Postdoctoral Fellowship in Suicide Assessment and Technology Research

APA-accredited: ___YES ___X___NO

Site:
Butler Hospital

Supervisor(s):
Heather Schatten, Ph.D., Primary Supervisor
Michael Armey, Ph.D.

**Description of Site**

Butler Hospital is a 117-bed private Brown University affiliated psychiatric and substance abuse hospital located in Providence, RI. Butler Hospital is one of the earliest psychiatric facilities established in the United States. Butler Hospital has a distinguished reputation, recently being named by U.S. News and World Report as one of the 30 "best" psychiatric facilities in the United States. As a member of the Care New England Health System and is affiliated with the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Butler Hospital is actively engaged in a variety of important research studies, particularly patient-oriented research. Faculty members at Butler Hospital are nationally recognized for conducting treatment research in addictive behaviors, mood disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and more recently, movement disorders.

The Psychosocial Research Program at Butler Hospital, under the direction of Dr. Ivan W. Miller, is located on the third floor of the Potter Building at Butler Hospital, with additional office and lab space in the main hospital building. The Psychosocial Research program is composed of 10 full-time Ph.D. & M.D. faculty who conduct assessment and interventions research for a wide variety of psychological disorders. All department faculty are licensed clinicians who have experience assessing and treating patients with significant suicide risk. Current research projects involve the development of a multi-method assessment of prospective suicide risk, the evaluation of a novel adjunctive phone-based intervention for suicide risk, the application of mobile intervention technology in the treatment of severe mental illness, and the use of mobile technology as an adjunctive treatment for bipolar disorder.

**Fellowship Aims**

1. To provide the fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the prediction of suicidal ideation and behavior, prospectively, using longitudinal data collection methods.

2. To provide the fellow with a strong working knowledge of suicide risk assessment research, with a focus on techniques such as ecological momentary assessment and brain imaging.

3. To provide the fellow with research training and experience in preparation for a research career in suicide assessment and intervention research.
Fellowship Timeline
The duration of the fellowship is 2 years contingent upon satisfactory progress. The anticipated start date is July 1, 2018.

Research Activity Plan (60% Total)
The fellow will be exposed to various aspects of suicide assessment research via participation in the following activities:

- Study coordination: The fellow will collaborate with the PIs (Drs. Schatten and Armey) to coordinate two large suicide assessment studies funded by The National Institute of Mental Health. The fellow will help coordinate research assistant activities and assessment as well as oversee participant recruitment. Additionally, the fellow will have the opportunity for hands-on exposure to ecological momentary assessment and brain imaging methods, tailored to the research interests of the individual fellow (20% time).

- Review of suicide assessment literature: The fellow will be provided with a series of readings in the area of the prospective prediction of suicide risk, in general. More specifically, readings will focus on the assessment of high-risk behaviors using ecological momentary assessment, brain imaging, and laboratory-based methodologies (5% time).

- Grant writing: The fellow will be expected to develop a grant idea and submit a grant proposal by the end of the fellowship term (15% time). Additionally, the fellow will have the opportunity to contribute towards ongoing grant preparation and submission in the Psychosocial Research Program (5% time).

- Manuscript preparation and submission: The fellow will be expected to collaborate on manuscript preparation and poster submissions at national conferences. Currently available datasets will permit development of first-author manuscripts in the areas of suicide assessment and intervention as well as ecological momentary assessment. Individually tailored goals will be established in this area (12.5% time).

- The fellow will be required to participate in weekly research meetings conducted in the Psychosocial Research Program in the Potter Building (2.5% time).

Clinical Activity Plan (30% Total)
Opportunities for additional clinical experience will be provided as part of the position. Clinical time will include both individual and group supervision with Dr. Heather Schatten and study PIs.

- Treatment services: The fellow will participate in providing treatment as part of intervention studies in the Psychosocial Research Program in the Potter Building at Butler Hospital. Fellow caseload will include approximately two patients per week (10% time).

- Clinical assessment: The fellow will participate in the clinical assessment activities of NIMH-funded studies examining the use of smartphone technology-driven and brain imaging assessments. Clinical activities will involve conducting in-person diagnostic structured interviews (i.e., C-SSRS, SCID, SITB-I, QIDS) with psychiatric inpatients at baseline and follow-up. Additionally, the fellow will provide clinical assessments of suicide risk during outpatient follow-up assessments following hospital discharge. These assessments are conducted within the context of a clinical assessment study and are used to determine study eligibility and to provide ongoing monitoring of clinical symptomatology throughout the
study. These assessments will also help identify cases of clinical deterioration and help ensure patient safety (20% time).

Path toward licensure: YES__X___ NO_____

**Didactics (10% Total)**
Postdoctoral Seminars: The fellow will participate in the following postdoctoral seminars through the Postdoctoral Fellowship 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)
- Track Seminars – Adult Track

Optional Didactics (Mandatory for T32/F32/ and Investigator Funded Fellows):
- Academic Friday – Grantsmanship seminars, Special Topics in Statistics and Alcohol Center seminars.

**Supervision and Evaluation**
Research supervision will be provided in the form of both weekly individual supervision (Dr. Schatten) and bi-monthly group supervision (Drs. Schatten and Arney). Clinical supervision will be provided in the form of both weekly individual supervision (Dr. Schatten) and bi-monthly group supervision (Dr. Schatten).

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
- Appropriate space for clinical care on an as-needed basis

**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 xx/xx/xx.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Track Coordinator

Associate Director, Research Fellowship Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program