Martin Thomas Strassnig, MD

Psychiatrist | Clinical Trials Specialist (CNS) | Forensic Psychiatry
Aventura, FL | ABPN Board Certified | IMLC Multi-State Licensed

CLINICAL RESEARCH & PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY EXPERTISE

Board-certified psychiatrist with over two decades of academic, clinical, and contract research experience in CNS drug development. Evaluates therapeutic pipeline assets from dual vantage points: the clinical investigator who ran the trials and the quality oversight specialist who audits them. Applies empirical standards honed across 30+ sponsored studies to assess data integrity, endpoint credibility, regulatory pathway risk, and execution quality in Phase II-III psychiatric programs. Forensic practice adds independent expert judgment, evidentiary rigor, and the ability to perform skeptical, adversarial review of clinical claims.

CLINICAL RESEARCH & PIPELINE EVALUATION

Premier Research — Neuroscience Team, Clinical Quality Control
June 2019 – Present | Contract Research Organization (CRO)

- Cross-study quality oversight in CNS/psychiatry: pattern detection across sites, raters, and protocols in Phase II-III trials
- Macro-level signal analysis distinguishing systematic bias from random noise — rater drift, site-level outliers, protocol deviation clusters
- Expertise in rater reliability methodology; trained and evaluated clinical raters against ICH E6 and sponsor-defined standards
- Applies trial-execution knowledge to identify what sponsors underreport: missing safety signals, endpoint credibility gaps, enrollment quality issues
- CNS therapeutic areas: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Tourette syndrome, tardive dyskinesia

Sponsored Clinical Trials — Principal and Site Investigator
2001 – 2018 | Academic Medical Centers: University of Munich (LMU), Department of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh, University of Toronto, University of Miami

- Principal Investigator or Site PI on 15+ industry-sponsored trials; Co-Investigator on 10+ additional studies
- Sponsors include: Novartis, Pfizer, J&J (Janssen), AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Alkermes, Neurocrine Biosciences, Acadia, Biogen, Otsuka, Lundbeck, Axovant, Envivo, Genentech, Merck
- Phase II and III experience across antipsychotics, pro-cognitive agents, VMAT2 inhibitors, alpha-7 nAChR agonists, amyloid-targeting therapies, and alcohol use disorder
- NIMH Clinical Trials Network site participation (e-TENENTS, ACLAIMS, e-CAeSAR): NIH-funded comparative effectiveness and cognitive remediation programs
- IND-stage familiarity with regulatory milestones, primary/secondary endpoint selection, and FDA advisory patterns in CNS

KEY CAPABILITIES FOR EXPERT CONSULTATION

- Pipeline risk assessment: identifies credibility gaps in Phase II readouts, NDA-stage vulnerabilities, and common execution failure modes in CNS trials
- Data integrity evaluation: experienced in detecting anomalies in clinical data packages — fabrication indicators, rater inflation, endpoint drift

- Regulatory pathway literacy: clinical hold triggers, REMS precedents, advisory committee dynamics in psychiatry and neurology
- Competitive landscape: deep familiarity with approved and pipeline agents across schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder, dementia, and movement disorders
- Independent expert judgment: forensic practice demands adversarial-level scrutiny of clinical evidence and causation claims — directly applicable to investment due diligence
- Key opinion leader network: active editorial relationships across Schizophrenia Bulletin, Neuropsychopharmacology, Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology, and 15+ peer-reviewed journals

CLINICAL PRACTICE

Independent Telehealth Practice
February 2016 – Present

- 27,000+ completed visits; high-volume adult psychiatry across complex psychopharmacology, treatment-resistant conditions, and metabolic comorbidities
- Real-world prescribing experience provides ground-level signal on drug tolerability, patient adherence, and payer dynamics — context that Phase III data rarely captures

Forensic Psychiatry — Independent Medical Examinations & Litigation Consulting
January 2022 – Present | Referral-Based

- Personal Injury and IME cases; scope structured to avoid pharmaceutical and product liability conflicts
- IMLC credentials enabling multi-state practice
- Forensic work demands independent evidentiary standards, resistance to advocacy bias, and systematic evaluation of clinical claims under adversarial conditions

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine | December 2023 – Present
Associate Professor of Psychiatry University of Miami | 2011 – 2018
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry University of Toronto / CAMH | 2009 – 2011
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry University of Pittsburgh / WPIC | 2007 – 2009

Hospital leadership roles included: Medical Director (Inpatient Psychosis & Depression Units, University of Miami); Chief, rTMS and ECT Service; Associate Medical Director, South County Mental Health Center; Associate Director, Clinical and Translational Science Unit (FAU).

EDUCATION & TRAINING

MD (Doctor of Medicine) University of Graz, Austria | 1993 – 1999
Residency, Adult Psychiatry Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (UPMC) | 2003 – 2007
Residency, Adult Psychiatry Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich | 2001 – 2003
Visiting Research Fellow UPMC / WPIC | 2000 – 2001

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (59 PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES, 15 BOOK CHAPTERS)

Publication record spans CNS pharmacology, cognitive outcomes in schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, metabolic comorbidities, functional disability, and Phase II-III clinical trial methodology. Peer reviewer for Schizophrenia Research, Schizophrenia Bulletin, Neuropsychopharmacology, Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology, and 12 additional journals. Full list available on request.

Representative: Strassnig & Harvey. Cognition and disability in schizophrenia. World Psychiatry 2019. — Strassnig et al. Twenty-year BMI trajectory in schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Bipolar Disorders 2017. — Strassnig et al. High velocity circuit resistance training improves cognition and psychiatric symptoms in severe mental illness. Psychiatry Research 2015.

RECOGNITION

ISCTM Fellow International Society for CNS Clinical Trials and Methodology | 2012
NCDEU-NIMH New Investigator Award 2006
ASCP Award American Society for Clinical Psychopharmacology | 2006
APA Young Investigator Colloquium 2005
NARSAD Young Investigator Award USD 60,000 — Metabolic antecedents of insulin resistance in schizophrenia | 2009