Postdoctoral Fellowship in Alzheimer’s Research

APA Accredited: YES ___NO __X__

Site: Butler Hospital

Supervisor(s): Stephen Salloway, M.D. (Primary Supervisor)
Paul Malloy, Ph.D.
Peter Snyder, Ph.D.

Fellowship Position Overview:
This fellowship position is part of the Research Fellowship Program (RFP) within the Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program of Brown’s Clinical Psychology Training Consortium. For didactic and professional socialization issues, the fellow will be considered part of the Neuropsychology Track.

Interested fellows from the following disciplines may be considered for this position including neurologists, psychiatrists, neuropsychologists, psychologists, neuroscientists, or other disciplines aligned with the position aims (listed below). Irrespective of the fellows’ discipline, the fellow’s training home will be in the Neuropsychology Track of the RFP with close alignment with the CNSP.

Clinical Research Activities:
The fellow will devote approximately 70% time to research activities in the Memory and Aging Program (MAP) at Butler Hospital under Primary Supervisor, Stephen Salloway, M.D.

Clinical Care Activities: The fellow will devote approximately 20% time to clinical care activities in the Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program (MAP).

NOTE: Fellows in this position from non-clinical disciplines (e.g., neuroscience, research psychologists) may opt to perform up to 90% clinical research activities and as little as 0% supervised clinical care activities depending on their training and career goals.

Didactics: 10% time will be devoted to didactics. The specific required didactics will depend on the fellow’s background and training and career goals.

Description of Site
Founded in 1844, Butler Hospital is a private, nonprofit psychiatric hospital for adults, adolescents, children, and seniors. Butler is affiliated with the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. The fellow will work in the Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program (MAP), directed by Drs. Stephen Salloway and Paul Malloy.

The MAP, one of the leading clinical trial centers for Alzheimer’s disease (AD) in the United States, is committed to accelerating drug development for AD and to training young investigators for careers in AD research. The program evaluates approximately 200 new patients with cognitive impairment annually.
Patients undergo extensive workups, including neurologic examination, neuropsychological testing, MRI scan, laboratory tests, and genotyping. Patients may undergo biomarker testing as well, such as CSF protein assay or amyloid PET scan. Thus, fellows are exposed to state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment methods. The clinic has been in operation for over 20 years, resulting in a database of over 5000 patients with comprehensive diagnostic data. The program is developing innovative outreach strategies for AD prevention the Butler Hospital Alzheimer’s Prevention Registry with more than 1,000 participants. The MAP has a large clinical trials program focusing on biomarker and drug development for Alzheimer’s disease with an emphasis on prevention, early detection and treatment. The program is conducting landmark NIH, foundation and industry-sponsored clinical and investigator-initiated studies including ADNI, DIAN, LEADS, development of tau PET and the first secondary prevention and tau-based treatments for autosomal dominant and sporadic AD. Neuropsychology has strong presence at Brown and the MAP is developing novel cognitive assessments, retinal imaging techniques and risk disclosure protocols to identify individuals at risk for prevention studies. Brown also offers a rich multi-disciplinary training environment and the fellow will have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from many departments on translational research in AD and neurodegenerative disorders.

**Fellowship Aims**

- To provide the fellow with expertise in the design, conduct, and management of clinical trials for cognitive disorders (both preventative and symptomatic).
- To provide the fellow with expertise in design, execution, analysis and publication of independent research projects in aging and dementia.
- To provide the fellow with experience working as a clinician-researcher-teacher and team leader in a clinical research center focused on the early diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and other late-life causes of cognitive decline.

**Fellowship Timeline**

The duration of the fellowship is 1 or 2 years contingent upon satisfactory progress. The anticipated start date is July-September. Consistent with Training Committee policy, the fellow and the mentor will notify each other in December whether the commitment will be made for a second year.

**Research Activity Plan**

The fellow will devote 70% time to research activities pertaining to Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia. The fellow may devote up to one day of this research time to research on Alzheimer’s and other dementias at MAP-affiliated research programs.

- The fellow will serve as an investigator on clinical trials of Alzheimer’s disease and/or other late-life forms of dementia. This activity includes, but is not limited to, participation in protocols regarding disclosure of AD risk, participant recruitment and screening for eligibility for clinical trails; conducting neurologic examinations and other outcome assessments per clinical trial protocols and in accordance with the fellows’ clinical scope of practice. Activities also include reporting and clinical management of adverse events, attendance at pre-study or interim-study Investigator Meetings as appropriate, and serving as a team leader in the prevention, outreach and clinical trial interdisciplinary Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program (MAP).
- Participates in weekly MAP research team meetings and consensus conference.
- Attends regional, national, and international conferences pertinent to the fellow’s clinical research activities in the MAP.
- Provides mentored clinical-research supervision of and teaching to other MAP trainees and staff.
• Part of the fellow’s clinical research activities will involve either an independent research project or literature review. The fellow is required to present their research activities or literature review at national or international conferences. The fellow is strongly encouraged to submit their research work or literature review for peer-reviewed publication.

• Fosters research collaborations between the Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Programs and other local, regional, national and international Alzheimer’s disease research programs.

**Clinical Activity Plan**

The fellow will devote approximately 20% time to clinical care activities in the Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program (MAP) under the supervision of the Primary Supervisor or appropriate designee.

The specific clinical care activities and level of supervision will depend on the fellow’s discipline and level of experience. Neuropsychology and psychology fellows will receive clinical supervision in accordance with guidelines set by Brown’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program.

Depending on the fellow’s discipline, a portion of this clinical time may be spent providing clinical care in the Butler Hospital clinics other than the MAP. Examples include the Movement Disorders Program or Geriatric Psychiatry Program.

For Neurologists or Psychiatrists:
- The fellow will provide clinical evaluations and ongoing care to patients in the Memory and Aging Program,
- The fellow will provide back-up clinical coverage for the Director of the Memory and Aging Program.
- Provides neurology consultations at Butler Hospital, compensated by separate arrangement with Care New England Medical Group.
- The fellow will participate in and at times lead (under supervision) weekly multidisciplinary MAP Diagnostic Consensus Conference, where staff will review history, neurologic exam, neuroimaging, neuropsychological and genetic workup and make diagnosis and treatment recommendations. These conferences are conducted as teaching rounds with trainees called upon to make judgments and defend their reasoning (1 hour per week).
- The fellow will be expected to regularly contribute to the informal didactic portion of the Diagnostic Consensus Conference. This will typically take the form of providing very brief updates, appropriate for consumption by the multidisciplinary MAP team, on scientific advances in Alzheimer’s disease and other dementia with emphasis on disease mechanisms, risk and protective factors, and progress in evidence-based diagnosis and treatment.
- The fellow will have the opportunity to provide supervision to trainees from a variety of disciplines (e.g., psychiatry, neuropsychology, psychology).
- Path toward licensure: N/A unless fellow is a non-licensed physician.

For Neuropsychologists & Psychologists:
- The fellow will conduct one or two neuropsychological evaluations per week on patients from the Memory and Aging Program, providing the opportunity for training in neuropsychological assessment and differential diagnosis. Consultations may also come from our Hydrocephalus Clinic, Movement Disorders program, and community referrals. (4 to 7 hours per week)
• The fellow will attend weekly multidisciplinary Diagnostic Consensus Conference, where staff will review history, neurologic exam, neuroimaging, neuropsychological, and genetic workup and make diagnosis and treatment recommendations. These conferences are conducted as teaching rounds with trainees called upon to make judgments and defend their reasoning. (1 hour per week).
• The fellow will have the opportunity to provide supervision to practicum students from regional clinical psychology graduate programs who are training in the MAP.
• Path toward licensure: YES___X__ NO ____

For non-physician and non-psychologist fellows (e.g., neuroscience):
• Path toward licensure: YES_____ NO __x__

Didactics (10% time)
Required didactic activities for non-psychologist fellows will be determined collaboratively between the fellow and the Primary Supervisor. Options include, but are not limited to:
- Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior (DPHB) Grand Rounds (monthly)
- Department of Neurology Grand Rounds (weekly)
- DPHB Research Fridays (weekly)
- DPHB Research Rounds (Tracie Shea’s rounds)
- Neuropsychology Research Interest Group (monthly)
- Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program Seminar Series
- Department of Pathology Brain Cuttings
- Department of Diagnostic Imaging Rounds
- DPHB T32 Core Seminars (1 per week, Butler Hospital)).

For non-psychologist fellows, the Primary Supervisor is responsible for tracking the fellow’s participation in the didactic activities that the fellow and Primary Supervisor agree to be required.

Psychologist fellows are required to attend the didactic venues listed below.
• DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1st Wednesday of month, Sept-May, 11 AM – noon, Butler Hospital)
• Brown Psychology Training Core Seminars (1 per month, Butler Hospital).
• Clinical Ethics Seminar (1st Wednesday of month, Oct-May 10AM, Butler Hospital)
• Neuropsychology fellows are required to attend:
  • Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program Seminar Series (1 per week, Thursday Sept-May 4-5:30 PM, RIH). Attendance at this CNSP Seminar Series is optional for psychology fellows (i.e., non-neuropsychology)
• Non-neuropsychology psychology fellows are required to attend:
  • DPHB T32 Core Seminars (1 per week, Butler Hospital). Attendance is optional for neuropsychology fellows.
  • Academic Fridays (Friday mornings, Butler Hospital). Attendance is optional for neuropsychology fellows

Neuropsychology and psychology fellows may attend at other optional didactics series at the discretion of the Primary Supervisor.
**Supervision and Evaluation**

Research and clinical supervision for physician or neuroscience fellows will occur regularly as determined by agreement with between the fellow and the Primary Supervisor and other supervisors.

For neuropsychology or psychology fellows, supervision will be provided in the form of both daily individual supervision and weekly group supervision. Dr. Malloy will be the primary clinical supervisor for these fellows. Dr. Salloway and Dr. Malloy will supervise research activities. At a minimum, a full-time neuropsychology or psychology fellow will receive four hours structured learning activities per week, at least two hours of which will include individual, face-to-face 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**

The fellow will be provided with the following resources:

- Access to space appropriate for clinical care
- A computer and project specific software
- Internet access
- Telephone
- Shared office space for personal use

**Reporting and approval**

This fellowship position is part of the Neuropsychology Track of the Research Fellowship Program within the Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program of Brown’s Clinical Psychology Training Consortium. The fellow will also be considered part of the Neuropsychology Track in Research Fellowship Program (RFP) and may participate in Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Program (CNSP) didactics (as described above) and other activities as appropriate for the fellow’s discipline and fellowship goals.

The position has been previously discussed and approved by the Neuropsychology Track faculty on June 05, 2018.

The fellow will report to Director of the Butler Hospital Memory and Aging Program

Postdoctoral Fellowship Track Coordinator

Associate Director, Research Fellowship Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program