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US SENATOR PETE DOMENICI, MRN TEAM ANNOUNCE MENTAL ILLNESS RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGH

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – U.S. Senator Pete Domenici (Ret.) joined the Mind Research Network (MRN) in announcing that MRN scientists can differentiate between patients suffering from schizophrenia and bipolar disorder through brain imaging.

MRN researchers, working through a National Institute of Health(NIH) grant with Yale University and the University of New Mexico, are able to show the diagnosis with a single imaging (fMRI) scan. MRN researchers report a 93% accuracy rate.

"The significance of this research is the possibility of better diagnosing the patient's problem, and that helps doctors' better refine the treatment process," said Prinicipal Investigator Vince Calhoun, MRN Director of Image Analysis and Magnetic Resonance, and University of New Mexico associate professor.

Senator Domenici established MRN almost 11 years ago with hopes of MRN finding better ways to diagnose and treat mental illness and brain disorders.

"This unique collaborative study shows that MRN can bring hope to the individuals and families suffering from brain disease and injury," said Senator Domenici. "This is an important landmark, and I am so proud that within a decade MRN scientists are identifying ways to pinpoint a patient's Illness better and earlier; thus enabling better outcomes."

MRN is an Albuquerque based neuro-imaging research institution. Scientists are dedicated to the discovery and advancement of clinical solutions for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness and brain disorders.

"Brain imaging has tremendous potential in helping us better understand, diagnose, and treat mental illness," said MRN CEO John Rasure. "The MRN team is on the threshold of bringing great hope to millions of patients and their families."

Details of the method for the differential diagnosis research results of Dr. Calhoun and his team, as well as video from today's news conference, will be available at www.mrn.org.

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