



# MARY L. PHILLIPS

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MAPPING THE EMOTIONAL BRAIN TO TRANSFORM BIPOLAR DISORDER DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT



400+

PUBLICATIONS

25+

YEARS IN AFFECTIVE NEUROSCIENCE

100+

TRAINEES MENTORED

NAM

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE · 2024

## 01

### Neural Circuit Biomarkers

#### BIPOLAR DISORDER

- Prefrontal-striatal-limbic circuitry abnormalities as objective diagnostic markers
- Left ventrolateral prefrontal cortical activity as mania risk marker (JAMA Psychiatry, 2025)
- Amygdala-ACC connectivity as early risk marker in children of bipolar patients
- Distinguishing bipolar disorder from recurrent unipolar depression via neuroimaging
- Pattern recognition approaches for individual-level clinical classification
- Abnormal face emotion processing and emotional reactivity as behaviorally measurable windows into prefrontal-limbic circuit dysfunction in bipolar disorder

## 02

### Development, Neuromodulation & Treatment

#### LIFESPAN TO PRECISION MEDICINE

- Large-scale neural network development from infancy through young adulthood as substrate for affective pathology
- Identifying youth at future risk before clinical threshold is reached via dimensions of emotional reactivity
- Targeting neural circuit biomarkers with focal neuromodulation and metabolic interventions informed by lipid oxidative stress research
- Translational agenda bridging animal models to human precision medicine via biotech collaboration
- Multimodal fMRI, structural MRI, DTI, and resting-state connectivity methods

## 03

### Awards & Honors

#### RECOGNITION

- 2014 ACNP Joel Elkes Award for Outstanding Clinical Research
- 2017 BBRF Colvin Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Mood Disorders Research
- 2018–2021 Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher
- 2019 Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award, University of Pittsburgh
- 2020 & 2022 SOBP George Thompson Award for Distinguished Service
- 2022 University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Professor
- 2023 ACNP Women's Advocacy Award
- 2023–2024 Research.com Best Female Scientists in the World
- 2024 Brain and Behavior Research Foundation Distinguished Investigator Award
- 2024 Society of Biological Psychiatry Gold Medal Award

## 04

### Leadership & Positions

#### SCIENCE & SOCIETY

- Pittsburgh Foundation-Emmerling Endowed Chair in Psychotic Disorders, University of Pittsburgh
- Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry, Bioengineering & Clinical and Translational Science — 15 NIH K Awardees Mentored
- Director, Center for Neural Circuit-Based Technology Interventions in Psychiatry (CNCTI-P), University of Pittsburgh
- Director, Center for Research in Translational and Developmental Affective Neuroscience in Bipolar Disorder (CENTRIM-BD), University of Pittsburgh
- Director, Collaborative on Research in Translational and Developmental Affective Neuroscience (CRTDAN), University of Pittsburgh
- Past President, Society of Biological Psychiatry (2018–2020)
- Elected to the National Academy of Medicine, 2024



“ It is only now that the technology is available to truly meet the ambitious goal of identifying novel neural targets to help with future treatment developments for patients with terribly debilitating psychiatric illnesses.



CIRCUIT-LEVEL THINKING



TRANSLATIONAL RIGOR



METHODOLOGICAL PRECISION



MENTORSHIP



EQUITY ADVOCACY



GENOMIC PRESS INTERVIEWS  
THE BRILLIANT MINDS BEHIND THE SCIENCE

University of Pittsburgh · Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA · 2026  
Source: **Genomic Press Interview** · Brain Medicine · 2026