

THE UNIVERSITY

of NORTH CAROLINA

at CHAPEL HILL

# Unveiling the Unique Mechanism of Allopregnanolone, a GABA-A Receptor Selective PAM, on Antidepressant Action

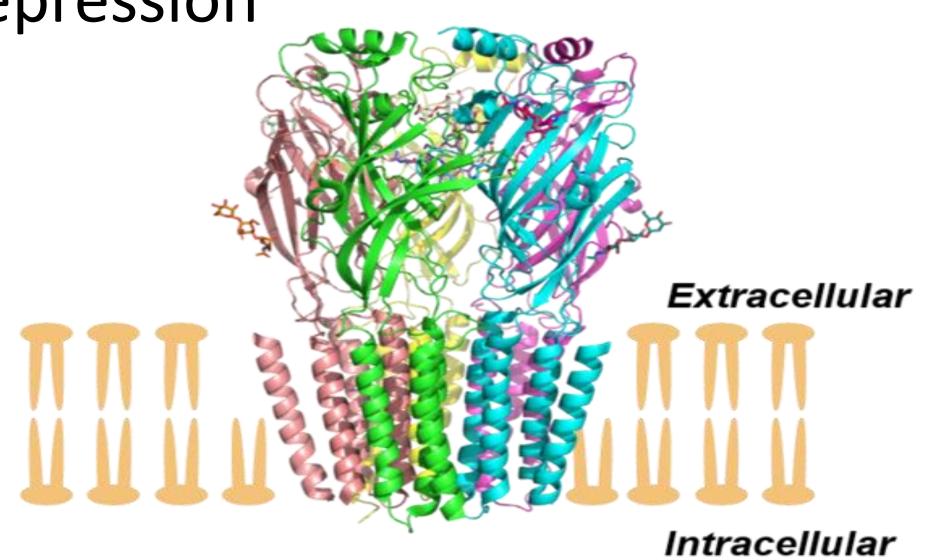
References and

A. Shah, W.T. Stevens, L. Seymour, G.H. Bullard, N. Elkin, R. Penton, PhD

## References and Contributions

### Introduction

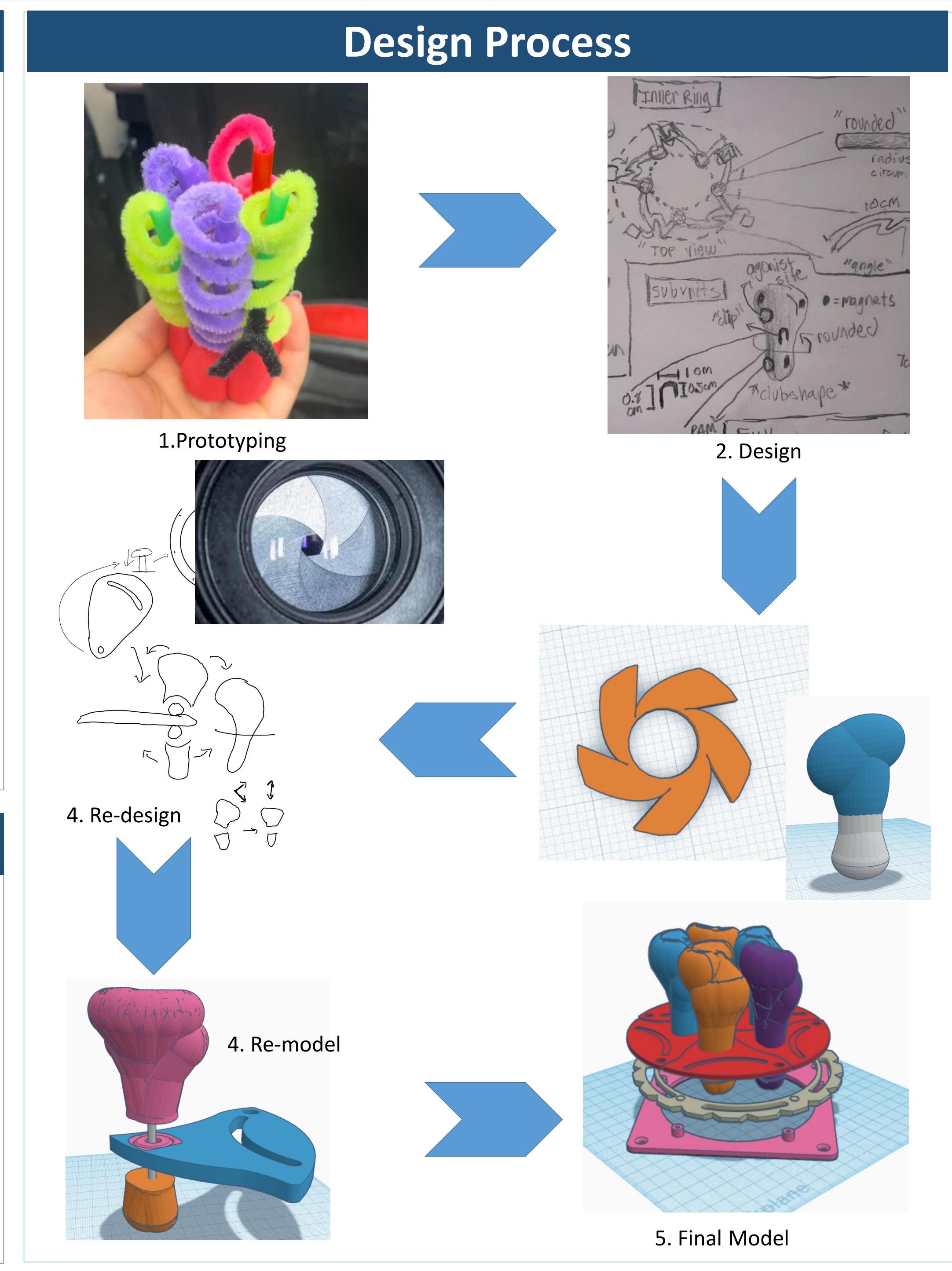
- Gamma-aminobutyric acid
   (GABA-A) receptor is an
   ionotropic ligand-gated receptor
- Allopregnanolone: positive allosteric modulator that binds to the steroid allosteric site, enhances GABA agonists
- Hyperpolarizes membrane and opens of chloride ion channels
- Commonly used in alleviating symptoms of postpartum depression



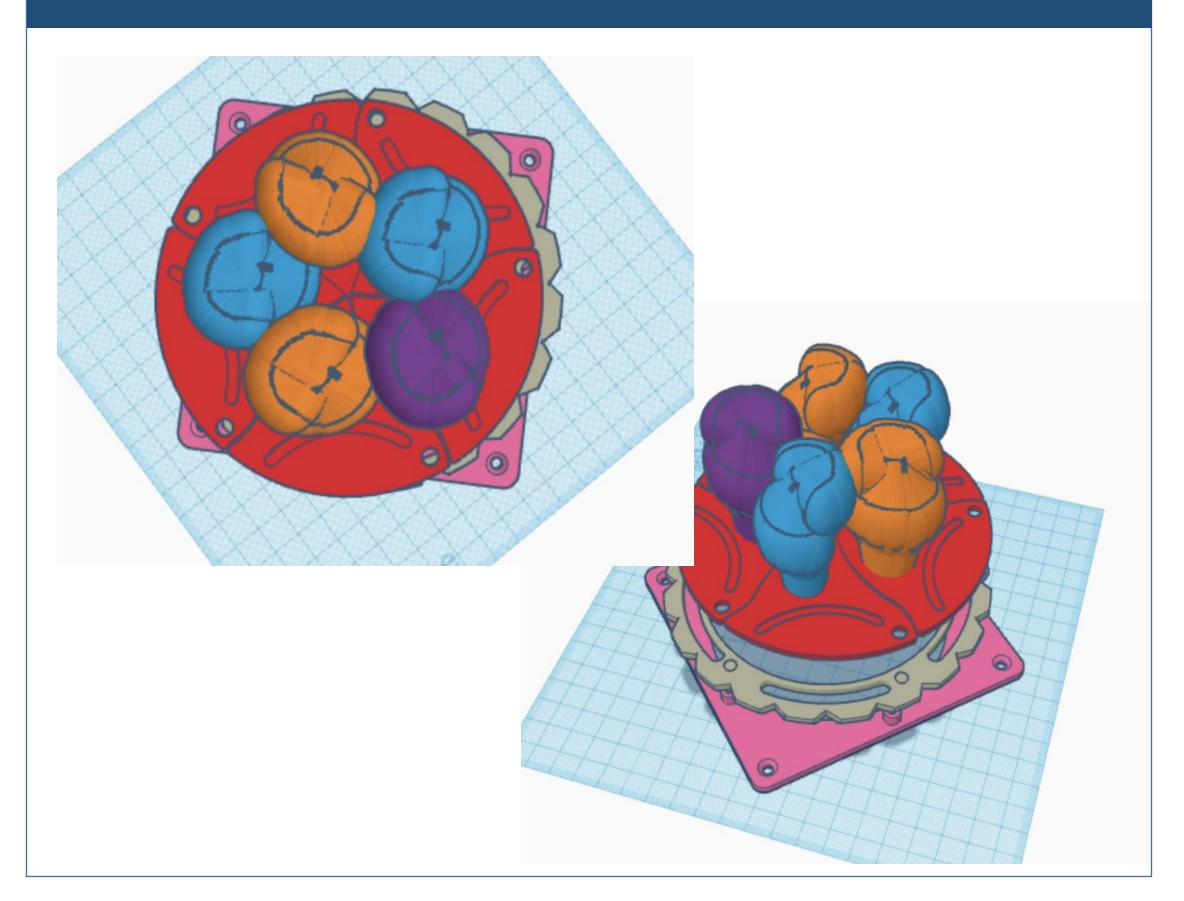
## Methods

- 1. Research
- 2. Initial Prototypes
- 3. Design Sketches
- 4. Tinkercad
- 5. 3D Printing
- 6. Iteration





## Final Model



## **Future Directions**

- Advancing pharmacological research leading to larger effects
- Differences among opening time of GABA-A receptor
- Inaccurate lens aperture for structural mechanisms
- Intracellular binding site is difficult to see

#### Model Demonstration

