

General Practitioners:

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Oral Ketamine Trial on Suicidality (OKTOS)

The OKTOS study will include 25-50 participants in a pilot study, to be conducted over a 12-week period with sub anaesthetic doses of oral ketamine administered on six treatment days and is designed and undertaken to assess the effect of ketamine on adult participants experiencing chronic suicidality.

Suicide is identified as a leading public health issue in Australia and has a devastating effect on families and health providers. Forty-five per cent of people who die by suicide consult a primary care physician within one month of their deaths, therefore, GP's play a pivotal role in responding to this group. Ketamine has been consistently reported to provide a rapid and robust improvement in treatment resistant depression, bipolar disorder and suicidal ideation and this study will examine whether ketamine exerts a specific anti-suicidal effect, independent of its effects on depression. Despite treatment, many people continue to experience suicidality of varying intensity over extended periods of time, and the Thompson Institute is committed to improving outcomes through investigations into new approaches.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Are over 18 years of age
- Recent full physical examination
- Be able to consent and undertake monitoring and testing
- Experience chronic suicidal thoughts
- Do not require urgent psychiatric intervention for their suicidality
- Do not have uncontrolled cardiovascular disease
- Do not have psychotic illness
- Do not have uncontrolled hypertension



Dr Adem Can

Principal Investigator
Dr Adem Can practices in general and addiction psychiatry with dual diagnosis care. He is particularly interested in early interventions

with treating anxiety, depression and psychotic disorders as well as individuals who are suffering chronic suicidality. After graduating from medicine at Ankara University in 1997, Dr Can worked as a General Practitioner prior to migrating to Australia where he completed the Australian Medical Council (AMC) exams in 2002, qualifying him as a General Registered Medical Practitioner. He completed his psychiatry training mainly on the Gold Coast and Brisbane.

Dr Can has been working in the Life Promotion Clinic at Griffith University and Currumbin Clinic (private hospital). He has clinical and research experience using Ketamine as a novel rapid acting treatment for severe treatment resistant depressive illnesses. He also has experience using Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) as a proven and alternative treatment for depression.

LETTERS OF REFERRAL

Send letters of referral via fax or email.

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MORE INFORMATION

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