

2023-2024



Pre-doctoral Residency Program in Clinical Neuropsychology

Contact the Director of Training with any questions or for further information:

Dr. Esther Direnfeld, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Hamilton Health Sciences
Regional Rehabilitation Centre
First Floor Mailroom
300 Wellington Street North
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 8E7
Email: direnfelde@hhsc.ca

Contents

The Residency Setting	2
The Clinical Neuropsychology Training Program	3
Program Coordination/ Supervision & Evaluation	4
COVID-19 Impact	5
Funding/Equipment & Educational Opportunities	5
Program Evaluation and Research	6
Core Rotations	6-7
Minor/Optional Rotations	8-9
Qualifications & Application Process	10-11
Public Disclosure Table	12
Residency Training Staff	13-14
Appendix – Sample Schedules	15-16

The Clinical Neuropsychology Residency Program is accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association for 6 years (2015/2016 to 2021/2022). We are currently undergoing reaccreditation with our site visit occurring in the summer or fall of 2022.

**Dr. Esther Direnfeld Ph.D.,
C.Psych.**
Director of Residency Training in
Clinical Neuropsychology

Hamilton Health Sciences
Regional Rehabilitation Centre
First Floor Mailroom
300 Wellington Street North
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 8E7
Email: direnfelde@hhsc.ca

The Residency Setting

Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) is located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Home to more than half a million residents, Hamilton is situated at the western tip of Lake Ontario midway between Niagara Falls and Toronto. It is the site of McMaster University, known internationally for its innovative medical school and research programs and the home of evidence-based practice. Hamilton has a rich cultural community with its own professional theatre company, art gallery, and professional sports teams. The Royal Botanical Gardens and the Bruce Trail are within minutes of the hospital sites. *Visit www.hamilton.ca or www.tourismhamilton.com for more information about the City of Hamilton.*

Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) is comprised of 5 hospitals and 4 specialized centres, serving more than 2.2 million residents in Central South and Central West Ontario. Each of the facilities offers specialized services that together make HHS one of the most comprehensive health care systems in Canada. All of the hospitals at Hamilton Health Sciences are teaching hospitals affiliated with the Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University. This allows patients to benefit from innovative treatments/research and staff and students to actively participate in research and teaching endeavours. The entire corporation is committed to a client-centered, evidence-based approach to health care.

Visit www.hamiltonhealthsciences.ca for information re: hospital services.

The Residency in Clinical Neuropsychology is mainly based out of Hamilton General Hospital (HGH), which is recognized as a regional centre of excellence in cardiovascular care, neurosciences, trauma and burn treatment. The regional Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program, Integrated Stroke Program and General Neuropsychology Consultative Service are all located in the accessible Regional Rehabilitation Centre (RRC) on-site at HGH. Adult Epilepsy and other Neuroscience programs are located in the main building at HGH. Residents may also become involved in pediatric rotations at McMaster Children's Hospital and in new medical clinics set up at McMaster University Medical Centre (MUMC) site, where multidisciplinary management of complex health conditions takes place. Some educational opportunities and minor rotations will also be available at the Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre located on Wellington Street across from the RRC.

Psychology staff at Hamilton Health Sciences, including over 30 Psychologists, as well as Psychometrists and Behavioural Therapists, are integral members of interdisciplinary teams with diverse backgrounds, such as clinical psychology, school psychology, neuropsychology, applied behavioural analysis, rehabilitation, and health psychology. Most of the psychologists and many of the non-doctoral psychology staff have cross appointments with McMaster University in the Faculty of Health Sciences. The Residency provides an invaluable opportunity to learn from and interact with students, clinicians and faculty in medicine, psychiatry, social work, speech/language pathology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and other health professional disciplines.

***HHS Mission:** To provide excellent health care for the people and communities we serve and to advance health care through education and research.*

***HHS Vision:** Best Care For All.*

The Clinical Neuropsychology Training Program

There are two Residency programs at HHS: **Clinical Neuropsychology** (2 positions) and **Clinical Child Psychology** (2 positions). Details regarding the Clinical Child Psychology program are contained in a separate brochure, *HHS Predoctoral Residency in Clinical Child Psychology*.

The Clinical Neuropsychology Residency program is a full-time commitment over the course of one calendar year from September 5, 2023 to August 30, 2024, and will provide Residents with well over the minimum of 1600 hours of supervised experience. Residents are typically assigned to core rotations in the Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (ABIP), in the Integrated Stroke Program, and in Adult Consultation Neuropsychology; however, there is some flexibility, depending on the Residents' training goals. Typically, they spend about 1.5 to 2 days per week devoted to each of these core areas for about 5-6 months. In addition, Residents have opportunities to participate in group treatment and to carry individual short-term and long-term treatment cases, often through the ABIP program, over the course of the entire Residency with designated time devoted to treatment. They are also briefly exposed to neurodevelopmental issues through seminars in Pediatric Neuropsychology, or through a minor or major rotation in this area. In addition, Residents have the opportunity to select 1 or 2 minor rotations in an area of interest (e.g., Pain Clinic, Epilepsy, Specialized Developmental and Behavioural Services, etc.), which typically consists of 1 to 2 days per week for 3 to 6 months. Rotations and educational opportunities are available to Residents, provided they have the necessary educational background and a qualified Supervisor is available. Please see the Appendix for sample schedules.

Residents typically spend the first 2-4 weeks reviewing and ensuring that they are efficient in the administration and scoring of a variety of psychometric tools plus other testing procedures, then move on to their various rotations. Although there are core requirements, within each of the rotations, Residents have the opportunity to set individual goals and select experiences with their Supervisors that meet their particular needs and interests. Through the primary core rotations and minor rotations, Residents will be exposed to a wide variety of assessment and treatment experiences in diverse patient clinical and cultural populations and have the opportunity to work with a variety of Psychologists, interdisciplinary professionals on hospital teams and possibly community agencies. The Clinical Neuropsychology Residency program provides a supervised opportunity for the integrated application of the theoretical, clinical, professional, and ethical knowledge and skills acquired during graduate training. Residents are expected to develop core competence in the neuropsychological and psychological assessment and treatment of patients with a range of medical, psychiatric, neurological, behavioural, and emotional difficulties, and more highly developed and independent skills in evidence-based psychological approaches. Supervision in the acquisition and refinement of assessment, formulation, and therapeutic skills is available in behavioural, psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioural, group dynamics, neuropsychological, and rehabilitation principles and techniques.

Program Philosophy & Mission

In keeping with the mission of Hamilton Health Sciences, the Clinical Neuropsychology Residency Program is committed to providing exceptional care through a scientist-practitioner approach and advancing health care through education and research by emphasizing the bi-directional relationship between science and practice. As such, the training of Residents emphasizes the review of research to inform clinical practice; the use of empirically-supported, evidence-based assessment and treatment approaches where indicated; integration of structured evaluations of emerging approaches to inform clinical care; clinically-relevant research; and individualized or tailored interventions, ultimately to best meet the needs of the patients served.

Our goal is to train the next generation of clinical neuropsychologists who are caring, compassionate, and collaborative. We support our Residents to develop their own professional identity through a developmental approach to training within a learner-centered environment. We promote the achievement of individual training goals within the context of developing the essential functional and foundational competencies that form the basis of clinical neuropsychology. Our Residency program provides the opportunity to gain both depth and breadth in a wide range of clinical activities, including experience in interdisciplinary teamwork, which is a critical component in providing quality patient care. We value equity, diversity, and inclusion; recognize the impact of systemic barriers to accessing care; and actively seek to reduce these barriers.

Program Coordination/Supervision

Dr. Drenfeld, the Director of Training (DoT) for the Neuropsychology Residency Program, is a Psychologist with a Practice in Clinical Psychology & Neuropsychology. She is responsible for coordinating the Residents' schedules to ensure depth and breadth in their training and that there are opportunities to meet the core requirements in assessment/consultation and treatment. Residents' interests and goals are taken into consideration for optional rotations, though this depends to some extent on the Resident's background training and on the availability of supervisors/opportunities in any given year. Supervisors for the various rotations will discuss objectives and identify opportunities available within their rotations to offer Residents a tailored experience and collaborate on their individualized goals/interests for the Residency year.

Residents and their Supervisors complete regular progress evaluations and Residents are encouraged to provide feedback about the training experience. The DoT will also meet regularly with the Residents across the year (approximately once per month) to facilitate their training experience, ensure that core requirements for successful completion are being met, and support Residents in achieving work-life balance.

A minimum of four hours of direct supervision per week with Registered Psychologists is provided. The aim is for Residents to work toward greater levels of independence in their skill set, diagnostics, and clinical practice across rotations. Residents will have exposure to a wide variety of supervisor styles and have opportunities to develop their own supervision skills in interactions with non-registered psychology staff and possibly supervising practicum placements at HHS. Residents themselves are provided supervision in this regard and seminars are offered on this topic.

Evaluation

Regular formal review and evaluation of each Resident's progress is scheduled four times during the course of the program (mid and end points for each of the core rotations). Residents are expected to complete all of the core requirements defined for each of their rotations along with the broader core competency areas. Each of the Resident's supervisors rates them on a range of functional competencies for assessment/consultation and intervention skills, and foundational competencies (including professionalism, reflective practice, awareness of diversity, scientific knowledge and methods, ethics and interdisciplinary systems). By the end of each core rotation, Supervisors must rate the Resident as meeting expectations according to the competency definitions. During the evaluation meeting, plans for opportunities and experiences to meet core competencies and develop skills in the other rotations will be discussed. If required, specific recommendations to remedy deficiencies in the program or in the Resident's progress are made. A summary of the Resident's performance and training experiences are forwarded to the graduate department of the student's home university. Residents have opportunities to provide formal evaluation of the program and supervisors to help us improve current and future Residents' experiences.

Supervision Model & Experiences

Residents receive at least 4 hours of direct supervision weekly throughout their Residency year. Tailored goals are set within each of the rotations with the Residents to develop their clinical skill set and any areas/opportunities determined to be important for working toward establishing their own professional identity. The aim is for Residents to work toward greater levels of independence in all aspects of their (neuro) psychological practice across rotations, and to be at a level prepared for supervised practice at the end of their Residency training year.

An educational seminar is provided on supervision to introduce Residents to various models and responsibilities in this regard. Opportunities are sought out for Residents to develop their supervision skills in interactions with non-registered psychology staff and practicum students when available.

HHS & Residency Training Program Values

Respect: *We will treat every person with dignity and courtesy.*

Caring: *We will act with concern for the well being of every person.*

Innovation: *We will be creative and open to new ideas and opportunities.*

Accountability: *We will create value and accept responsibility for our activities.*

COVID-19 Impact

The impact of COVID-19 on the 2023-2024 residency cycle remains unclear at this time. Although paid employees, residents are considered learners within HHS, meaning that decisions about whether they are allowed to be onsite and/or engage in direct patient care are determined by the Office of Interprofessional Education, not the Director of Training. Please be advised that it is possible that some of the descriptions in this brochure may be impacted by COVID-19 disruptions and restrictions within HHS. Some rotations may be unavailable or available only with modifications. Residents may be involved with in-person patient contact, virtual care, or a combination of the two. Residents coming from out of province may be required to self-quarantine for two weeks before starting onsite work at HHS. On-site care may require residents to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks. Effective September 2021, all employees and learners at HHS are required to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 (or written proof of a medical reason).

It is important to note that to date, none of our Residents have been re-deployed during the pandemic, and future re-deployment of residents is not expected. In addition, no rotations were significantly impacted within the 2021-2022 residency cycle and residents remained on site throughout the entire residency year.

This residency program is committed to the training of future psychologists, and achieving core competencies will continue to be our top priority. We are hopeful that the 2023-2024 residency year will be minimally impacted by COVID-19.

Funding/Equipment

The Residency positions are currently funded at just over \$39,800 per year. Residents are entitled to 10 paid vacation days and 12 paid statutory holidays, in lieu of benefits.

Educational Opportunities

In addition to the clinical rotations, Residents are expected to participate in regular educational and research experiences during their Residency year. The equivalent of a half-day every other week is devoted to these activities. Residents have an opportunity to come together with the Residents from the Clinical Child Psychology program and sometimes other learners (e.g., psychiatry residents, practicum students, etc.) for the monthly Wednesday afternoon seminar series. A wide variety of topics are presented by staff Psychologists/Psychiatrists and guest speakers from across the city (e.g., evidence-based clinical case formulations, suicide risk assessment, diversity, supervision, compassion fatigue, psychopharmacology, etc.). A regular series of ethics and professional practice seminars are also held for Residents to provide an opportunity to discuss professional issues and jurisprudence and guide them in preparation for the registration process with the College of Psychologists of Ontario. There are Neuropsychology-specific seminars held two to four times per month on Fridays during the lunch hour. These include both didactic topics and case conceptualization sessions. Residents are also expected to participate in a monthly meeting for the Psychology Anti-Racism and Inclusion group.

Part of the Neuropsychology-specific seminar series includes Pediatric Neuropsychology topics so that Residents gain exposure to neurodevelopmental issues. The seminars will cover a variety of common pediatric neuropsychological disorders. The goal is to provide background knowledge of common pediatric neuropsychological profiles that should be considered when working within an adult population. Some prior training experience in pediatric assessment is required as a prerequisite in order to be considered for the minor or major rotation.

The Clinical Neuropsychology Residents have other training and educational opportunities available, such as rounds in psychiatry, neurosciences/trauma and rehabilitation held throughout the hospital system on a regular basis (e.g., Psychology Lunch'n'Learns, St. Joe's Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Acute Stroke Rounds, Neurology Teaching Series, Epilepsy Rounds, Neuroscience Rounds, Stroke Journal Club, Pediatric Brain Hour, etc.).

Training Model & Key Competencies

Training in core competencies is obtained through supervised core & minor rotations in the direct provision of clinical services:

- ◆ *Assessment & Consultation— neuropsychological and psychological testing, formulations & communication of findings*
- ◆ *Intervention— development & implementation of cognitive rehabilitation, psychological treatment & behavioural plans*
- ◆ *Individual & Cultural Diversity*
- ◆ *Reflective Practice*
- ◆ *Scientific Knowledge & Methods*
- ◆ *Ethics & Professionalism*
- ◆ *Functioning within Interdisciplinary Systems*

Residents are given opportunities to develop these competencies/ skills through a breadth and depth of training experiences. Practical training is complemented by involvement in interdisciplinary team meetings/ case conferences; research, teaching and supervision opportunities; as well as case formulation/ didactic and ethical/ professional seminars.

Program Evaluation and Research

Program evaluation is a required area of training during the residency year, under the mentorship and guidance of a Program Evaluation Coordinator. Regular meetings with the coordinator, in addition to didactic training in the seminar series, help provide foundational knowledge in program evaluation.

Residents are required to complete a program evaluation project during their Residency year, under the supervision of a Psychologist. The project can be conducted within one of their clinical rotations or the broader hospital. These projects are intended to be practical and aligned with resident training goals. At the conclusion of these projects, residents are required to disseminate the knowledge gained to major stakeholders, such as program leadership and clinicians, either via a brief 1-page description of findings or a brief presentation. Residents are able to allocate 5 full days (i.e., 37.5 hours) to work on program evaluation activities. Final evaluation of this residency component is provided by the supervising psychologist and the Program Evaluation Coordinator.

Residents are also required to present research at least once over the course of the year. This can be in the form of a poster (e.g., Psychiatry Research Day) or a seminar/rounds (e.g., Psychiatry Rounds, RJCHC rounds, Neuropsychology Lunch n' Learn).

Equity Diversity Inclusion and Cultural Humility

Our program is committed to ensuring that diversity awareness and cultural humility are upheld throughout every aspect of training. Each resident is expected to participate in the Psychology Anti-Racism and Inclusion group throughout the residency year. Beyond this, residents are expected to approach clinical work from a standpoint of cultural humility at all times.

Clinical Neuropsychology Program—Core Rotations

Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (ABIP) - Inpatient Rotations and Outpatient Treatment Rotations (Individual & Group)
Dr. Joanna Sue, C.Psych., Dr. Kate Bartley, C.Psych (Supervised Practice), Dr. Tiffany O'Connor (Returning from MLOA in December 2023), Dr. Emilie Sheppard, C.Psych., Dr. Esther Dierenfeld, C.Psych., Dr. Diana Velikonja, C.Psych.

The ABIP, located in the Regional Rehabilitation Centre (RRC) at the HGH, is a provincially established service designed to provide inpatient and outpatient treatment and continuity of care to adults who have sustained brain injuries (not limited to trauma). It is comprised of an inpatient ward served by two interdisciplinary teams, a day hospital, and a community services program as well as an outpatient clinic. The Neuropsychologists and Psychometrists on the interdisciplinary teams provide assessment (behavioural, emotional and neuropsychological), consultation, and direct treatment/intervention (behaviour management, cognitive rehabilitation strategies, individual and group therapy). The Residents will have the opportunity to see patients across the different units within ABIP. A brief description of the services offered under ABIP follows.

The Community Re-integration Unit (CRU) is an inpatient setting where Residents work within an interdisciplinary team consisting of a Neuropsychologist, Psychiatrists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Social Workers, Behaviour Therapists, Rehabilitation Therapists, and Registered Nurses. Residents are responsible for conducting neuropsychological evaluations to assist with treatment and discharge planning, attending and presenting at case conferences, providing feedback regarding patients' neurocognitive, emotional and behavioural status at family meetings, developing cognitive rehabilitation interventions and behavioural interventions, and sometimes conducting individual treatment using various modalities.

As part of the CRU rotation, Residents will also have the opportunity to consult on interesting cases from in the Slow To Recover Program, which services patients with complex medical/neurological presentations.

The ABIP Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Unit is an inpatient Provincial Program for individuals with ABI who display challenging behavioural and/or mental health issues. Lengths of stay on the unit vary in duration from a few weeks to several months due to the complexity of the patients admitted. The program provides a transdisciplinary rehabilitation program that addresses cognitive and physical needs in conjunction with a concurrent behaviour management program. Patients range in age from 16 to 70+ years. The Resident works closely with the Neuropsychologists, Psychometrists, and Behavioural Therapist in their assessment of patients with complex difficulties. Neuropsychological assessments are completed with patients on the unit and results are shared with the treatment team during weekly rounds. The assessment results inform treatment and discharge planning. Residents also often have the opportunity to collaborate with other team members, such as Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Social Workers, Rehabilitation Therapists and Registered Nurses, as well as the Psychiatrist, Hospitalist, and Psychiatrist.

Neuropsychology Residents are also involved in the Outpatient Clinic, mainly to provide group and individual treatment to patients with acquired brain injuries. Typical types of issues that are addressed in treatment involve post-concussive symptoms, mood and anxiety, adjustment issues, and post-traumatic stress disorder/symptoms. Residents may also have the opportunity to work in collaboration with Outreach Therapists, who under the direction of psychology staff, design and implement programs in the community.

Integrated Stroke Program

Dr. Justine Spencer, C.Psych. (Returning from MLOA in October 2023)

The Integrated Stroke Program located at the HGH and RRC consists of two inpatient units that offers acute medical care and rehabilitative services to individuals who have suffered from strokes or other cerebrovascular conditions. Patients cover the adult span, including older adults, and often have complex medical and/or psychosocial histories. The Resident actively collaborates on cases as part of the interdisciplinary team and regularly participates in inpatient clinical team rounds. Residents have an opportunity to work closely with a variety of disciplines. Residents provide neuropsychological assessments, emotional and behavioural evaluations, and consultations on a wide variety of clinical issues (e.g., identify differential and comorbid diagnoses, identify barriers to rehabilitation and offer strategies, offer recommendations around discharge planning, etc.). Residents work toward implementing a flexible process approach to assessment and readily integrate behavioural observation and relevant medical information into their interpretations and diagnostic formulations. They have the opportunity to provide tailored feedback to the client, teams, family members, and community professionals as applicable. Educational rounds are also available in the stroke program.

Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services

Dr. Ayse Unsal, C.Psych.

The Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services is located in the RRC at HGH. Residents work with the Neuropsychologist and Psychometrists. Training in adult neuropsychological assessment with a wide range of neurological and psychiatric difficulties is provided. The types of patients seen often include auto-immunological (i.e., HIV, Lupus, MS, etc.), non Alzheimer's degenerative diseases (i.e., Parkinson's Disease, Huntington's Chorea, etc.), infectious disorders, seizure disorders, neurotoxic conditions, follow-up strokes, occasional traumatic injuries, as well as psychiatric and other medical conditions that affect cognitive functioning. A major focus of this rotation is conducting differential diagnosis with respect to the above-mentioned neurological and psychiatric disorders and offering an opinion as well as treatment recommendations to the referring Physician. In this rotation, Residents are involved in conducting a clinical neurodiagnostic interview, reviewing available medical documents, obtaining collateral information, conducting psychometric testing, integrating all data and offering a clinical formulation/opinion in a comprehensive report, as well as communicating findings in a feedback session to the referred client.

Program Structure

Residents participate in three core services:

- ◆ *Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program*
- ◆ *Integrated Stroke Program*
- ◆ *Adult Outpatient Consultation Neuropsychology Service*

Residents are exposed to neurodevelopmental issues through participating in seminars focused on Pediatric Neuropsychology. An opportunity to complete a minor or major rotation in Pediatric Neuropsychology may be available, depending on the resident's prior training experience and supervisor availability.

Depending on interests, goals, and time availability, Residents typically select at least one minor rotation.

Clinical Neuropsychology Program—Minor/Optional Rotations

Depending on interests, goals and time availability, Residents typically select 1 or 2 minor rotations, which are listed below.

Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic

Dr. Eleni Hapidou, C.Psych., Dr. Laura Katz, C.Psych., Dr. Gregory Tippin, C.Psych., & Dr. Abigail Muere, C.Psych.

The Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic at McMaster University Medical Centre focuses on chronic pain from clinical, health, and rehabilitation psychology perspectives. Clients vary widely in demographic, socio-economic, educational, and vocational factors. The clinic features two interprofessional outpatient programs: (1) an intensive 5-week multi-modal third party funded program and (2) a publicly-funded program that focuses on the specific needs of patients. Residents may be involved in leading or co-leading psycho-educational classes and group therapy (e.g., on focused topics such as self-talk, sleep, grief and loss, mindfulness / relaxation) and providing one-to-one, couples, or family therapy/counseling following primarily, but not exclusively, a CBT model, and assessing the psychological status of clients and the implications for treatment under the direction of the Registered Psychologists.

Psychosocial Oncology Program

Dr. Karen Zhang, C.Psych. (Returning from MLOA in January 2023), Dr. Danielle Petricone-Westwood, C.Psych

The Psychosocial Oncology Program (PSO) at the Juravinski Cancer Centre is dedicated to helping adult patients and their families cope with the psychological, emotional, social, spiritual, and functional impact of cancer. The program provides outpatient and inpatient care across the cancer continuum and for a variety of cancer disease sites, including breast, lung, head and neck, haematology, gastrointestinal, gynecological, genitourinary, central nervous system, skin, endocrine and sarcoma. Residents actively work as part of an interdisciplinary team consisting of psychologist, psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, dieticians, and oncologists. Training opportunities may include providing psychological assessments for distress and functioning, inpatient consultations, and short-term individual and group interventions. Psychological interventions target anxiety, mood, grief, end-of-life concerns, caregiver burden, body image, fatigue, insomnia, adherence and adjustment-related concerns. Residents may also co-lead psycho-education sessions to build staff, patient and caregiver capacity to address psychosocial needs that impact cancer care. Opportunities for program evaluation and research may also be available.

Adult Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU)

Dr. Jennifer Fogarty, C.Psych.

Residents will work in the Outpatient Epilepsy Clinic that is associated with the Adult EMU, both located at the Hamilton General Hospital site. Patients range in age from 18 to 70+ years. The Resident would work closely with the Neuropsychologist and Psychometrist in their assessment of patients diagnosed with Epilepsy who have been identified as potential surgical candidates. On occasion, there are patients with Epilepsy who are not surgical candidates but where other issues are addressed in the context of a neuropsychological assessment (e.g., return to work or school concerns; reports of cognitive decline). There are surgical rounds once per month, and there are epilepsy educational rounds that occur weekly for approximately four months out of the year through Project ECHO. The Resident's primary responsibility would be to complete neuropsychological assessments, including interviews with patients, test selection, interpretation/formulations, report writing, and feedbacks with patients. Assessments typically only take place on Tuesdays and Fridays and availability in the schedule would have to be considered when selecting this minor rotation.

Residents typically select 1 or 2 minor rotations depending on interests, goals and time availability to diversify their learning experiences and meet their individualized goals.

Residents can choose minor rotations from adult or pediatric programs available throughout HHS provided the Resident has the necessary education/qualifications and a qualified supervisor is available. See Clinical Child Psychology brochure for additional opportunities.

Pediatric Oncology, Epilepsy Surgery, Neurology, & Neurosurgery Neuropsychological Services

Dr. Cheryl Alyman, C.Psych., Dr. Nevena Simic, C.Psych., Dr. Stephanie Lavoie, C.Psych (Returning from MLOA in December 2023), , Dr. Julie Irwin, C.Psych.

Residents may complete a minor rotation in Pediatric Neuropsychology for exposure to neurodevelopmental issues. This will provide an opportunity to shadow 2-3 assessment cases. There may also be an opportunity to do a longer rotation in Pediatric Neuropsychology (i.e., a major rotation) depending on supervisor availability in any given year. Some prior training experience in pediatric assessment is required as a prerequisite in order to be considered for the extension of this rotation. Pediatric Neuropsychology Services are located at MUMC as part of McMaster Children's Hospital. These services provide clinical neuropsychological and psychological assessments to pediatric and adolescent inpatients and outpatients with a variety of neurological, psychiatric, behavioural, and learning disorders (e.g., leukemia, brain tumours, epilepsy, encephalitis, stroke, mood and anxiety disorders, autism or other neurodevelopmental conditions, etc.). The Resident will be involved in interviewing children and family members, reviewing relevant medical documentation, administering and scoring assessment measures, providing feedback to family, children and team members, as well as preparing written reports. Residents may also be involved in school feedback meetings, development of community-based treatment plans, implementation of behavioural interventions, or counselling on a case-by-case basis depending on availability. Moreover, Residents can attend and actively participate in interdisciplinary clinical/educational opportunities as time permits (e.g., Tumour Board rounds, Neuro-oncology clinic, Pediatric Brain Hour, etc.).

Specialized Developmental and Behavioural Services (SDBS)

Dr. Olivia Ng, C.Psych. & Dr. Nidhi Luthra, C.Psych.

Specialized Developmental and Behavioural Service (SDBS) is within the Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Service located at the Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre (RJCHC). SDBS provides services for families of children with developmental and complex learning/cognitive difficulties between the ages of 2 and 18. Core disciplines on the team consist of psychology, developmental pediatrics, speech-language pathology, social work, behaviour therapy and early childhood education. SDBS provides services which include assessment, individual therapy for children and adolescents with intellectual disability, parent counselling, parent workshops, behaviour therapy, consultation to colleagues and community agencies, and group intervention. There are various opportunities for Residents including providing psychological assessment, behavioural therapy, and consultation to multidisciplinary colleagues, community agencies, and schools.

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services

Residents may also choose from the available options in the Clinical Child Psychology brochure if interested in this area.

Please note that other minor rotations may become available over the next year.

Qualifications & Application Process

Applicants who are enrolled in a Canadian and/or American Psychological Association accredited doctoral program in clinical neuropsychology are eligible to apply. Students from CPA and/or APA accredited programs in clinical psychology with training in neuropsychology are encouraged to apply, and are advised to highlight the nature and extent of their neuropsychology training in their cover letter (e.g., coursework in neuroanatomy, neuropsychology, a thesis project in neuropsychology, etc.). We are unable to consider applicants from non-accredited programs.

By the time of application, students should have completed a master's degree (or equivalent), all requisite doctoral course work, comprehensive examinations, at least 600 total hours of supervised assessment and treatment practicum experience, and have approval of their thesis proposal. Preferably, this includes at least 300 hours of in-person or virtual patient/client contact (interviewing, assessing, or intervening with clients directly) and at least 150 hours of supervision. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be flexibility in the composition of those hours, although it is recommended that applicants have already obtained substantial experience assessing and interviewing clients and administering neuropsychological instruments.

If you had placements and/or requirements that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, please request that your Director of Clinical Training highlight the nature of this impact in their portion of the APPIC application. We will take those situations into consideration on a case-by-case basis.

International students who are attending accredited graduate programs within Canada will be considered if they have an open work permit that is valid until August 31, 2024. Confirmation of this work permit will be required.

The Hamilton Health Sciences Residency program is a member of APPIC and the Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs (CCPPP) and adheres to APPIC policy regarding Residency offers and acceptances. The Residency participates in the APPIC Internship Matching Program. This site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any rank-related information from any applicant. All applicants must register with the National Matching Services (www.natmatch.com/psychint) and/or APPIC (www.appic.org/) to be considered.

Successful candidates will be required to obtain a police record check, including a vulnerable sector check (at their own expense) and to provide proof that they hold professional liability insurance prior to the start of the residency year.

Applicants are required to complete the standard online APPIC application (www.appic.org), which includes:

- ◆ APPIC APPLICATION FOR PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP form
 - ◆ Curriculum vitae
 - ◆ Transcripts of graduate studies
 - ◆ APPIC Verification of Internship Eligibility and Readiness form
 - ◆ Three letters of reference following the current APPIC format or CCPPP guidelines. At least two letters should be from supervisors familiar with the applicant's clinical skills.
-

The deadline for receipt of the APPIC applications is [November 1, 2022](#).

Questions about the application process can be directed to:

Dr. Esther Direnfeld, C.Psych.
Director of Residency Training in Clinical Neuropsychology
direnfelde@hpsc.ca

NOTE: Applicants should clearly indicate the HHS Residency program to which they are applying— Clinical Neuropsychology (186711). The Clinical Child Psychology program at HHS has a separate match number. If applying to both, please submit two separate applications and rankings.

Completed applications are rated independently by the members of the Neuropsychology Residency Committee and are ranked for consideration of an interview based on qualifications and fit with our training program. Candidates are notified on [Friday, December 2, 2022](#) regarding whether they have been selected for an interview. All applicants invited for interview will be asked to participate in a virtual interview on either Tuesday, January 17th, Monday January 23rd, or Tuesday January 24, 2023. These are the only dates when the interviews will be conducted. Please consider holding these dates in your calendar if you are interested in our program.

The Neuropsychology Residency Committee takes into consideration both the APPIC application and the interviews to determine it's final rank order of candidates. The matching process is completed through the National Matching Service.

NMS match number:
186711—HHS Clinical Neuropsychology Residency Program

In accordance with federal privacy legislation (*Personal Information Protection and Electronics Documents Act*) only information that is required to process your application is collected. This information is secured and is shared only with those individuals involved in the evaluation of your Residency application. If you are not matched with our program, your personal information is destroyed within four months of Match Day.

**Further information on Accreditation can be obtained from the
 CPA Accreditation Office or Online:**

<http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/whatis/>

1-888-472-0657

Email: accreditation@cpa.ca

141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 702
 Ottawa, Ontario
 K1P 5J3

The Clinical Neuropsychology Residency Program is Accredited by the Canadian Psychological Association and is currently undergoing reaccreditation with a site visit occurring in the summer or fall of 2022.

CANADIAN
 PSYCHOLOGICAL
 ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ
 CANADIENNE
 DE PSYCHOLOGIE

Application & Interview Key Details

*All applicants must
 register with the National
 Matching Services
 ([www.natmatch.com/
 psychint](http://www.natmatch.com/psychint)) through APPIC*

**National Match
 Number for the HHS
 Clinical
 Neuropsychology
 Residency Program:
 186711**

Phase I Timelines

*Application Due:
 November 1, 2022*

*Interview
 Notification:
 December 2, 2022*

*Response Date:
 December 5, 2022*

Virtual Interviews Only:

January 17, 2023

January 23, 2023

January 24, 2023

Residency Training Staff

- Ericka Addink, B.A. (Redeemer University in Ancaster, 2005). Psychometrist in Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Cheryl Alyman, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Victoria, 1998). Psychologist in Pediatric Oncology Neuropsychology Services.
- Lynette Atkinson, Ph.D. (University of Roehampton, 2014). Psychometrist with Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Service.
- Kate Bartley, Psy.D, C. Psych, Supervised Practice (Florida Institute of Technology, 2022) Psychologist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Jennifer Cometto, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Windsor, 2013). Child and Youth Mental Health Regional Service.
- Madalena DaSilva, B.A. (University of Waterloo, 1994). Psychometrist in Pediatric Oncology Neuropsychology Services.
- Esther Direnfeld, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Victoria, 2017). Psychologist in the Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Jennifer Fogarty, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Waterloo, 2001). Psychologist in Adult Epilepsy Monitoring Unit.
- Sara Gunn, B.A. (York University, 2012). Psychometrist in the Pediatric Epilepsy Program.
- Eleni Hapidou, Ph.D., C.Psych. (McMaster University, 1989). Psychologist in Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic.
- Stephanie Hornyak, M.Sc. (York University, 2004). Psychometrist in Stroke Rehabilitation Program.
- Julie Irwin, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Victoria, 2018). Psychologist in the Pediatric Neurosurgery Neuropsychology Service.
- Amber Jolie, M.Sc. (Queen's University, 2014). Psychometrist in Adult Epilepsy Program.
- Laura Katz, Ph.D., C.Psych. (Queen's University, 2016). Psychologist in Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic.
- Stephanie Lavoie, Ph.D., C.Psych. (York University, 2016). Psychologist in Pediatric Neurology.
- Nidhi Luthra, Ph.D., C.Psych. (York University, 2018). Specialized Developmental and Behavioural Service.
- Ashley Legate, Ph.D., C.Psych. (Queens University, 2016). Child and Youth Mental Health Inpatient Service.
- Linda Metham, M.Sc. (McMaster University, 1994). Psychometrist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Cara Morris, B.A. (University of Guelph, 2008). Psychometrist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Olivia Ng, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Toronto/OISE, 2014). Psychologist in Specialized Developmental and Behavioural Services.
- Tiffany O'Connor, Ph.D., C.Psych. (Simon Fraser University, 2021). Psychologist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Emilie Sheppard, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Montreal, 2019). Psychologist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.
- Nevena Simic, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Toronto, 2012). Psychologist in Comprehensive Pediatric Epilepsy Program.
- Justine Spencer, Ph.D., C.Psych. (McMaster University, 2015). Psychologist in Stroke Rehabilitation Program.

Residency Training Staff

Joanna Sue, Ph.D., C.Psych. (Queen's University, 2014). Psychologist in Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.

Gregory Tippin, Ph.D., C.Psych. (Lakehead University, 2016). Psychologist in Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic.

Ayse Unsal, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Waterloo, 1991). Psychologist with Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Service.

Erin Warriner, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Windsor, 2004). Psychologist in Private Practice and Assistant Professor (PT) with the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University.

Diana Velikonja, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Waterloo, 1997). Psychologist with Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program.

Karen Zhang, Ph.D., C.Psych. (University of Western Ontario, 2017). Psychologist with Psychosocial Oncology Program.

Appendix - Sample Residency Schedule with Optional Major Rotation

	September	Oct 1-December 31	January 2 to mid-March	mid-March to August	Last week of August
MONDAY	Psychometry & Orientation	Pediatric Oncology Neuropsychological Service	Integrated Stroke Program	Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services (outpatient)	Wrap-Up
TUESDAY		Pediatric Oncology Neuropsychological Service	Integrated Stroke Program	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (Inpatient)	
WEDNESDAY		Integrated Stroke Program	Pediatric Neurology & Epilepsy Surgery Neuropsychological Services	Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services (outpatient)	
1 joint seminar per month from noon-3pm, on the first Wednesday of each month					
THURSDAY	Psychometry & Orientation	Integrated Stroke Program	Pediatric Neurology & Epilepsy Surgery Neuropsychological Services	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (Inpatient)	
Neuroscience Rounds (not every week)					
FRIDAY	Psychometry & Orientation	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Group Program		Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Individual Clients	
		Neuropsychology Lunch 'n' Learns from 12-1PM (2-4 times per month)			
		Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Individual Clients			

Appendix - Sample Residency Schedule with Two Minor Optional Rotations

	September	Oct 1-December 31	January 2 to mid-March	mid-March to August	Last week of August	
MONDAY	Psychometry & Orientation	Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic	Integrated Stroke Program	Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services (outpatient)	Wrap-Up	
TUESDAY		Michael G. DeGroot Pain Clinic	Integrated Stroke Program	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (Inpatient)		
WEDNESDAY		Integrated Stroke Program	Psychosocial Oncology Program	Adult Consultation Neuropsychology Services (outpatient)		
1 joint seminar per month from noon-3pm, on the first Wednesday of each month						
THURSDAY		Integrated Stroke Program	Psychosocial Oncology Program	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program (Inpatient)		
FRIDAY	Neuroscience Rounds <small>(not every week)</small>					
	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Group Program	Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Individual Clients				
	Neuropsychology Lunch 'n' Learns from 12-1PM <small>(2-4 times per month)</small>					
		Adult Acquired Brain Injury Program Outpatient Treatment - Individual Clients				