



Shelli Avenevoli, Ph.D. Biographical Sketch

Shelli Avenevoli, Ph.D. is the Deputy Director for the National Institute of Mental Health, the lead Federal agency for research on mental illness, with a budget of \$1.4 billion and a staff of over 1,000. NIMH seeks to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure.

Dr. Avenevoli joined NIMH as a staff scientist in 2001, in the Section on Development Genetic Epidemiology of the Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program. In 2005, she moved to the extramural program to become chief of the Emotion, Mood, and Depressive Disorders Program. In 2008, Dr. Avenevoli became the branch chief of Developmental Trajectories of Mental Disorders branch. She has been heavily involved with a number of key NIMH efforts, among them the revision of NIMH's Strategic Plan, re-defining the Institute's approach to supporting research in neurodevelopment and bipolar disorder, and serving as a liaison to other agencies for special initiatives.

Dr. Avenevoli received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Temple University and completed an NIMH postdoctoral fellowship in psychiatric epidemiology at Yale University School of Medicine.