

The 25th annual Wisconsin Symposium on Emotion Presents:

Depression In Women: The Brain In Context

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 | 5:00 - 6:00pm
Health Sciences Learning Center Auditorium (1306)



David Rubinow, MD

Assad Meymandi Distinguished Professor and Chair
Department of Psychiatry, Professor of Medicine
Director, Innovation and Entrepreneurship
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

One could argue that the most important question we can ask about brain and behavior is the following: why is it that different people respond differently to the same stimulus? As much as we have learned about neuroscience over the past twenty-five years, largely consequent to some of the amazing tools that have been developed, it is overwhelmingly apparent that the brain, like other organs, responds very differently to a given signal as a product of context. This context includes past exposure, sex, current environment, genetic inheritance, and hormonal state. The role of context in the regulation of brain and generation of different behavioral responses is wonderfully illustrated by examining the role of reproductive steroid hormones - estrogen and progesterone - in depression that occurs in women during periods of reproductive change: the menstrual cycle, peripartum, and perimenopausal. In this presentation, I will describe some of the technologies that allow us to peer into the brain and will illustrate how the biology of sex hormones enables us to understand how context shapes the tremendous variability in health and behavior.

David Rubinow, MD is the Assad Meymandi Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, School of Medicine. Prior to joining UNC, he was the Clinical Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and Chief of the Behavioral Endocrinology Branch. He directs the UNC Women's Mood Disorders Program, the first and only NIH training fellowship in Women's Mood Disorders. On the basis of his research, he was inducted into the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in 2012.

This free public talk is offered in conjunction with the **25th annual Wisconsin Symposium on Emotion** April 10-11 at Union South -- for symposium registration & details: www.healthemotions.org