

## Appendix

Figure A

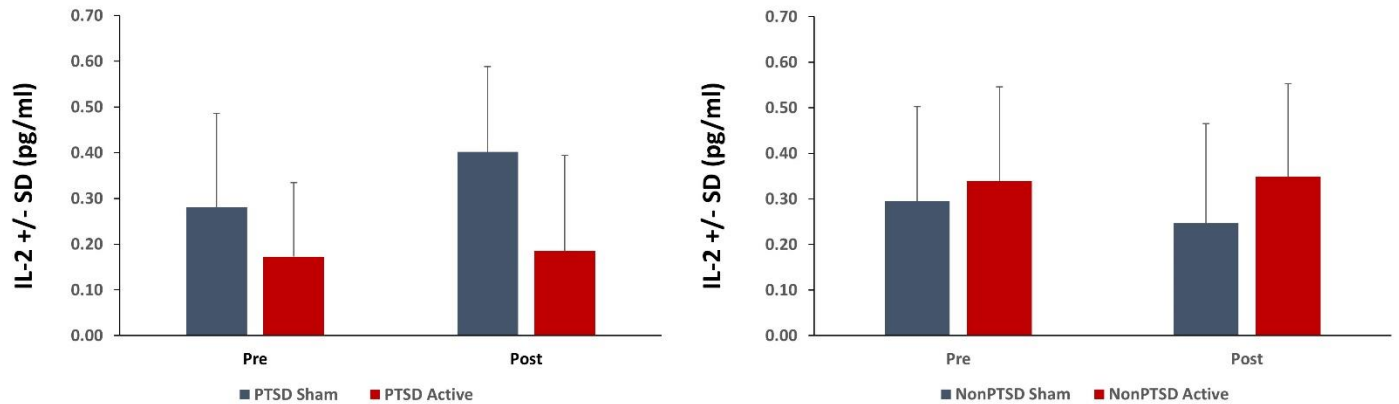


Figure A. Effects of tcVNS (red) or sham (blue) on IL-2 before (pre) and after (post, corresponds to data point #14 in Figure 1) repeated exposure to traumatic script stress paired with VNS or sham in patients with PTSD (left side) and traumatized subjects without PTSD (right side). Personalized traumatic scripts was associated with an increase in IL-2 in PTSD patients in the sham but not the VNS group. There were no differences between groups in non-PTSD subjects.

Figure B

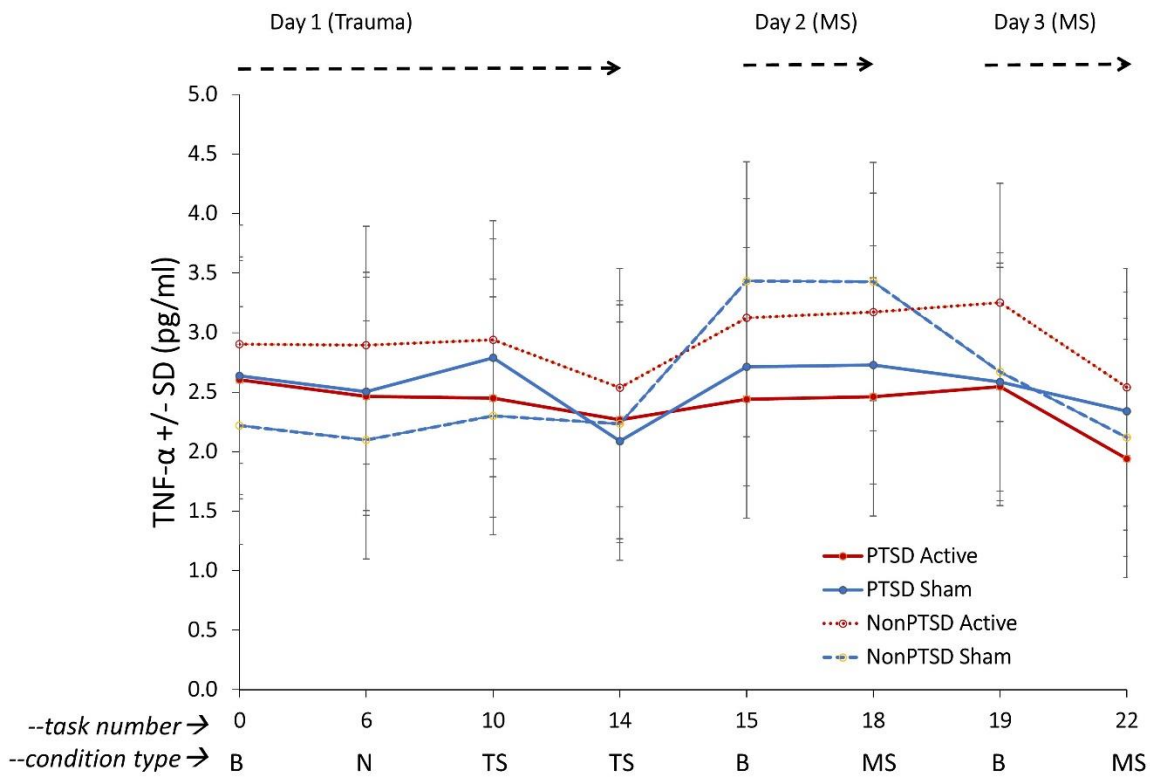


Figure B. Effects of nVNS (red line) or sham (blue line) on TNF- $\alpha$  response to stress in patients with PTSD (left side) and traumatized subjects without PTSD (right side). TNF- $\alpha$  showed a pattern of slow rise over the three days of the stress protocol, greater in the sham groups than the active tcVNS groups for traumatized subjects both with and without PTSD, with the largest increases on Day 2.

Figure C

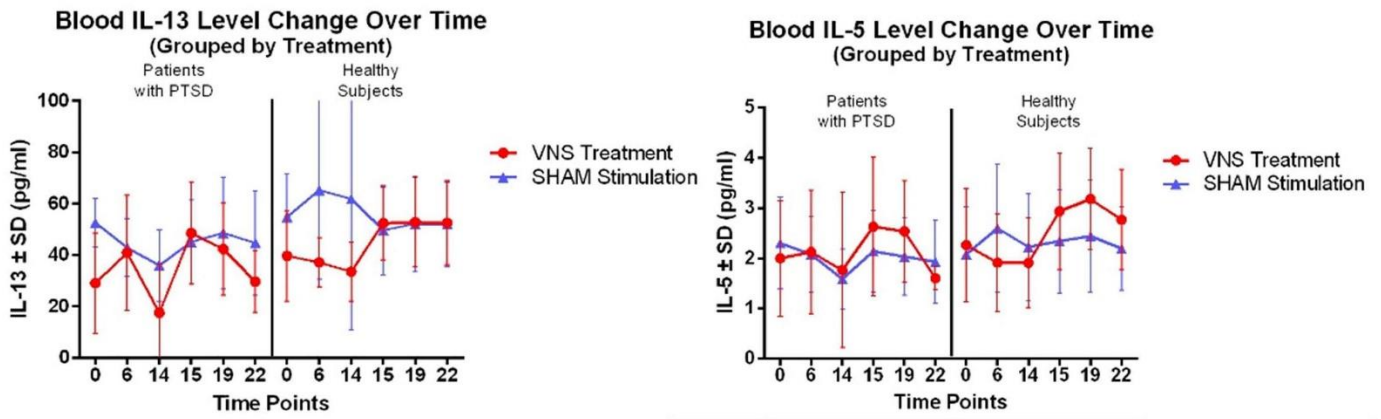


Figure C. Effects of nVNS (red line) or sham (blue line) on interleukin-13 (IL-13) and interleukin-5 (IL-5) response to stress in patients with PTSD (left side) and traumatized subjects without PTSD (right side). Although nVNS showed a pattern of reducing IL-13 in both non-PTSD and PTSD subjects, especially on the traumatic scripts day (Day 1, time points 0-14, there were no significant differences between groups. No differences were seen between nVNS and sham for PTSD or non-PTSD in IL-5.

