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*** Nationally recognized experts on depression gather for seminar Oct. 22-23.

DALLAS--"Depressions are very common, but they are under-diagnosed," says Dr. John Rush, associate professor of Psychiatry at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas.

"With training depressions can be diagnosed. They are like other medical disorders. That is, there is a genetic determinant in a lot of these problems, there's an epidemiology -- they affect certain people, certain ages are more vulnerable, females are more likely to be affected than males. And there are measurable biochemical disturbances."

To aid physicians, psychologists and other health professionals, the Department of Psychiatry at UTHSCD will present "New Advances in the Recognition and Treatment of Depression" Oct. 22-23 at Loews Anatole Hotel.

The nationally recognized faculty for the seminar is "one of the best groups ever put together on the subject of depression," says Rush, the director of the continuing education seminar.

Some of the topics and speakers include:

Genetics of the Affective Disorders -- Dr. Raymond Crowe, professor of Psychiatry, The University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City

The Epidemiology of Depression -- Dr. Paula J. Clayton, chairman of Psychiatry, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis

Neuroendocrine Testing in Depression -- Dr. Michael Schlesser, assistant professor of Psychiatry, UTHSCD

The Sleep Electroencephalogram in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Depression -- Dr. David J. Kupfer, professor of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Urinary and Cerebral Spinal Fluid Metabolites in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Depression -- Dr. James W. Maas, professor of Psychiatry, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Receptor Studies in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Depression -- Dr. David Garver, professor of Psychiatry, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Brain-Imaging Methods in Diagnosis of Psychiatric Disorders -- Dr. Monte Buchsbaum, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda

Toward a Molecular Basis for Affective Disorders -- Dr. Jay W. Pettegrew, assistant professor of Neurology, UTHSCD

New Antidepressants in the Treatment of Depression -- Dr. John Feighner, director, Feighner Research Institute, Department of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine

"What we tried to do is put together clinical researchers who are discovering things that have relatively direct implications for medical and psychiatric practice. It's aimed at clinicians who have to make those decisions every day," says Rush.

The proceedings of the seminar will be published as a book edited by Rush and Dr. Kenneth Altshuler, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at UTHSCD. The book will be available next summer.

Supported by a grant-in-aid from CIBA Medical Horizons, the seminar is approved for 11 credit hours in Category 1 of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association. For registration information call the Division of Continuing Education, UTHSCD, 214/688-2166.

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