

# PPS Research Symposium 2015

## The Vulnerable Brain: Insights into the Neurobiology of Addiction

August 13, 2015

11:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

Rockwell Pavilion, MD Anderson Library

### Yasmin Hurd, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience and Pharmacology & Systems Therapeutics,  
and Ward-Coleman Chair in Translational Neuroscience,  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Director of the Center for Addictive Disorders, Mount Sinai Behavioral Health System



Dr. Yasmin Hurd is Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience and Pharmacology & Systems Therapeutics as well as the Ward-Coleman Chair in Translational Neuroscience at the Icahn School of Medicine in New York. She is also Director of the Center for Addictive Disorders in the Mount Sinai Behavioral Health System. She is an internationally renowned neuroscientist whose translational research examines the neurobiology of drug abuse and related psychiatric disorders. She is highly published in the field and leads a team of investigators in molecular biology, behavioral neuropharmacology, genetics and neuroimaging to study the human brain as well as translational animal models.

Using multidisciplinary research approaches, her work has provided significant insights into the complex neurobiological mechanisms underlying addictive behavior as well as the molecular neuropathology associated with genetic vulnerability to addiction. Moreover, her novel research explores epigenetic mechanisms associated with developmental cannabis exposure that have long-term effects into adulthood and across generations. Additionally, her basic science research is complimented by clinical laboratory investigations for the development of new treatment interventions.

Dr. Hurd has served as the Director of the MD/PhD program at the Icahn School of Medicine and was the founding Chair of the Diversity in Biomedical Research Committee. She currently serves on the Executive Committees of the Friedman Brain Institute and Women in Science and Medicine at Mount Sinai as well as senior faculty member to Students for Equal Opportunity in Science. She has also held many national leadership roles including being the current Chair of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Institute on Drug Abuse and Chair of the NIH Study Section on Pathophysiology of Mental Disorders and Addictions.

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