



xista Event

The New Standard In Drug-Free Mental Health Therapy

Alessandro Venturino

Host:

Mental health disorders, like depression, are one of the biggest challenges of modern society. Since 2019, in USA and EU, the prevalence of depression has risen by 28% and approximately 70 million people receive antidepressants every year. Traditional antidepressants cause severe side effects and more than 30% of the patients fail to achieve remission. Ketamine is a very effective drug for the treatment of depression, but, given the high short and longterm dissociative effects, can be administered to a limited group of patients. The Siegert group discovered that repeated ketamine exposure promotes extracellular matrix remodeling and juvenile-like plasticity induction. Interestingly, the exposure to pulsed light at 60 Hz recapitulates the pharmacological effect of ketamine non-invasively (Venturino et al., Cell Reports 2021). Further behavioral data showed that 60 Hz light entrainment was able to promote learning and memory and rescue social interaction in preclinical models of depression. Based on this discovery we founded Syntropic Medical, an ISTA spin-off company that aims to create the first medical device for the non-invasive treatment of depression. Syntropic Medical is a dynamic and fast-growing startup company founded by Alessandro Venturino, Sandra Siegert, and Mark Caffrey. Syntropic has completed the preclinical testing, and it's now actively preparing for clinical trials for FDA approval. Syntropic recently received the AWS Seed funding grant.

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 04:00pm - 06:00pm

Down Town



This invitation is valid as a ticket for the ISTA Shuttle from and to Heiligenstadt Station. Please find a schedule of the ISTA Shuttle on our webpage: <https://ista.ac.at/en/campus/how-to-get-here/> The ISTA Shuttle bus is marked ISTA Shuttle (#142) and has the Institute Logo printed on the side.