Personality Disorders Fellowship

Name of Institution: McGill University Health Centre, Department of Psychiatry

Location: Allan Memorial, 1025 Pine Avenue O.
Number of positions: 1
Type of Fellowship: personality disorders
Length: 1 year

Program Information (appended):

- Number of fellowship positions requested--1
- Academic affiliation—this program is supervised by two faculty members (Drs. Joel Paris and Ronald Fraser)
- Name of hospitals involved in training--1
  - % time spent by the fellow in each institution
- Background: The program has been in existence since 2001 and has previously trained several residents.
- Research activity: Dr. Joel Paris, and Dr. Lise Laporte (psychologist) are actively pursuing research and have recently completed an FRSQ grant-supported project.
- Publications: see attached CV for Joel Paris
- Mission: to provide high quality specialty care, to teach the management of PDs, and to conduct research.
- Outline how intended fellowship will enhance residency training: A resident in this program would be supervised in advanced methods of group and individual therapy, as well as rehabilitation methods, It would also provide experience in research under the supervision of Joel Paris.

Name of the Fellowship Program Director: Joel Paris

Names of the Teaching Faculty
- Roles: Joel Paris, MD, psychiatrist
  Ronald Fraser, MD, psychiatrist
  Jennifer 'Russell, PhD, psychologist
  Lise Laporte, PhD, psychologist
- Summary of clinical practice: all above are highly experienced clinicians with published research
- Major Strengths: this program is uniquely set up to provide training for an unusually challenging group of patients,

Academic Facilities
- Outline facilities for clinical and academic pursuit
We treat about 30 patients in the 12-week program and 40-50 in the long-term program. Residents can also participate in community consultations conducted by Dr. Paris and learn to use instruments for diagnostic assessment,

- Library access, materials relevant to fellowship training: All residents have access to a modern library and a computer.
- Multimedia learning materials available: We video all assessments in the long-term program, which allows us to critique interviewing skills more precisely.
- Availability of a skills lab if applicable—N/A

**Fellow Duties and Responsibilities**

- Call responsibilities to cover service—no call
- Include whether the fellow is the senior supervisor of residents—no
- Outline whether there are fixed rotations at various institutions—no
- Outpatient clinic responsibilities need to be outlined—consults and treatment as noted
- Outline role of the fellow towards residents on service—n/a
- Teaching responsibilities towards residents—n/a
- Outline participation in academic activities involving the residents: seminars, outcome assessment (morbidity and mortality rounds etc)—we have teaching seminars for residents which the fellow could participate in
- Describe any support staff available to the fellow: program coordinator, nurse clinician, secretarial—our clinical coordinator runs the program
- Proposed meetings to be attended by the fellow—personality disorder conferences
- Research productivity and publications expected by the Fellow—a project should be developed and supervised by Dr. Paris, leading to publication

**Curriculum**

- Intended case load—resident should do two groups and carry about 5-6 patients individually
- Intended Percentage of varieties of cases—most cases will be BPD or recovered from BPD
- Regular reading materials provided (if any)—to be assigned by Dr. Paris
- Conference weekly schedules—two weekly team meetings plus individual supervision from Drs. Paris and Fraser
- Role of the fellow in attending, presenting, supervising, organization—fellow expected to give at least one grand rounds to the department

**Personality Disorder Program at MUHC**

- The Personality Disorder program consists of two parts: 1) a 12-week treatment for acutely ill patients with borderline personality disorder; 2) a 6 month to 2 year treatment for chronic personality disordered patients.
- The 12-week program is supervised by Dr. Joel Paris. It uses weekly group and individual therapy to deal with crises and to teach patients alternatives to pathological behaviors such as cutting and overdosing.
The extended care program is supervised by Dr. Ronald Fraser. It is directed at patients who have been treatment failures and who have been in the system for extended periods. It also consists of weekly group and individual therapy, but with a greater emphasis on rehabilitation and life skills. Patients contract for 6 months and can be renewed for up to two years. The model for both programs is eclectic, applying evidence-based methods to this difficult population.

The program has taught residents for several years. It has also been the basis for research and publications (see CV of Dr. Paris). We are linked through the RUIS structure to similar clinics at JGH, Douglas, and St. Mary’s. We do consults on PD patients for the hospital. Finally, we conduct a large number of consults for the community.

**PUBLICATIONS**

a) Recent Articles in peer-reviewed journals


122. Predicting and Preventing Suicide: Do We Know Enough to Do Either? Harvard Review of Psychiatry, 14: 233-240, 2006,


127. Why psychiatrists don’t diagnose borderline personality disorder. Psychiatry-2007 4:1 (online)


140. Recent advances in research on personality disorders (invited paper for Current Psychiatry Reviews, on line)


