The goal of the Neuroscience and Novel Therapeutics Unit (NNT), led by Melissa A. Brotman, PhD, is to develop brain-based treatments for children with serious psychiatric disorders. The research conducted in NNT is part of NIMH's mission to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure.

Mental illness has a tremendous impact on public health. Many psychiatric disorders first present during childhood. Irritability and anxiety are among the most common clinical problems in children. NNT aims to:

(1) use neuroscience to identify treatment targets; and
(2) develop innovative and scalable therapies based on the ability to engage these targets.