

Dr. Yuval Neria  
Professor of Medical Psychology at Columbia University  
Director of the PTSD Research Center

Dr. Yuval Neria is professor of Clinical Medical Psychology at Columbia University, Departments of Psychiatry and Epidemiology, and director of Trauma and PTSD at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. Neria's body of work was deeply influenced by his war experiences. He was injured in the Yom Kippur 1973 War and at the age of 22 was awarded the Medal of Valor, the highest decoration for combat bravery in Israel.

Neria joined Columbia University Medical Center in 2002, and since then has led and collaborated on numerous epidemiological, clinical, and neuroimaging studies in trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). He has conducted large-scale studies among prisoners of war, war veterans, and victims of terrorism and disasters, and led large scale research and training programs in New York City after the attacks of September 11, 2001.

In the last decade, Neria's lab has been focused on translational studies aiming to identify behavioral and neural markers for trauma-related psychopathology, and develop innovative treatments for civilians and military personnel with PTSD. By using multimodal magnetic resonance imaging, and a number of novel paradigms focusing on fear and reward circuitries, his lab has been able to identify brain and behavioral markers of trauma and PTSD, and to probe highly needed biomarkers of clinical improvement in response to targeted treatments.

Continuing to care for the mental health of veterans and their family members, Neria founded the Columbia-NYP Military Family Wellness Center, aiming to provide evidence-based care to service members and their family members.

Neria's research is funded by NIMH, NARSAD, and private foundations continuously since 2004. He has authored more than 200 articles and book chapters and edited four textbooks focusing on the mental health consequences of exposure to trauma.