



BROWN
Alpert Medical School

**Clinical Psychology Training Programs at Brown: A Consortium of the
Providence VA Medical Center,
Lifespan, and Care New England
Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program
Postdoctoral Fellowship Description: CLINICAL FOCUS**

Title: Postdoctoral Fellowship in Primary Care Behavioral Health

APA-accredited: Yes No

Site: Providence VA Medical Center (PVAMC)

Supervisor(s): Clinical: Kevin McKay, Ph.D. (primary), Caitlin Burditt, Ph.D., Tracy O'Leary Tevyaw, Ph.D., Karen Oliver, Ph.D.

Research: To be assigned, depending on the fellow's experiences and interests.

Description of Site:

Primary Care Behavioral Health (PCBH) is a co-located, collaborative care element of Patient-Aligned Care Teams (PACT) in Primary Care at the VA. The PCBH model of care involves an open access model for warm handoffs, depression care management, and disease-specific consultation and evidence-based brief treatment for a variety of presenting problems. Common presenting problems include depression, anxiety, PTSD, substance use issues, adjustment disorders, and bereavement / loss as well as coping with medical issues such as diabetes / other metabolic conditions, insomnia, chronic pain, smoking, and obesity/weight management. The fellow will also participate in PVAMC Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP) programming and will work with the Health Behavior Coordinator on initiatives and clinical programming related to tobacco cessation (i.e., PVAMC Tobacco Cessation Program) and weight management (i.e., PVAMC MOVE! Weight Management Program).

Fellowship Aims:

1. To provide the Fellow with clinical, administrative, and supervisory training in psychological assessment / diagnostic evaluation, brief / evidence-based treatments, and program development / management.
2. To enhance the Fellow's clinical research competencies. Research competency development may be completed by conducting research (e.g., analyzing data and preparing manuscripts on existing data sets and other involvement in ongoing research projects), critical reviews of articles and book chapters, grant writing, and attendance at research meetings.

Fellowship Timeline

This is a one-year Fellowship. The Fellowship will begin September 1, 2021 and conclude August 31, 2022.

Clinical Activity Plan (70%)

Seventy percent of the Fellow's time will be devoted to clinical activities. The Fellow's clinical activity includes four days per week at PVAMC with the PCBH team and HPDP program working with veterans and their family members. The Fellow will also spend a portion of their clinical time providing supervision to PCBH psychology interns and engaged in didactics (see below).

The PCBH fellowship program provides advanced clinical training by requiring the following activities:

1. **Treatment Services:** The Fellow is an integrated member of the PVAMC PCBH team. As a member of PACT and PCBH, the Fellow will demonstrate competence in working collaboratively with primary care providers and will formulate treatment plans that specify measurable benchmarks for treatment success. The Fellow will have a working knowledge of several different theoretical models and demonstrate competence in delivering brief, evidence-based treatments for a wide range of issues and problems (as noted above). Specific interventions may include (but are not limited to) Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Solution-Focused Therapy, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), and other evidence-based treatments. The Fellow will actively participate in the development and implementation of programs to address the needs of veterans in primary care (e.g., development and implementation of groups for veterans with congestive heart failure/cardiac conditions, pulmonary conditions, etc.). They may also have the opportunity to provide clinical supervision to psychology interns working in PCBH and HPDP clinics.
2. **Clinical Assessment:** The Fellow will conduct diagnostic/functional evaluations and/or psychological assessments of veterans seen in PCBH. Competence in clinical assessment includes knowledge, attitudes, and skill in: (a) selection, administration, scoring, and interpretation of assessment measures; (b) data-integration and report-preparation with rapid (i.e., same-day) feedback to Primary Care providers; and (c) oral presentation of cases to interprofessional teams. PCBH team members conduct diagnostic/functional assessments using an open access model and determine if Veterans can be served within PCBH's time-limited treatment model or whether a referral to specialty-level services would be more appropriate. The PCBH Fellowship also offers fellows the opportunity to participate in conducting or supervising specialized assessments, including pre-surgical psychological assessments for organ transplantation and bariatric surgery candidates.
3. **Membership in Interprofessional Treatment Teams at the PVAMC:** The Fellow will function as an independent clinician within the context of interprofessional teams in PACT, PCBH, HPDP, and the medical center. They will participate in weekly PACT team meetings, PCBH team meetings, and Interdisciplinary Pain Clinic meetings as well as monthly HPDP meetings. The Fellow's interactions with other professionals will reflect their understanding of psychologists' scope of practice and the collaborative / cross-cutting nature of interprofessional care.
4. **Clinical Documentation:** The Fellow will maintain accurate records and to document case formulations, assessment results, treatment plans, and progress notes in a timely, concise, and clear manner.

Research (20%)

The Fellow will devote 20% of their time to research. The Fellow will participate in the following activities:

1. The faculty will work with the Fellow to identify a research mentor whose experiences and interests are consistent with their own. The Fellow will then work with their research mentor to create a traditional scientific product in their shared area-of-interest. For example, the Fellow may analyze an existing data that their mentor has collected and archived. They may also collaborate with their mentor on manuscript preparation and article submission and / or presentations for regional and / or national conferences. For those Fellows interested in learning about writing a grant, seminars and mentoring opportunities are available with senior psychologists within the Department of Psychiatry (see Didactics).

2. Ad hoc Reviewing: For those Fellows interested in learning about the editorial review process of manuscripts submitted to refereed journals, ad hoc reviewing opportunities may be made available with their research mentors.

Didactic Training Activity Plan (10%)

1. The core educational objectives are: 1) To promote clinical, professional, and personal competence in providing mental health care to veterans in an interprofessional setting; and 2) To promote commitment to team-based and patient-centered interprofessional care. In order to work towards these goals, the Fellow may attend monthly Primary Care Service meetings and / or participate in monthly MHBSS colloquia. The latter often promotes evidence-based practices and / or involves guest presenters from allied disciplines.
2. The fellow will be required to participate in the following post-doctoral seminars through the Brown Post- Doctoral Training Program:
 - Core Seminar (2nd Tuesday of month, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.)
 - DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1st Wednesday of month, 11:00 to noon)
 - Clinical Ethics Seminars (1st Wednesday of month, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.)
3. The following seminars are optional:
 - Postdoctoral Training Program Grantsmanship seminars
 - Postdoctoral Training Program Special Topics in Statistics and Research Methods

Supervision and Evaluation

Each clinical faculty member will provide one-hour of weekly face-to-face individual supervision (minimum of 3 hours individual, face-to-face supervision weekly). The research faculty member will also provide one-hour of weekly face-to-face individual supervision. The Fellow will have access to additional forums for direct and indirect supervision through optional participation in regularly scheduled rounds and interprofessional treatment team meetings.

At the beginning of the fellowship year, the Fellow will collaborate with the supervisors to develop fellowship goals and learning objectives. At the midpoint and conclusion of the Fellowship, the Fellow and supervisors will complete formal performance evaluations of each other.

Resource Requirements

The Fellow will be provided with the following resources:

1. For CPP fellows, individual office space is provided
2. Telephone
3. A personal desktop computer with internet access
4. Access to copying equipment
5. Clinical space for meeting with veterans and their family members

Reporting and approval

This fellowship will be part of the CPP. The position has been discussed and approved by the Behavioral Medicine track.

Director, Clinical Psychology Program (CPP)

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program (PFTP)