Accelerated Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) for Depression

PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY:
Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) is a treatment that involves stimulating certain areas of the brain with magnetic field pulses. Over time, the magnetic field pulses can gradually change the activity level of the stimulated brain region, and this has been found to help with symptoms of depression. This study aims to determine whether receiving two rTMS sessions per day, instead of one, will accelerate or quicken the response to treatment and thereby improve its effectiveness.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?
> You are 18 to 59 years of age
> You are experiencing a major depressive episode in Major Depressive Disorder
> You failed to achieve a successful response to an antidepressant
> You are willing to undergo rTMS treatments and brain scans

WHAT IS INVOLVED?
In this study, you will receive rTMS treatment for depression over a 6 week period. In addition, we will be collecting detailed information about your psychiatric history, depression symptoms, and a range of personality, cognitive, and lifestyle factors. You will also undergo a blood draw and a series of brain scans before and after the full treatment course. Follow-up visits with a study psychiatrist will occur at 1 week, 4 weeks and 12 weeks following treatment conclusion.

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To learn more about this study, visit vchri.ca/participate