

Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Fellowship

Name of institution: McGill University Health Center

Type of Fellowship: Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Number of fellowship positions requested: One

Duration of Fellowship: 1 year.

Hospitals involved in training: McGill University Health Center, including Montreal General, Royal Victoria, Montreal Chest Institute and Montreal Neurological Hospital sites

Time spent by the fellow in each institution: MGH- 50%

RVH - 40%

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. Annette Granich

Names of Teaching Faculty:

The teaching faculty comprises Drs. C. Benkelfat, M-J. Brouillette, D. Engels, G. Galbaud du Fort, A. Granich, L. Hoffman, G. Low, L. Pinard, Z. Prelevic, B. Presser, R. A. Ramsay, A. Wilner. This is an expert group of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatrists with an average of 25 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. A. Granich, Director, Consultation-Liaison Service MUHC

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, McGill University; supervisor in general consultations, with specialized expertise in geriatric psychiatry. Dr. Granich has had extensive experience in administrative aspects of C/L psychiatry, has presented at national and international conferences on the role of Liaison in C/L Psychiatry and is currently on the board of the Canadian Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine. She will meet weekly with the fellow to supervise her/his academic work on various aspects of C/L service delivery, Liaison functions, and the roles of interdisciplinary members of a C/L team.

Dr. Marie-Josée Brouillette is Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, McGill University. She has been the consultant psychiatrist for the Immunodeficiency Clinic of the MUHC, Montreal Chest Institute site, since 1990. She was the co-editor of a training manual on HIV and Psychiatry developed under the auspices of the Canadian Psychiatric Association and Health Canada in 1996. This manual was re-written and published by Cambridge University Press in 2005. Her research is in the field of neuropsychiatric aspects on Interferon-alpha; one trial runs across several sites in Canada and has introduced the use of telepsychiatry in research.

Dr. Guillaume 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. A. Wilner, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, McGill University, is a C/L psychiatrist with specialized expertise in Consultation and Liaison to Neurological, Renal and Transplant Services. Dr. Wilner has extensive clinical experience in adult C/L psychiatry to in-patients and out-patients. His neurological C/L expertise includes consultations to in-patients at the MNH, including neurological medical and surgical wards, the neurological Intensive Care Unit, and the Epilepsy Unit. Dr. Wilner will meet daily with the fellow to supervise her/his academic and clinical work with neurological patients. He will also oversee the preparation and completion of an academic endeavor in the field, to be submitted for publication.

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. 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 one 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 designated for the Mental Health Mission
- The interdisciplinary C-L teams include competent Clinical Nurse Specialists who collaborate in consultations to patients
- The HIV clinic at the Montreal Chest Institute is 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 MGH 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

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 Montreal Chest Institute, Psycho-oncology at the MGH oncology department in and out-patients, 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 clinical nurse specialist

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 and 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