

Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Fellowship

Name of institution: McGill University Health Center

Type of Fellowship: Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Number of fellowship positions requested: 1-2

Duration of Fellowship: 1 year

Hospitals involved in training: McGill University Health Center, including Montreal

General, Glen - Royal Victoria, Montreal Chest Institute, and Montreal Neurological Hospital

Sites

Time spent by the fellow in each institution:

- MGH- 25%
- Glen - 65%
- MNH- 10%

Mission of Fellowship:

This Clinical Fellowship year is intended to teach advanced skills in C/L psychiatry. Its purpose is to train academic leaders in C/L psychiatry, stimulate interest in academic work in the field and provide the administrative skills required for the development of C/L services at other institutions.

Fellowship Program Director:

Dr. Leon Tourian

Names of Teaching Faculty:

The teaching faculty comprises M-J. Brouillette, S. Ducharme, G. Galbaud du Fort, L. Tourian, L. Hoffman, T. Nguyen, L. Pinard, Z. Prelevic, L. Tourian, A. Wilner. This is an expert group of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatrists with an average of 15 years of clinical experience in the field.

Roles of Teaching Faculty:

Supervising psychiatrists will review clinical cases with the fellow and assess his/her skills specific to interviewing and interacting in the medical setting, including diagnostic and therapeutic skills, clinical judgment, communication effectiveness with other professionals, and advocacy for patients so as to ensure optimal care delivery.

Role of Project Supervisors:

Supervisors will guide and oversee the fellow in the preparation and completion of a project to be submitted for publication, in their area of specialized interest and expertise.

They will ensure comprehensive exposure to and provide supervision for clinical experience in their area of subspecialty.

Summary of Clinical and Academic Practice:

Dr. M-J Brouillette is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at McGill University and a consultant to the Chronic Viral Illness Service of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC). Her research program focuses on the neuropsychiatric and cognitive aspects of HIV and HCV infection. She is the principal investigator of the Positive Brain Health Now study, which tracks neurocognitive change in a cohort of 900 aging HIV+ positive individuals across several sites in Canada, with the aim of understanding the determinants and consequences of poor brain health and identifying potential ways to improve it.

Dr. S. Ducharme has a medical degree from the Université de Montréal and a Masters from McGill University. He completed his residency in Psychiatry at McGill in 2012, and a fellowship in Behavioral Neurology & Neuropsychiatry at Harvard University in 2014. He is a Neuropsychiatrist at the Montreal Neurological Institute/MUHC, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and an associate member in the Department of Neurology & Neurosurgery. Dr. Ducharme's research uses advanced structural brain imaging techniques to study the longitudinal changes in brain development from childhood to old age, and how it impacts behavior across health and psychopathology. His current projects aim to develop novel neuroimaging diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for frontotemporal dementia. He is the Montréal site PI of the Genetic Frontotemporal Dementia Initiative study and an FTD team member of the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging. He is the Director of Research at the McGill University Health Center.

Dr. G. Galbaud du Fort, MD, PhD (Epidemiology & Biostatistics), Associate Professor in Psychiatry, McGill University; Past Educational Coordinator, Canadian Academy of Psychiatric Epidemiology; Past President, Population Health Grant Review Committee, Fonds de la Recherche en Santé du Québec. His area of clinical expertise is adult C/L psychiatry to oncology outpatients, with a special interest for short-term psychotherapy of cancer survivors (meaning-making, personal growth). He also has a solid research record, with several grants as principal investigator and multiple publications over the last fifteen years, and a longstanding experience of teaching quantitative research methods in their application to psychiatry and of research supervision of MSc students and fellows.

Dr. T. V. Nguyen completed a Master's and a residency in psychiatry at McGill University, as well as a post-doctoral research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in the Sections on Behavioral Endocrinology and Integrative Neuroimaging. She is now Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Obstetrics-Gynecology, McGill University, and a Junior Scientist at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Center (RI-MUHC). Her research interests are centered on the effects of steroid hormones on the CNS, in both health and disease.

Dr. L. Tourian, MD, MSc, FRCPC completed residencies in Psychiatry and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology at McGill University. He has served as Psychiatry Residency Program Director, and is Associate Dean of Postgraduate Medical Education. His clinical and research interest is Pain Psychiatry, and he is liaison psychiatrist at the Pain Management Unit. His research focus in pain involves the management of depression in patients with chronic neuropathic pain treated with long-term opioids. Dr. Tourian's clinical areas of interest and expertise involve the management of complex medical cases, and he serves as liaison psychiatrist to the ICU at the Montreal General Hospital.

Major Strengths:

Members of the teaching faculty, from broadly diverse backgrounds and areas of clinical expertise, provide supervision on the many various and complex cases encountered at a large university health center, the MUHC. The fellow has the opportunity to undertake research in the different sub-specialized areas of Consultation Liaison psychiatry, HIV, Neuropsychiatry, psycho-oncology, and pain psychiatry.

In addition, some of the supervisors have had psychoanalytic training as well as extensive experience in consultation-liaison psychiatry, which enables them to offer a psychodynamic understanding of the clinical cases and a perspective on group dynamics in the complex medical

setting. Members of the teaching faculty have extensive research experience, including quantitative research, and have supervised MSc. students as well as clinical fellows.

Description of Fellowship:

The fellowship year will consist of three components:

- The first will focus on developing advanced clinical expertise in the care and management of a wide variety of cases seen in the medical/surgical setting. The fellow will carry out the clinical component of the fellowship doing consultations on the inpatient medical/surgical wards, as well as providing out-patient consultations under the supervision of the C-L psychiatry staff at various sites in the network.
- The second component will consist of completing an academic project (research, meta-analysis, literature review) in a specific area of C/L psychiatry such as Psycho-oncology, HIV Psychiatry, Neuropsychiatry. Based upon her/his area of interest, the fellow will choose a specialized area to design and complete a project under the supervision of the psychiatrist specialized in that domain. During this portion of the fellowship, the fellow will also be involved in clinical work in that field. This project is expected to yield a submission for publication.
- The third component entails the acquisition of organizational and administrative skills necessary to develop, staff, and manage a C/L service. The fellow will acquire an understanding of the functions of members of interdisciplinary C/L teams. Throughout the fellowship year, the Director of the C/L service will provide mentoring as well as guiding for the fellow to critically review the pertinent literature and discuss its application to her/his future site of practice.

Academic Facilities:

- The fellow will provide consultations to inpatient medical/surgical/obstetrical wards at the MUHC's three adult sites, tertiary care services
- The fellow will be provided with an office and a computer
- The fellow will have access to McGill Libraries and services of a McGill Librarian
- The interdisciplinary C-L teams include competent Clinical Nurse Specialists who collaborate in consultations to patients, as well as a staff psychologist.
- The HIV clinic of the Montreal Chest Institute at the Glen site staffed by an expert interdisciplinary team, operates on Mondays and Thursdays

- Psycho-oncology services offer comprehensive diagnostic evaluations and treatment for in and out-patients, as well as their families, at the MUHC Cancer Center located at the Glen site, and operate daily
- In-patient Neuropsychiatry at the Montreal Neurological Hospital includes daily consultation to both medical and surgical neurological wards, to the Neurological Intensive Care Unit and to the specialized Epilepsy Unit, as well as out-patient consultations to Neurology clinics, the Gynecology Clinic, including consultations to premenstrual dysphoric disorder as well as mood and anxiety disorders related to the menopausal transition; the Obstetrics Clinic, seeing patients with psychiatric disorders during pregnancy and postpartum; the Epilepsy Clinic, evaluating and treating patients with neuropsychiatric comorbidities of epilepsy Neuropsychiatry, evaluating and treating patients with neurocognitive disorders and other general neuropsychiatric disorders.

Fellow duties and responsibilities:

- The fellow will not be on day or evening call to cover general psychiatric emergencies
- Consultation requests will be forwarded from all the in-patient wards of the MUHC through a service secretary to the fellow
- The fellow will respond to in-patient consultation requests at his assigned hospital for the clinical component of the fellowship
- The fellow will do clinical and academic work in his specialized area of interest, supervised by the expert in the field e.g. out-patient HIV psychiatry at the Glen, Psycho-oncology at the Glen Cancer Center, Neuropsychiatry at the MNI
- The fellow will collaborate with students and residents on the service according to their graded responsibilities appropriate to the level of training
- The fellow will have the assistance of a service secretary and collaboration of a liaison nurse and a clinical nurse

Participation in Academic Activities:

- The fellow will supervise some of the clinical work of junior residents and students, and will deliver a didactic session on a relevant topic
- The fellow will attend the weekly C/L Academic rounds and present at these rounds once per semester
- The fellow will prepare and deliver an academic presentation at Psychiatry Grand Rounds once during the academic year
- The fellow will be encouraged and assisted to present at the academic rounds of the medical service in which they are developing their project

- The fellow will be encouraged to attend a national or international meeting in C/L psychiatry, for which some funding will be made available
- Supervising staff will guide the fellow's reading by suggesting appropriate references

Curriculum

- The fellow's case load will vary according to the complexity of cases in their area of endeavor
- The fellow will be involved in an average of 7 new consultations per week, as well as provide the necessary follow-up for these cases
- A variety of cases will be assigned from medical, surgical wards and the specialized areas of interest
- The fellow will be involved in an average of 3 out-patient assessments per week