Physician

You are a practicing physician who also steers the administration of a research hospital. As a doctor, you see more and more families like yours that struggle with the confusion and stigma surrounding mental illness. As an administrator, you can understand how early detection of a neurological disorder can streamline the hospital’s treatment programs and associated costs. What is the best way forward to address the growing problem in your community?

Military general

You lead a specialized military unit that tests experimental technologies to protect soldiers in dangerous situations. You lost a leg during wartime and deeply understand the sacrifices soldiers make. Based on the emerging security threats all across the world you are especially interested in safe and long-term solutions to enhance mental and physical performance of those serving under you. Much of your unit’s work is highly classified due to its sensitive nature.
Grocer
You have owned a small corner grocery store for over 30 years and are responsible for day to day decisions about the business. Lately, an old back injury has gotten worse and it feels like numbers are getting harder to remember, but you don’t have time to worry about it. When you have a moment to sit down, you enjoy watching courtroom TV shows, and are fascinated by the personalities involved.

Video game designer
After an injury suffered in a car accident, you became paralyzed from the neck down. Your injury causes chronic pain and you wonder how research might lead to future treatments. Recently you learned about the Cybathlon, an international competition that helps develop assistive technologies for people with disabilities, and you’re interested in getting involved with the brain-computer interface event.
**Teacher**

You have battled long-term depression your whole life. You worry about how your students would view you if they knew about your condition. You are interested in how new technologies and therapies can assist you as well as the growing number of your students expressing ADHD and other attention disorders.

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**Blogger**

You write for and manage a website devoted to skepticism of “big science.” You routinely point out in your articles how the government is using scientific advancement to further economic and psychological control of the population. Secretly you harbor your own fears of doctors and hospitals, and publicly like to cite historical evidence of the misuse of medicine and medical research as reasons why everyone should be skeptical of health professionals.
Healthcare assistant

You used opioids for almost 10 years, sacrificing your self-control and personal wellbeing to substance abuse. Finally, seeking a better life for your children, you found strength in your religion and reached out to support services for help with medication-assisted treatment. Now you rely on mindfulness and meditation practices to help you deal with emotional challenges. While your doctor has encouraged you to participate as a subject in various studies on addiction and recovery, you just want to move on from this dark chapter of your life.

Teenager

Your parents bring you to a science museum based on your excitement around a new sci-fi movie on cyborgs and AI. You love learning about new technology, and wonder what “normal” and “typical” will mean in the future for humans. Your grandfather suffers from a demonstrable neurological condition that your family has attempted to address with many hospital visits. Your parents and teachers have wondered about having you screened for an autism spectrum disorder, and you aren’t sure you want to talk to a doctor about the condition.