2014 BIO-SKETCH

**Richard H. Weisler, MD, Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association** has been in practice since 1980 in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he and his group have seen more than 12,000 patients with a mixture of psychiatric disorders. He is an adjunct professor of psychiatry at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Chapel Hill School of Medicine, where he also served for many years as chairman of the Board of Visitors for the department of psychiatry. Dr. Weisler also is adjunct associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Weisler received his residency training and medical degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his undergraduate degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. Following Hurricane Katrina he collaborated with colleagues, state health officials from Louisiana and Mississippi along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to raise awareness of mental health needs and effective assessment and treatment approaches for those impacted. Dr. Weisler co-authored with Drs. Townsend and Barbee a 2006 Journal of American Medical Association Commentary article titled “Mental Health and Recovery in the Gulf Coast After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita”. Recently, over 100,000 health providers in 2011-2012 participated in a CME/educational effort done in conjunction with the White House “Joining Forces” effort to improve care of America’s veterans and their families that he helped develop in his role as a Medscape Psychiatry Advisory Board member, presenter, and contributor.

Dr. Weisler is the recipient of numerous recognitions. In 2007 Men’s Health Magazine working in conjunction with Castle & Connolly selected him as the “Top Doc” for men among all psychiatrists in the United States. In 2008 Women’s Health Magazine named Dr. Weisler as one of “America’s Top 16 Doctors for women in Psychiatry. His physician peers have annually selected Dr. Weisler as one of the “Best Doctors” in North Carolina and one of Castle and Connolly’s “Americas Top Doctors”. He was recently named one of Leading Physicians of the World’s 2013 Top Psychiatrists. In addition, he is a past recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Award from the UNC Chapel Hill Psychiatry Department.

Dr. Weisler is credited with first identifying the usefulness of Lamictal (Lamotrigine) in bipolar disorder when, in 1993, he presented a report on his successful treatment on a compassionate use basis of two severely treatment-resistant bipolar patients with what was then an unapproved drug in the US for any condition. Dr. Weisler is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. He has been the principal investigator in about 250 clinical trials. Dr. Weisler has authored or co-authored more than a 100 journal articles and book chapters on bipolar disorder, attention deficit disorder, depression, PTSD, social phobia, generalized anxiety disorders, dementia, pharmaco-economics, suicide, and the national epidemic of unintentional drug poisoning deaths. He has also conducted research on environmental impacts on health over the last decade. Dr. Weisler has taught extensively across the US and internationally in Canada, UK, Europe, Asia, and Australia on the above topics.