According to the World Health Organization, major depressive disorder (MDD) currently impacts 300 million individuals worldwide and is the leading cause of disability globally. Current treatment strategies for depression are effective in one-third to half of those seeking treatment, leaving a large unmet need for new therapeutic options. Since the 1960's, traditional pharmacological treatment strategies have centered on modulating serotonin, dopamine, and/or norepinephrine neurotransmitters systems. However, within the last few decades, research has begun to explore other neurotransmitter systems like GABA, glutamate, and opioid neuropeptide, as well as targets within the neuroendocrine, genetic, and inflammatory signaling systems that are moving psychiatry beyond the monoamine hypothesis.

In this Virtual Forum you will hear from Richard Jackson, MD, and Robin Nelson, MD, as they discuss some of the critical issues facing depression pathophysiology and treatment in current behavioral health care settings, focused on strategies moving beyond the traditional monoamine neurotransmitter targets and modalities with novel mechanisms of action that are on the horizon for depression treatment.

Speakers are paid consultants to Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization, Inc.