

# Comparing three different treatment options for those with treatment-resistant depression (ASCERTAIN-TRD)

## PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY:

The purpose of this study is to compare the effectiveness of three different treatment options for those dealing with treatment-resistant depression. Participants will be randomly assigned to one of three treatments: switching their antidepressant(s) to Venlafaxine, adding Aripiprazole to their current antidepressant(s) and adding repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) to their current antidepressant(s). All of these treatment options have been approved by Health Canada for clinical use.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- You are 18-80 years old
- You are experiencing a major depressive episode in Major Depressive Disorder
- You failed to achieve a successful response to at least one antidepressant
- You are currently using an antidepressant of adequate dose to which you have not had a satisfactory response

## WHAT IS INVOLVED?

You will be asked to visit UBC a total of 8 times over a duration of up to 12 weeks. During these visits you will receive periodic monitoring of your symptoms and questionnaires about your health, quality of life, and mood. You will also be asked to complete brain activity measurements on three of the visits. If assigned to the rTMS condition, you will have an additional 26 visits at UBC where you will receive treatment.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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To learn more about this study, visit [vchri.ca/participate](http://vchri.ca/participate)

## STUDY TIME/DURATION

Ongoing

## STUDY LOCATION

Detwiller Pavilion at the UBC Hospital

## PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Dr. Fidel Vila-Rodriguez  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Psychiatry,  
UBC

Director of the Non-Invasive  
Neurostimulation Therapies  
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