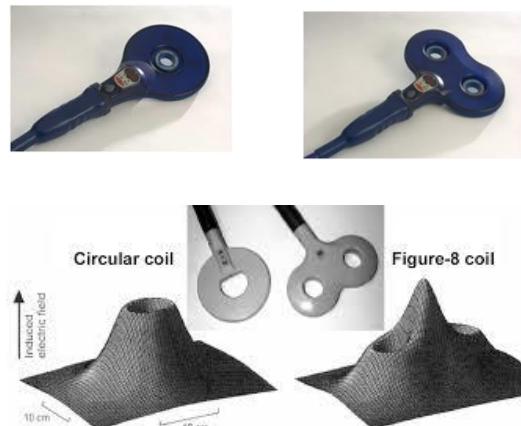
# Localization: Neuronavigation



# Therapeutic Targets

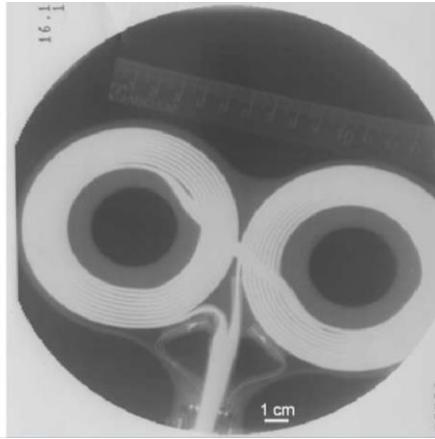


# Focality: TMS Coils



Tormos et al., 2008

# TMS Coil Architecture



Tielscher & Kammer 2004

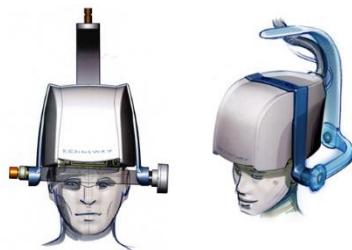


MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL  
PSYCHIATRY ACADEMY

[www.mghcme.org](http://www.mghcme.org)

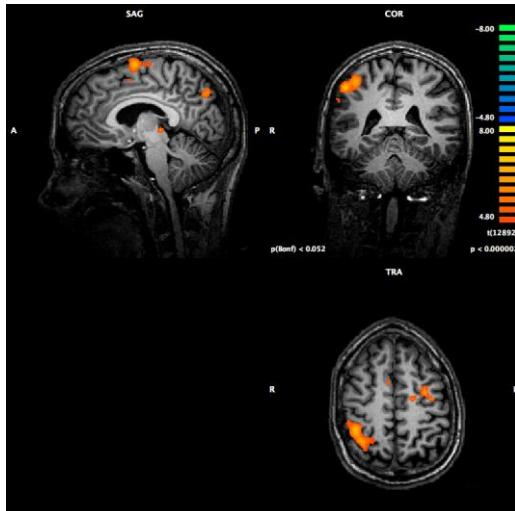
# Depth of Stimulation

Direct Deep Modulation: H-Coil



Chosen design concept

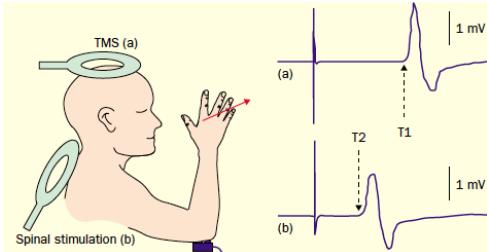
Trans-synaptic deep modulation: network effects



# Basic Types of Stimulation

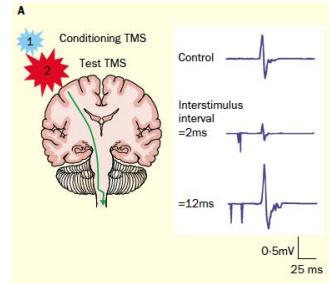
- **Single Pulse:** Disrupts activity with high temporal and spatial resolution (diagnostic applications: e.g. pre-surgical mapping)
- **Paired Pulse:** Elicits neuroplastic mechanisms of inhibition or facilitation (diagnostic applications: e.g. clinical neurophysiology)
- **Repetitive Stimulation (rTMS):** Modulates (decreases or increases) neural activity of areas and networks with lasting effects
  - Low frequency ~1Hz --> decrease activity (LTD-like)
  - High frequency 5-20Hz --> increase activity (LTP-like)
  - New Protocols: intermittent and continuous Theta Burst Stimulation (TBS)

# Single & Paired-Pulse TMS



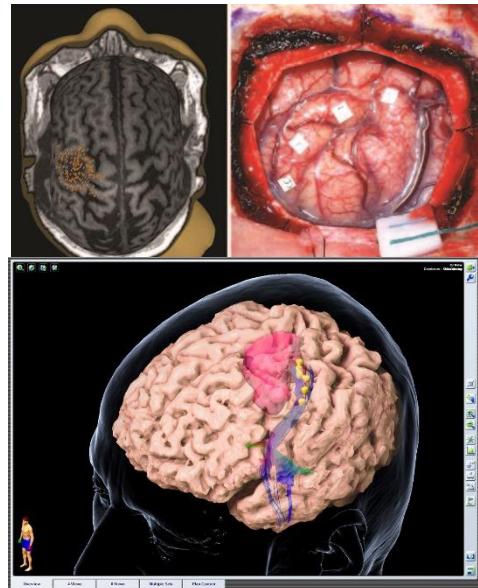
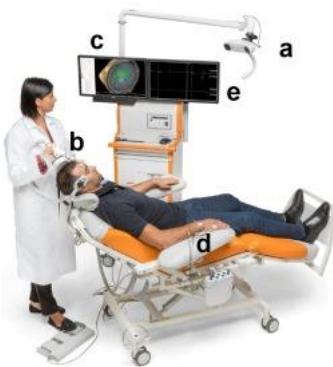
- Motor Threshold
- Input/Output Curves
- Central Conduction Time
- Silent Period

Kobayashi 2003



- SICI: Short Interval Cortical Inhibition
- ICF: Intracortical Facilitation

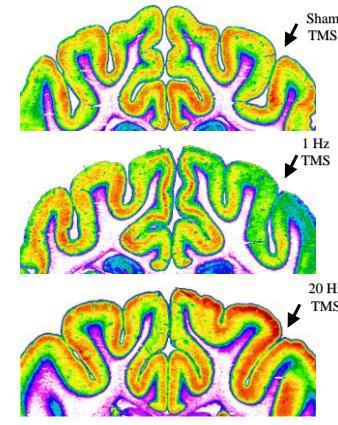
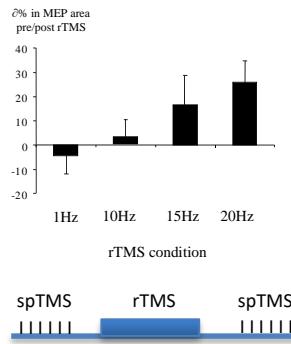
# Diagnostic: Pre-Surgical Mapping



# Repetitive TMS: Neuromodulation

## Frequency-Dependent Effects

A



(A) Change in MEP in healthy humans after rTMS (Maeda et al.)

(B) Metabolic changes (2-deoxyglucose uptake) in the cortex of the cat after rTMS (Valero-Cabré et al.)

# Repetitive TMS: Neuromodulation

- **Neural Pacemaker:** Forces a population of neurons to fire at a specific frequency, changing excitability and functional connectivity both locally and within a given network
- Chronic vs. Discrete Stimulation
- Invasive vs Noninvasive
- All aim to induce adaptive neuroplasticity

# TMS Dose

- Pulse Intensity
  - Magnetic Field Intensity (Tesla)
  - % of maximum stimulator output
  - Percentage of MT (individualized dosing)
  - Pulse intensity affects depth and focality
- Number of Pulses (duration of session)
- Number of Sessions
- Dose matters! Less variability and greater effect sizes

# Safety: Seizures

## Principal Adverse Effect: Risk of Seizure

- Always during session, never after TMS.
- Does not develop into Epilepsy
- Safety Guidelines established and published
- 20 reported cases out of 300.000 sessions
- 7 cases in MDD patients treated with Neuronetics® system since 2008  
FDA approval (out of 250.000< sessions in 8000< patients) (report 2013)
- Risk is 1 in 30.000 sessions or 1 in 1000 patients

# Safety: Others

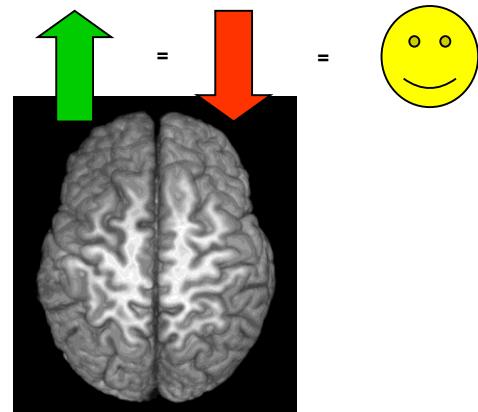
- Metallic implants
- Headache
- Local discomfort
- Facial muscle twitching
- Auditory impairment
- Drugs/diseases changing cortical excitability?

# Therapeutic Applications: MDD

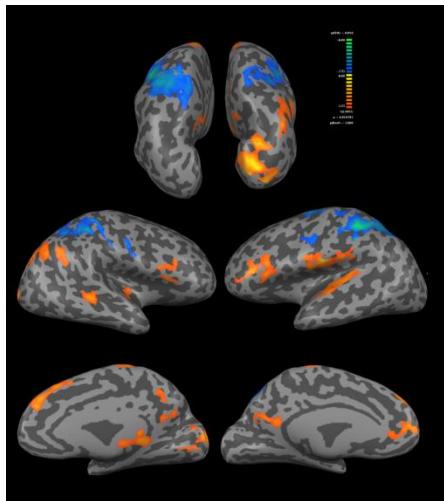
- Early PET data argued for an overall hypofrontality in Depression, with additional hemispheric unbalance
- rTMS to DLPFC has been shown to affect mood (in healthy and diseased individuals)

## Depression Rx Strategy:

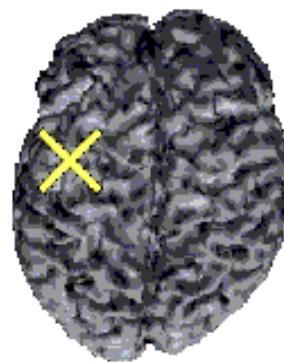
- Left: High Frequency  
(5-20 Hz)
- Right: Low Frequency  
(1 Hz)



# rTMS Modulates Brain Circuits

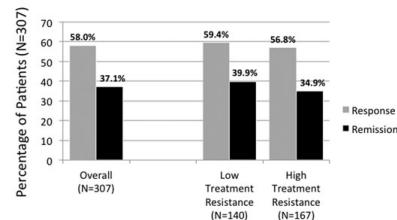


Camprodon et al. 2010



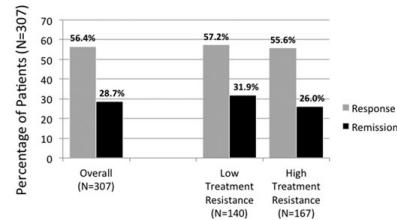
# Effectiveness Naturalistic Studies

## CGI-S Outcomes



LOCF Analysis of intent-to-treat population  
Please see text for definitions of response, remission and treatment resistance level

## PHQ-9 Outcomes

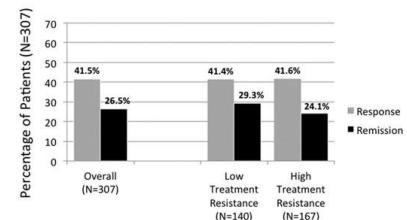


LOCF Analysis of intent-to-treat population  
Please see text for definitions of response, remission and treatment resistance level

## Carpenter et al. 2012

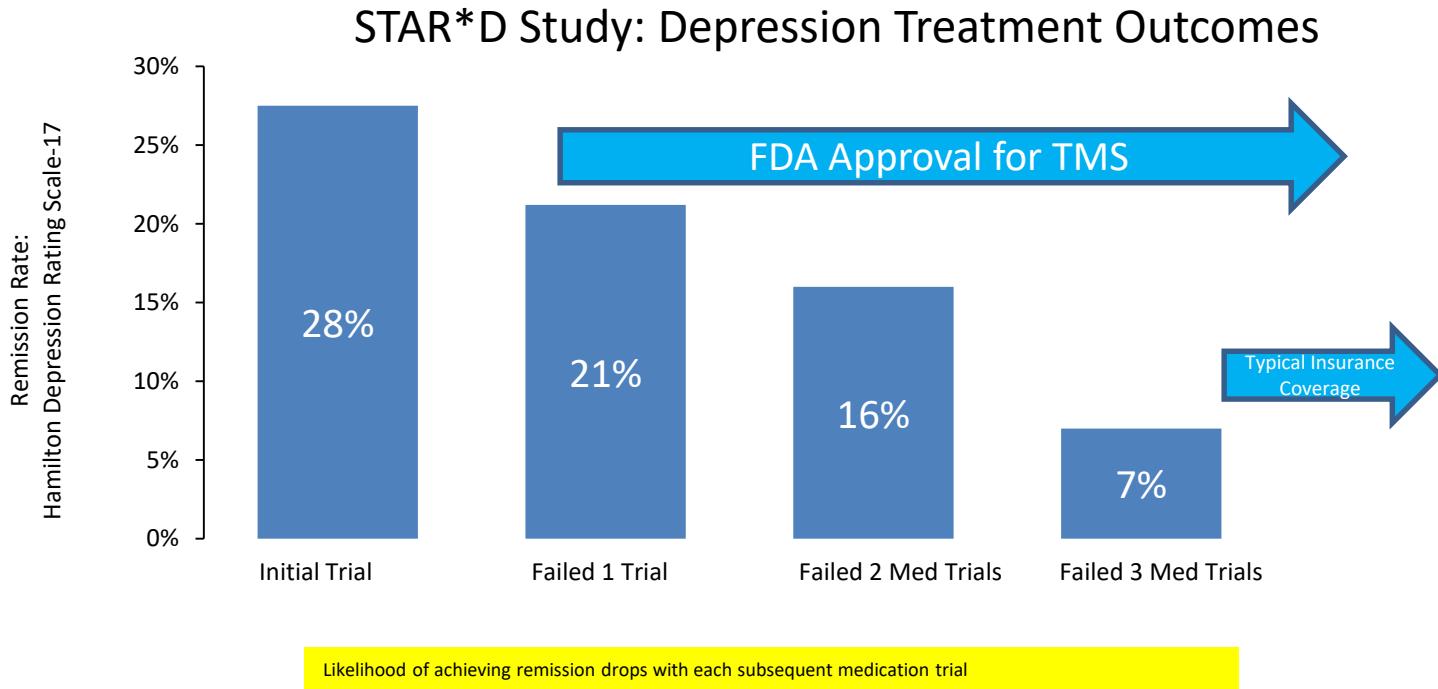
- 339 patient with MDD naïve to TMS
- Concurrent medications/therapy
- Response Rate: 41.5-58%
- Remission Rate: 26.5-37.1%
- Age and severity predict outcome
- Treatment-resistant not a predictor

## IDS-SR Outcomes



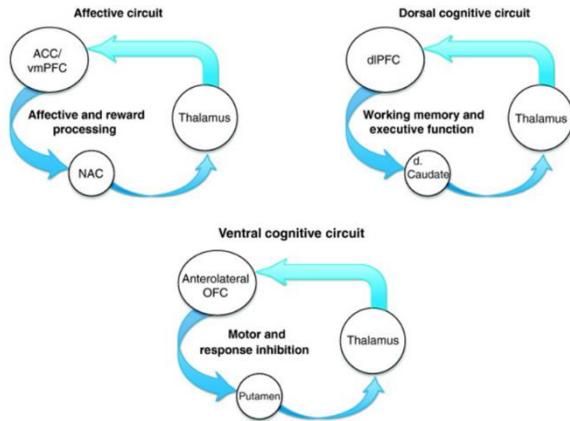
LOCF Analysis of intent-to-treat population  
Please see text for definitions of response, remission and treatment resistance level

# Why Consider TMS Treatment for Depression?



Rush AJ et al. Am J Psych 163:1905-1917, 2006

# Beyond Depression



## Approved indications

- MDD
- OCD
- Acute Migraines
- Smoking Cessation

## Experimental Indications

- Any Circuit-based brain conditions

Milad & Rauch 2010

# Summary

- Clinical neuroscience paradigm: formulate a clinical problem based on dimensions and circuits.
  - Plasticity as a pathophysiological mechanism and also therapeutic mechanism of action
- Neuromodulation: Invasive, Convulsive and Non-Invasive
- TMS clinical applications: diagnostic and therapeutic
- TMS parameters (and safety):
  1. Location
  2. Focality and Depth
  3. Frequency
  4. Pulse intensity
  5. Duration (session and course of treatment)
- Therapeutic rTMS (approved)
  - MDD: high-freq. Left DLPFC vs. low-freq. Right DLPFC
  - OCD -> high-freq. DMPFC (also low-freq. pre-SMA)
  - Migraines -> occipital pole single pulse TMS

# Thanks!

