Postdoctoral Fellowship in Perinatal Mood Disorders

APA-accredited: Yes

Site: Butler Hospital, Psychosocial Research Program

Supervisor: Cynthia L. Battle, Ph.D.

Description of Site
Butler Hospital is a 158-bed private psychiatric and substance abuse hospital located in Providence, Rhode Island and is the primary training site for the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. Several collaborative research groups with specialty research programs in mood disorders, addictions, OCD, and other topics are housed at Butler. The Psychosocial Research Program is one of these groups. Currently, this research team is comprised of 9 academic psychologists, 1 academic psychiatrist, several pre and post-doctoral fellows in psychology, 14 full time research assistants, 1 project coordinator, and several study interventionists. Research in this group is funded by NIH grants, awards from private foundations, and several sub-contracts on NIH grants to other affiliated institutions.

Fellowship Aims
1. To provide the fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the area of mood disorders treatment research, with particular emphasis on treatment research related to perinatal mood disorders.

2. To provide the fellow with a strong working knowledge of issues involved in the detection and treatment of mood disorders during pregnancy and the postpartum period.

3. To provide the fellow with research training and experience that will provide a foundation for entrance into a clinical research career.

Fellowship Timeline
The duration of the fellowship is 2 years, contingent upon satisfactory progress. The anticipated start date is July or August of 2018.

Research Activity Plan (77.5%)
The fellow will be exposed to various aspects of clinical research with perinatal populations via participation in the following activities:

- Study coordination: (57.5%) The fellow will assist the study PIs with the coordination of one or more research studies pertaining to perinatal mood disorders that have recently been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These NIH-funded studies are anticipated to include one or both the following projects: (1) a randomized controlled trial comparing
prenatal yoga vs. a mother-baby wellness workshop for antenatal depression; (2) a randomized controlled trial of a lifestyle physical activity intervention for women with antenatal depression. In addition, the fellow may also assist with other related studies relating to women’s mental health.

- **Grant writing (10%)**: The fellow will be given the opportunity to develop a grant idea to build up her/his own independent research interests, and submit the grant proposal by the end of the fellowship term. This activity is optional. If the fellow does not write a grant during the fellowship, this time can be allocated to manuscript preparation or involvement in other relevant research studies within the Psychosocial Research Program.

- **Manuscript preparation and submission (10%)**: As part of pursuing the fellow’s own independent area of specialization, the fellow will be encouraged to collaborate on manuscript preparation and poster submissions at relevant national conferences. Individually tailored goals will be established in this area.

**Clinical Activity Plan (12.5%)**

Opportunities for additional clinical experience will be provided as part of the position. Specifically, the fellow will have the opportunity to participate as a study therapist, interventionist, and/or interviewer on one or more of the active clinical research studies currently being conducted at the Psychosocial Research Program. These opportunities may include: (1) a randomized controlled trial comparing prenatal yoga vs. a mother-baby wellness workshop for antenatal depression; (2) a randomized controlled trial of a behavioral intervention for antenatal depression; (3) other, additional projects that are active during the time of the fellowship. In addition to these research-related clinical opportunities, there may be additional opportunities for relevant clinical experiences with perinatal women within the Women & Infants’ Mother-Bay Day Hospital, a clinical site with which Dr. Battle is actively affiliated.

- Treatment services: **YES**
- Clinical assessment: **YES**

**Path toward licensure: YES**

Please note that this position supports the path toward licensure in the State of Rhode Island; specifically, 12.5% of the fellow’s time over a two-year period (based on a standard 40 hour week) will be devoted to clinical activity, which is sufficient to meet current Rhode Island licensure requirements.

**Didactics (10%)**

Postdoctoral Seminars: The fellow will participate in the following postdoctoral seminars through the Brown Postdoctoral Training Program.

**Mandatory Didactics:**
- Core Seminars (1 per month)
- DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1 per month)
- Clinical Ethics – if intending to sit for licensure (1 per month)

**Optional Didactics:**
- Special Topics in Statistics and Alcohol Center seminars.
- Academic Friday – Grantsmanship seminars
**Supervision and Evaluation**

Supervision will be provided in the form of weekly individual supervision sessions with Dr. Battle. Clinical supervision will also be provided in the form of weekly individual or group supervision led by Dr. Battle. The fellow may also receive additional clinical or research supervision from Dr. Margaret Howard or other Women & Infants’ Hospital-affiliated licensed psychologists. The fellow will receive a minimum of 2 hours per week of clinical supervision.

Every 6 months for the duration of the fellowship, the fellow and the supervisors will provide formal evaluations, and evaluations of the program relative to the goals and learning objectives of the fellowship.

**Resource Requirements**

Fellow will be provided with the following resources:

- Access to space to complete research responsibilities
- A computer and project specific software
- Internet access
- Telephone
- $500 per year towards the fellow’s travel, as needed to present at relevant scientific conferences

Postdoctoral Fellowship Track Coordinator

Associate Director, Research Fellowship Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program
**Reporting and approval**

This fellowship will be part of the Adult Track. The position has been discussed and approved by the Adult track faculty in their monthly meeting of 10/03/2014.

_____________________________________
Postdoctoral Fellowship Track Coordinator

_____________________________________
Associate Director for Investigator Funded Fellowship Positions/NIH Funded Fellowship Positions

_____________________________________
Director, Brown Clinical Psychology Training Consortium