

# RUTGERS

New Jersey Medical School  
Department of Psychiatry

## Addicted Brain, Derailed Mind, Self-Defeating Behavior:

New Lessons on the Neurobiologic Mechanisms of the Addict's  
Inability to Learn from Past Bad Outcomes



### Jacob Sperber, MD

Vice Chair for Education and Training  
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences  
Nassau University Medical Center  
East Meadow, NY

**Friday, September 5, 2014, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
**Medical Science Building, Room B-610, Newark, NJ**

**Objectives:** At the conclusion of this program the participants should be able to:

1. Summarize the 4 major paradigm shifts in understanding the neurobiology of addiction over the past 50 years.
2. Describe the behavioral role of the mid-brain mammalian mesocorticolimbic pathway, known as the “reward center” during the 1980-90s, and ways that our understanding of the functions of this neurocircuit have changed more recently.
3. Understand how addiction research has recently modified our understanding of this pathway to be more a “wanting” center, rather than a “liking” center, in which dopamine release compares reward outcome to prediction.
4. Recognize the four major types of stressors which trigger addictive relapse, and the overlapping but distinct neural pathways they correlate to.

**Disclosure Declaration:**

- Jacob Sperber, MD, has no relevant financial relationship and will not discuss an unapproved/uninvestigated use of a commercial product in his presentation.
- Jacob J Lindenthal, PhD, DrPH, Douglas Opler, MD, planning committee members, have no relevant financial relationships.

**Accreditation:** Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing education to physicians.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Sponsorship:** This program is sponsored by Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Center for Continuing and Outreach Education at Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences.

**Target Audience:** This program will be of interest to psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors, nurses, physicians, researchers, social workers, students, and trainees.