

[European College of Neuropsychopharmacology](#) (ECNP)

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John Geddes's exceptional research contributions to bipolar disorder and mood instability recognised by the 2016 ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award

The European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) is pleased to announce John Geddes as the recipient of the 2016 ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award in recognition of his groundbreaking work on the psychopharmacology of bipolar disorder. The ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award is presented annually and recognises distinguished research in applied and translational neuroscience.

Head of the Department of Psychiatry at Oxford University, director of R&D at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, and director of the NIHR Oxford Cognitive Health Research Facility, John Geddes has been a pioneer in combining the power of large-scale epidemiological methods with the precision of neurobiological investigation to understand the underlying neurobiology and genetic mechanisms of bipolar disorder.

His work on synthesising efficacy and safety data, clarifying the limits of knowledge and uncertainty, and identifying future discovery leads has won him an international reputation, and had a major impact on research, guidelines and clinical practice. He has conducted translational/early-phase research in both drug and psychological treatments and has developed innovative experimental medicine models. He has been principal investigator on a wide range of clinical trials, ranging from phase 1b industry-sponsored trials, through to high-intensity phase II/III trials. The multicentre clinical trial he designed comparing combinations of lithium plus valproate with lithium and valproate monotherapy in bipolar disorder and investigating lamotrigine vs placebo in tandem with quetiapine in bipolar depression are considered landmark studies in the field. He also collaborates in the development of new psychological treatments based on mindfulness, correction of cognitive biases, and patient psychoeducation and self-help.

The True Colours platform John Geddes developed to collect multiple data streams (physiological, behavioural, self-report), with its important new innovations in digital phenotyping, biomarkers, and experimental medicine models, has introduced new approaches to self-management and monitoring and opened up new treatment horizons for sufferers of bipolar disorder and mood instability.

In announcing the award, ECNP Award Committee chair Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg, Germany, said, "John Geddes has been an outstanding leader in both the science and treatment of bipolar disorder. The large cohorts he has built by involving patients in his research have not only produced important new insights into the neurobiology of the disorder, but have resulted in new guidance for clinical practice. We consider him an excellent recipient of this award."

John Geddes will receive the award during the 29th ECNP Congress on 17-20 September 2016 in Vienna, Austria, where he will deliver the ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award plenary lecture.

The ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award recognises innovative and distinguished research achievements in applied and translational neuroscience. The award is granted each year, alternating between basic science and clinical research.

The award is accompanied by a prize of €10,000, which the winner may share with junior collaborators. John Geddes has selected as joint recipients Dr Jennifer Rendell of Oxford University for her expertise as a clinical trialist and dedication to delivering benefits for patients and Dr Chris Hinds of Oxford University for his inspired and sustained technical innovation.

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ECNP is an independent scientific association whose mission is to advance the science of the brain, promote better treatment and enhance brain health. The annual ECNP Congress attracts some 5,000 scientists and clinicians from across the world to discuss the latest advances in brain research in Europe's largest meeting on brain science. More information about ECNP, its aims and activities, can be found at www.ecnp.eu

More information on the ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award can be found at: <http://www.ecnp.eu/awards/ECNP-neuropsychopharmacology-award.aspx> .

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