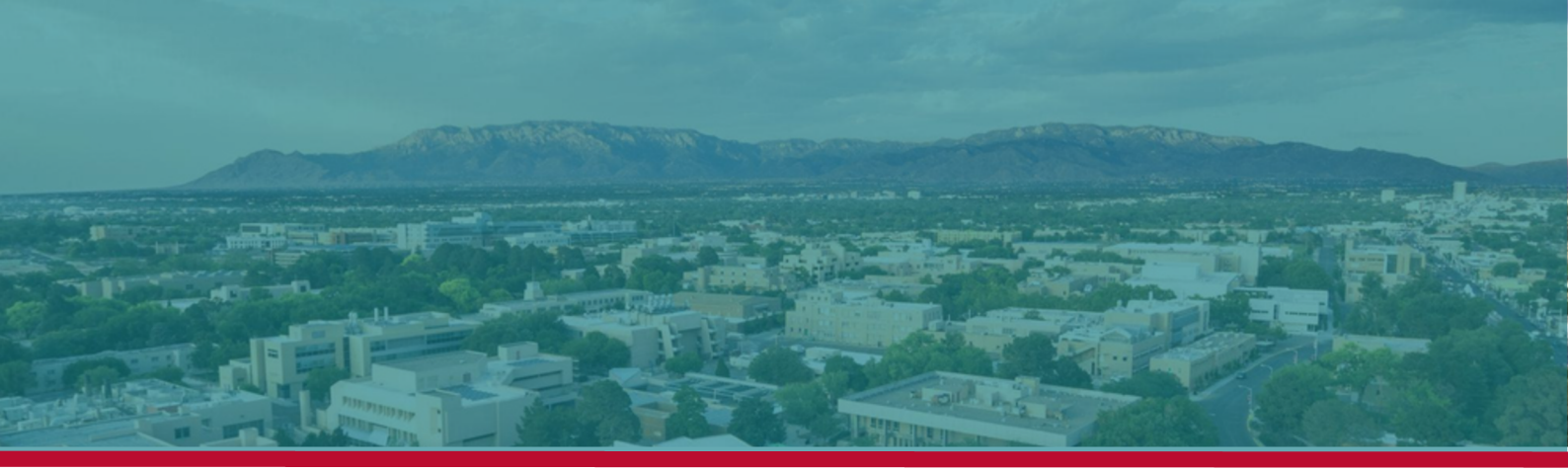
November 2025

Annual Research Activity Report



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES



The purpose of this report is to track and disseminate information on current research activities within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences for faculty and trainees. The hope is that, by increasing awareness of research activities, this document will facilitate collaboration among faculty within and outside the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and identify research opportunities for residents, interns and post-docs.

While the aim for this document is to provide an overview of the research activities in the Department as of November 2025, for various reasons it may not be a comprehensive list.

Please reach out to Annette Crisanti, PhD (acrisanti@salud.unm.edu) or other research faculty to inquire about additional research that may not be included in this document.

• A glossary of acronyms can be found at the end of this document.

For questions or updates to the report please contact:

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CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS
Ongoing as of November 2025

PI, Co-Is:	Christopher Abbott, MD
Study Title:	Deciphering Mechanisms of ECT Outcomes and Adverse Effects (DECODE)
Funding Dates:	8/1/2022-5/31/2027
Funding Agency:	NIH/NIMH
Project Synopsis:	In this prospective study we propose the first investigation integrating multiple units of analysis including clinical and cognitive phenotyping, whole-brain neuroimaging, EEG, and E-field modeling to establish the mechanisms underlying ECT-induced antidepressant response (response biomarkers) and cognitive adverse effects (safety biomarkers), as well as to find the “sweet spot” of ECT dosing for optimal antidepressant benefit and cognitive safety.
Keywords:	Neuroimaging, ECT

PI, Co-Is:	Christopher Abbott, MD
Study Title:	ECT amplitude titration for improved clinical outcomes in Late-Life Depression (ECT5)
Funding Dates:	2/4/2021-1/31/2026
Funding Agency:	NIH/NIMH
Project Synopsis:	This investigation will compare clinical outcomes from fixed (traditional) or individual amplitude ECT. Individualized amplitude will be determined from pre-treatment electric field modeling. This project also utilizes a novel amplitude-determined seizure and motor titrations.
Keywords:	ECT, neuromodulation, depression, cognition, imaging, electric field modeling, imaging

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PI, Co-Is:	Deborah Altschul, PhD
Study Title:	San Felipe Pueblo Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant
Funding Dates:	2/28/2025-9/29/2029
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	The purpose is to expand suicide prevention and early intervention strategies in schools, tribal courts, and the tribal behavioral health program to build and implement strategies where youth at risk for suicide are connected to protective factors and culturally-based supports in the San Felipe community.
Keywords:	Suicide Intervention, Native Americans

PI, Co-Is:	Deborah Altschul, PhD
Study Title:	San Felipe Pueblo I-CARE
Funding Dates:	4/1/2022-3/31/2027
Funding Agency:	IHS Behavioral Health Integration Initiative
Project Synopsis:	The purpose of the BH2I program is to improve the physical and mental health status of people with behavioral health issues by developing an integrated and coordinated system of care. This effort supports the IHS mission to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of AI/AN individuals to the highest level.
Keywords:	Integrative Care, Native Americans

PI, Co-Is:	Deborah Altschul, PhD
Study Title:	San Felipe Pueblo KEVA Home Visiting Grant*
Funding Dates:	10/1/2016-9/29/2028
Funding Agency:	ACF
Project Synopsis:	The primary purpose of Project Katishtya Eh-wahs Valued Always (KEVA) Tribal Home Visiting Program is to support the Pueblo of San Felipe in creating a healthy and happy community for children, parents, and families in the community.
Keywords:	Home Visiting, Native Americans

PI, Co-Is:	Deborah Altschul, PhD
Study Title:	San Felipe Pueblo Native AWARE*
Funding Dates:	10/1/2018-9/29/2027
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	The purpose of this program is to build or expand the capacity of State Educational Agencies, in partnership with State Mental Health Agencies (SMHAs) overseeing school-aged youth and local education agencies (LEAS). This program supports the development and implementation of a comprehensive plan of activities, services, and strategies to decrease youth violence and support the healthy development of school-aged youth; and builds upon the successful strategies of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative that have been effective in creating safe and secure schools and promoting the mental health of students in communities across the country.
Keywords:	School Based Health, Health Disparities, Workforce Development, Native Americans

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PI, Co-Is:	Snehal Bhatt, MD
Study Title:	Evaluation of Psilocybin As an Adjunctive Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Methadone-maintained Patients Who Continue to Use Illicit Opioids (PsiloOUD)
Funding Dates:	9/30/2024-8/31/2026
Funding Agency:	New York University, NIH NIDA
Project Synopsis:	The purpose of this study is to support the development of classic psychedelics (psilocybin), as new treatment options for Substance Use Disorder (SUD).
Keywords:	Substance Use Disorder, Program Evaluation, Opioid Use Disorder

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PI, Co-Is:	Annette Crisanti, PhD (on site), Oladunni Oluwoye, PhD (Washington State University)
Study Title:	Integration of a Culturally Responsive Family Peer Delivered Engagement Strategy in Coordinated Specialty Care: Family Engagement Strategy (FAMES)
Funding Dates:	1/2025-12/2029
Funding Agency:	NIMH
Project Synopsis:	The proposed project aims to address low family member/support person engagement and disparities in coordinated specialty care by using a culturally responsive family engagement strategy delivered by family peers to improve engagement.
Keywords:	First Episode Psychosis, Family Peer Support Specialists

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PI, Co-Is:	Rebecca Ezechukwu, PhD
Study Title:	Addressing Childhood Trauma through Intervention, Outreach, and Networking III (ACTION III)
Funding Dates:	9/30/2022-9/29/2027
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	ACTION III supports the implementation and evaluation of a sustainable trauma responsive system of care grounded in collaboration among youth-serving clinics and programs within the University of New Mexico Behavioral Health system. ACTION III provides and maintains access to outpatient trauma-focused treatment for children, adolescents, and transition age youth and emphasizes culturally responsive, contextually driven services for youth and families who experience ongoing health disparities. ACTION offers training and consultation opportunities for UNM Hospital providers and UNM School of Medicine learners in trauma-informed & trauma-focused practices, culturally responsive care, and evidence-informed strategies to address secondary traumatic stress (STS) at individual and organizational levels of care.
Keywords:	Childhood Trauma, Trauma Services, Children and Adolescents, Transition Age Youth, Culturally Responsive Services

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PI, Co-Is:	Brian Isakson, PhD
Study Title:	CYFD Shelter Program Evaluation
Funding Dates:	7/1/2025-6/30/2028
Funding Agency:	CYFD
Project Synopsis:	The main purpose of this project is to target and alter neural networks associated with apathy using transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) evaluation CYFD's Shelter Program, which aims to provide facility-based shelters to serve any youth or child in New Mexico who needs housing.
Keywords:	Youth, Shelters

PI, Co-Is:	Tyler Kincaid, PhD
Study Title:	Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Implementation
Funding Dates:	3/30/2023-6/30/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	To provide clinical and technical expertise to the State of New Mexico Health Care Authority's CCBHC implementation team based the successful SAMSHA CCBHC Demonstration application in 2024.
Keywords:	Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorders (SUD), Program Evaluation, Native Americans, Veterans, Children and Rural

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PI, Co-Is:	Tyler Kincaid, PhD
Study Title:	NM Multisystemic Therapy Outcomes Tracking Project
Funding Dates:	5/3/2017-6/30/2028
Funding Agency:	CYFD
Project Synopsis:	The NM Outcomes Tracking Project provides demographic and outcome data regarding youth and families who have received MST services from New Mexico's MST provider agencies.
Keywords:	Multi-Systemic Therapy, At-Risk Youth

PI, Co-Is:	David Lardier, PhD
Study Title:	Project AWARE
Funding Dates:	7/1/2022-9/29/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	The purpose of Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) is to promote the healthy development of school-aged youth and prevent youth violence.
Keywords:	Youth, Violence Prevention

PI, Co-Is:	United Voices for Newcomer Rights (PI); David Lardier, PhD (Lead Evaluator / Co-I alongside Dr. Julia Hess [Pediatrics] and Dr. Jessica Goodkind [Sociology])
Study Title:	Rebuilding and Engaging to Foster Resiliency Among Muslims Experiencing (REFRAME) Violence: A Multilevel Community-Based Approach
Funding Dates:	12/31/2022-12/30/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	A Multilevel Community-Based Approach is a four-tiered intervention that attends to the behavioral health and well-being of Muslim and Afghan, African, and Arabic Newcomer (MAAAN) youth and their families in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
Keywords:	Youth, Violence Prevention

PI, Co-Is:	My Nim, MD
Study Title:	Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma (ReCAST)
Funding Dates:	3/1/2023-12/30/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	To promote resilience, trauma-informed approaches, and equity to individuals in Gallup and throughout McKinley County.
Keywords:	Collective Trauma, Native Americans

PI, Co-Is:	Jen Perillo, PhD, Anthony Perillo, PhD
Study Title:	Competency Pay Structures in the United States
Funding Dates:	7/1/2025-6/30/2026
Funding Agency:	BHSD
Project Synopsis:	This study examines compensation structures for competency to stand trial (CST) evaluators across the United States, amid a nationwide “competency crisis.” The goal is to better understand how CST evaluations are compensated across the United States and how those evaluations may be different based on payment structures.
Keywords:	Competency to stand trial, experts, forensic evaluators

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PI, Co-Is:	Jen Perillo, PhD, Annette Crisanti, PhD
Study Title:	New Mexico's (NM) Supporting Underserved Communities Capture Employment Stability Successfully (SUCCESS) Program
Funding Dates:	9/30/2024-9/29/2029
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	The purpose is to study is to implement and evaluate an evidence-based model of supported employment called Individual Placement and Support (an evidence-based model of supported employment). IPS will be implemented in one rural and tribal communities in NM and one urban community so adults with serious mental illness (SMI) or co-occurring mental/substance use disorders (COD) can achieve competitive employment and build paths to self-sufficiency and recovery.
Keywords:	Supported Employment, Adults with Substance use disorder and/or other mental illness

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PI, Co-Is:	Jen Perillo, PhD, Anthony Perillo, PhD, Kaisa Marshall, PhD
Study Title:	Program Parole and Reduced Incarceration for People thru Access to Re-Entry
Funding Dates:	9/30/2024-9/29/2029
Funding Agency:	DOJ
Project Synopsis:	This study investigates the experiences of individuals formerly sentenced to life or long sentences as juveniles in the state of New Mexico. The goal is to understand the reentry needs of this population and improve reentry programming with project partner (De)Serving Life. The study also examines how the NM Parole Board makes parole decisions with this population; another goal is to create training materials that can be used to support parole board decision making in these cases. The study also examines juvenile sentencing practices in New Mexico and aims to create support materials for children's court judges.
Keywords:	Juvenile justice, reentry, parole, juvenile sentencing

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PI, Co-Is:	Jen Perillo, PhD
Study Title:	Promoting Innovative and Vital Opportunities for Transformation (PIVOT): A Prosecutor-Led Community Based Diversion Program for Youth and Young Adults to Reduce Ethnoracial Inequality
Funding Dates:	7/1/2025-6/30/2028
Funding Agency:	William T. Grant Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation, Bezos Family Foundation
Project Synopsis:	In partnership with the First Judicial District Attorney's Office (FJDA), the purpose of this project is to further the research-practice partnership (RPP) called PIVOT (Promoting Innovative and Vital Opportunities for Transformation). PIVOT employs prosecution-led diversion and community-based deflection to reduce racial and ethnic inequality (REI) in the criminal legal and delinquency systems (CLDS). The program will include a sample of youth diverted from the FJDA and a sample of at-risk youth identified by community service providers to examine and compare the efficacy of both mechanisms.
Keywords:	Diversion, deflection, racial and ethnic inequality, criminal legal and delinquency

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PI, Co-Is:	Dominique Price, MD
Study Title:	Association between Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder and Inflammation
Funding Dates:	6/30/2024-12/30/2025
Funding Agency:	Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Rosenbaum Award
Project Synopsis:	Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) is a constellation of both emotional and physical symptoms present in the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle. Within the US, it is estimated that over two thirds of women experience PMS symptoms. Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD) affects a smaller subset of women and comprises more severe emotional, physical, functional impairment on the continuum of premenstrual syndromes. The cause of both PMS and PMDD remains an area of active investigation, and increased inflammation in the body has been proposed as a potential mechanism/ modulator of disease symptoms. This investigation will examine the relationship between menstrual cycle-inflammation and the mood symptoms of PMS and PMDD. We hope to learn whether inflammatory changes in the premenstrual period of the menstrual cycle affect the severity of psychiatric and physical symptoms in individuals with PMS and PMDD.
Keywords:	Reproductive psychiatry, Inflammation, PMDD, PMS, Mood

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PI, Co-Is:	Davin Quinn, MD
Study Title:	A Prospective Observational Study on Therapeutic and Adverse Effects of Medical Cannabis for Chronic Traumatic Brain Injury (MC-TBI)
Funding Dates:	9/15/2022-9/14/2026
Funding Agency:	DoD
Project Synopsis:	The goals of this project proposal are to determine if medical cannabis has potential therapeutic or adverse effects on TBI-related symptoms (emotional, physical and cognitive) as well as overall brain health. Symptoms will be measured using standard clinical tests, whereas brain health will be measured using advanced brain scans and blood-based biomarkers.
Keywords:	Medical Cannabis, Traumatic Brain Injury, fMRI

PI, Co-Is:	Davin Quinn, MD
Study Title:	Eye Recovery Automation for Post-Injury Dysfunctions (iRAPID)
Funding Dates:	9/21/2022-9/20/2026
Funding Agency:	New Jersey Institute of Technology
Project Synopsis:	To test the efficacy of an automated virtual reality vergence therapy system on remediating convergence insufficiency in a Traumatic Brain Injury veteran population.
Keywords:	Traumatic Brain Injury, Vision Therapy, Virtual Reality

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PI, Co-Is:	Davin Quinn, MD
Study Title:	Magnetic Resonance Analysis of Neural Inflammatory Factors and External Stimulation (MANIFEST)
Funding Dates:	7/1/2024-6/30/2029
Funding Agency:	DoD
Project Synopsis:	To conduct a randomized, controlled clinical trial of accelerated fMRI-guided transcranial magnetic stimulation to treat chronic neuropsychiatric post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 infection (neuro-PASC) in 60 civilian and Veteran participants. Cognitive and behavioral measures, diffusion magnetic resonance spectroscopy, and serum inflammatory biomarkers will be obtained to assess for changes in neuroinflammation with treatment.
Keywords:	Long COVID, Accelerated TMS, Diffusion MR Spectroscopy

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PI, Co-Is:	Davin Quinn, MD
Study Title:	Multimodal Image Analysis and Guidance of Neuromodulation for Trauma-Related Symptoms (MAGNETS)
Funding Dates:	9/30/2023-9/29/2027
Funding Agency:	DoD
Project Synopsis:	To conduct a multi-center, randomized, double-blinded, sham-controlled clinical trial of accelerated fMRI-guided theta burst stimulation for PTSD symptoms in Veterans.
Keywords:	PTSD, fMRI guidance, transcranial magnetic stimulation

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PI, Co-Is:	Davin Quinn, MD
Study Title:	Precision Phenotyping of Behavioral Risk and Response to Electromagnetic and Psychedelic Therapies (PRE-EMPT)
Funding Dates:	9/1/2025-8/31/2029
Funding Agency:	DoD
Project Synopsis:	PRE-EMPT is a Focused Program utilizing multimodal neuroimaging, blood-based biomarkers, and predictive analytics to devise highly accurate models of behavioral risk, and to characterize response to the three neuroplasticity-enhancing interventions.
Keywords:	Suicidality, cognitive control, emotion regulation, fMRI neurofeedback, transcranial magnetic stimulation, psilocybin

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PI, Co-Is:	Julie Salvador, PhD, Naing Bajaj, MD
Study Title:	Feasibility of Rural New Mexico Libraries as Telepsychiatry Access Points
Funding Dates:	7/1/2025-6/30/2026
Funding Agency:	Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Rosenbaum Award
Project Synopsis:	This study aims to assess the feasibility of implementing telepsychiatry services in rural New Mexico public libraries by understanding infrastructure capabilities, barriers, and facilitators to implementation.
Keywords:	Telepsychiatry services, Rural

PI, Co-Is:	Julie Salvador, PhD
Study Title:	State Opioid Response (SOR) 4
Funding Dates:	9/30/2024-9/29/2027
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	Reduce OUD and associated morbidity and mortality through expansion of evidence-based practices in OUD treatment, recovery, harm reduction and prevention. Focus on MAT for OUD expansion.
Keywords:	Opioid Use Disorder

PI, Co-Is:	Mauricio Tohen, MD, Javier Ortiz Orendain, MD, Annette Crisanti, PhD
Study Title:	Evaluation of Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis (EARLY Program)
Funding Dates:	N/A
Funding Agency:	McLean
Project Synopsis:	To evaluate the outcomes of coordinated specialty care for first episode psychosis.
Keywords:	First Episode Psychosis

PI, Co-Is:	Mauricio Tohen, MD (on site), Andrew Nierenberg, PhD (Mass General Hospital)
Study Title:	Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial for Bipolar Depression (SMART-BD)
Funding Dates:	3/1/2024-2/28/2026
Funding Agency:	PCORI
Project Synopsis:	A multi-site (N = 19) comparative effectiveness study to determine the best treatments to achieve patient-centered outcomes of acute and long-term remission from Bipolar Depression.
Keywords:	Bipolar Depression, Pharmacological treatments

PI, Co-Is:	Ann Waldorf, PhD
Study Title:	FOCUS Expansion Evaluation Project
Funding Dates:	9/30/2021-9/29/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA, NMHSD
Project Synopsis:	The purpose of this study is to evaluate services provided in the UNM FOCUS program to families affected by substance use disorders in order to enhance services for this population and to support initiative to expand the program to provide services from birth to age five.
Keywords:	Substance Use Disorder, Program Evaluation, Opioid Use Disorder

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PI, Co-Is:	Deidre Yellowhair, PhD
Study Title:	Trauma informed to build Resilient, Indigenous, Balanced communities Enhanced with Strength (TRIBES)
Funding Dates:	9/30/2022-9/29/2026
Funding Agency:	SAMHSA
Project Synopsis:	The TRIBES initiative seeks to increase Historical Trauma informed care expertise through the widespread of training of a HT informed parenting curriculum and suicide prevention and response toolkit to provide accessible and culturally informed interventions to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations.
Keywords:	Historical Trauma, Intergenerational Trauma, Native Americans

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GLOSSARY

ACF	Administration for Children and Families
AWARE	Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education
BHSD	Behavioral Health Services Division
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
COD	Co-occurring SMI And Substance Use Disorder
CST	Competency to Stand Trial
CYFD	Children, Youth and Family Division
DECODE	Deciphering Mechanisms of ECT Outcomes and Adverse Effects
DoD	Department of Defense
DoJ	Department of Justice
ECT	Electroconvulsive therapy
FAMES	Family Engagement Strategy
FEP	First Episode Psychosis
GLS	Garrett Lee Smith
HHS	Health and Human Services
IHS	Indian Health Services
iRAPID	Eye Recovery Automation for Post-Injury Dysfunctions
LEA	Local Education Agency
MAGNETS	Multimodal Image Analysis and Guidance of Neuromodulation for Trauma-Related Symptoms
MANIFEST	Magnetic Resonance Analysis of Neural Inflammatory Factors and External Stimulation
MAT	Medication Assisted Treatment
MCT	Mobile Crisis Teams
MST	Multisystemic Therapy
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health
NMDOH	New Mexico Department of Health
NMPED	New Mexico Public Education Department
OUD	Opioid Use Disorder
PCORI	Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute
PCSS	UNM Provider's Clinical Support System

PMDD	Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder
PMS	Premenstrual Syndrome
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
RCT	Randomized Control Trial
ReCAST	Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma
REFRAME	Rebuilding and Engaging to Foster Resiliency Among Muslims Experiencing
SAMSHA	Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration
SMART-BD	Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial for Bipolar Depression
SMI	Serious Mental Illness
SOR	State Opioid Response
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TMS	Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation
UNMHSC	UNM Health Sciences Center

