Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

What is TMS Therapy?
NeuroStar® TMS Therapy is a non-invasive, outpatient procedure which uses a pulsed magnetic field to stimulate function in brain regions known to affect mood. The NeuroStar System is the first transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) device cleared by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of severe depression.

Who benefits from this therapy?
If you are a patient suffering from severe depression who has not had satisfactory results from standard antidepressant medication, NeuroStar TMS Therapy may be able to help.

How does TMS work?
Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) uses a targeted pulsed magnetic field, similar to what is used in an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) machine. While you are awake and alert, NeuroStar TMS Therapy stimulates areas of your brain that are underactive in depression.

The therapy is performed in an outpatient office of Baptist Behavioral Health. The treatment takes place in a chair, similar to a dentist’s chair with a soft magnetic coil plate resting lightly on the patient’s head. Highly focused MRI-strength magnetic pulses stimulate nerve cells in the left prefrontal cortex of the brain, an area known to control mood. A clicking sound is heard during treatment and a light tapping sensation can be felt.

How long does the treatment last?
Treatment is administered five days a week for about 4 to 6 weeks with each treatment lasting about 37 minutes. Patients can resume their normal activities immediately after each individual treatment.

For more information on this therapy treatment, contact Baptist Behavioral Health at 904.376.3800.