



Jair C. Soares, MD, PhD
Professor, Chair and Pat R. Rutherford, Jr. Chair
in Psychiatry
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
The John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center - new opportunities
for behavioral health at UTHealth Houston

Dr. Jair C. Soares joined UTHealth in 2009 as Professor and Chair of the department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and the Pat R. Rutherford, Jr. Chair in Psychiatry at the McGovern Medical School, as well as the Executive Director of UTHealth Harris County Psychiatric Center. A Board-certified psychiatrist, he also serves as Chief of Psychiatry Services at Memorial Hermann Hospital and LBJ Hospital. The sites provide patient care and are clinical training and research facilities for UTHealth medical students, psychiatry residents and psychiatry fellows.

Dr. Soares directs the UTHealth Center of Excellence on Mood Disorders, which focuses on the search for causes and the development of new treatments for mood disorders. The Center is comprised of an active research team that specializes in clinical neurosciences (neuroimaging, neurophysiology, cognitive neurosciences, and genetics) and clinical psychopharmacology and interventions research.

Dr. Soares received his medical degree from the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) and completed a general psychiatry residency at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic at the University of Pittsburgh. Subsequently, Dr. Soares completed a brain imaging fellowship at the Yale University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry. He obtained a PhD in medical sciences at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil).

Prior to joining UTHealth, Dr. Soares served as the Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Center of Excellence for Research and Treatment of Bipolar Disorders at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and as Deputy Chair for Research and Division Chief for Mood and Anxiety Disorders with the Department of Psychiatry at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Dr. Soares has published more than 250 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in the psychiatric literature and has held editorial positions on a number of national and international medical journals. His research has been funded over the years by

multiple grants from NIH, VA, private foundations and the pharmaceutical industry. Since April 2015, he has been the co-editor in chief for the Journal of Affective Disorders. Since 2018, he has served as president of the International Society on Affective Disorders.

Abstract: Dr. Soares will present an overview of the delivery care system for behavioral health that UTHealth Houston is building in the greater Houston area. UTHealth's behavioral health clinical programs have had very substantial growth with a presence now that spans 23 outpatient sites geographically distributed in the greater Houston area, a growing telehealth presence that serves several other locations across the state of Texas, as well as a new state-funded hospital that will start operations in early 2022, to form the John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center. The new Dunn Center Building will add to the current acute psychiatric inpatient footprint at the UTHealth Harris County Psychiatry Center to form the largest academic psychiatric hospital in our country. Concurrently, the training programs for students and professionals of various disciplines have grown very substantially, along with a growing translational and clinical research operation.