

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

COORDINATOR: Dr. Bonnie Purcell

NMS Code Number: 181514

Three (3) Resident Positions are available

Number of applications in 2021: 61

The Adult Mental Health Track is designed to prepare residents for eventual autonomous practice in clinical psychology, through broad-based and intensive exposure to adult mental health. Several rotations serve a broad range of inpatient and outpatient populations and allow residents to focus on specific patient groups or on specific assessment or therapeutic modalities.

Residents create an individualized, broad-based training program by selecting relevant experiences within Major Rotations. To allow for an adequate breadth of training, clinical experiences within the rotations should include at least one experience focusing on assessment and consultation while another should focus on intervention. Intervention experiences should include individual and group psychotherapies, as well as inpatient and outpatient experiences. Exposure to research as a guiding principle, as well as a systematic method for evaluating clinical outcomes and programs, is emphasized. Using a professional developmental approach of clinical and scientific inquiry, residents apply skills in prior and current training to assess and treat patients according to best practices and sound clinical judgment.

Within each rotation, supervisors will provide opportunities for individualized training experiences that meet the specific needs of the resident. Supervisors assure well-rounded experience by assigning cases to residents that reflect patient diversity in terms of ethnicity, socio-economic status, age, and other individual differences, as much as possible.

Competence in assessment and intervention skills is emphasized, integrating theoretical, ethical, research, and professional perspectives. While psychologists provide the bulk of supervision, residents are encouraged to work with other professionals as well, including Psychiatrists, Social Workers, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, and Therapeutic Recreation Specialists. Supervision styles vary across supervisors. Several supervisors emphasize training in specific skills (e.g., empirically-supported treatments) while other supervisors emphasize the development of strong interpersonal and therapeutic process skills.

In addition to the core minimum requirements on pages 23-24 it is recommended that competitive applicants also have the following credentials by the time of application:

- At least 600 hours of direct mental health assessment, intervention, consultation, and supervision practicum experience, as assessed by summing direct (face-to-face, virtual/video, or telephone client contact) intervention and assessment hours (doctoral and master's level) and supervision hours stated in the AAPI;
- At least 100 hours of assessment experience (as indicated by the number of assessment hours in the "Summary of Practicum Experience" section of the AAPI) and at least five integrated adult psychological assessment reports;
- Experience with a range of psychotherapeutic modalities.

Please note that preference will be given to applicants who meet these criteria.

Major Rotations available:

London Health Sciences Centre: Victoria Hospital

St. Joseph's Health Care London: Parkwood Institute

St. Joseph's Health Care London: Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care

London Health Sciences Centre: Victoria Hospital

Adult mental health at LHSC's Victoria Hospital provides a range of acute care mental health services for adult inpatients and outpatients in London. Along with 108 inpatient beds for acute crisis stabilization and treatment for adults 18 years of age and older, adult mental health at Victoria Hospital also provides general ambulatory mental health services as well as some specialized adult services. Residents working in this rotation will be able to select from a variety of potential experiences and work in one or two of the following programs.

Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT)

The cognitive-behavioural therapy team at LHSC Victoria Hospital provides CBT to adults who have a primary diagnosis of depression and/or anxiety. Personality factors and comorbid mental or physical health concerns may also be present. Within this interdisciplinary team residents will be responsible for providing comprehensive individual therapy to adult clients. Skills in CBT case formulation and treatment planning will be emphasized. Observation and/or direct involvement in a skills-based cognitive therapy group is a possibility, as is some accommodation of resident preference with respect to factors such as client diagnostic status, level of comorbidity, and presenting problems.

Supervisor: Dr. Brendan Guyitt

Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT)

Within the General Adult Ambulatory Mental Health Service (GAAMHS) at LHSC Victoria Hospital, the Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) outpatient program serves adults (between the ages of 18 and 65) with multi-disordered mental health conditions who have impaired function in multiple life domains. The program offers specialized training in the delivery of Dialectical Behaviour Therapy. The standard DBT modes of therapy offered in the program includes individual therapy, group skills training, and therapist consultation. DBT patients usually have several comorbid diagnoses such as mood disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, panic disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, somatic disorder, and personality disorder, as well as significant difficulties with affect management and interpersonal regulation. DBT interventions include mindfulness, emotion regulation, interpersonal effectiveness, and distress tolerance. These interventions are implemented in 25-week skills training groups and individual therapy. In this rotation, residents predominantly gain experience in delivering DBT individual and group skills training. Cultivating skills in diagnostic assessment, suicide risk assessments, DBT-based case formulation, and the provision of feedback to clients will also be encouraged. Residents will also be expected to participate in a weekly interdisciplinary DBT consultation team meeting. The DBT consultation treatment team currently includes psychology, occupational therapy, and social work. The minimum time commitment for residents in the DBT program is three days per week. Previous training or experience working with personality disorders, trauma-related conditions, or other complex mental illness, or experience working within a DBT framework, is considered beneficial, but not required.

Supervisor: Dr. Danielle Bedard

Geriatric Mental Health Program (GMHP)

The GMHP consists of an interprofessional team designed to provide outpatient geriatric psychiatry consultation, assessment and treatment to seniors, 65 years of age and older, and their families living in the London-Middlesex region. Our mandate includes providing 1) quality clinical care that recognizes the unique psychiatric and medical needs of older adults, 2) education for physicians and professionals training to care for the elderly, and 3) collaboration with community agencies and partners in specialized geriatric services. Clinic, home, and virtual visits for clients in the community and in long-term care settings are provided in this service and often address mental disorders of late life, including dementia and related disorders, mood disorders, addictions, and psychotic disorders. Residents will work closely with a team consisting of Nurses, Psychiatrists, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, and Therapeutic Recreation Specialists. The Psychologist provides psychosocial and diagnostic assessment, further cognitive/personality assessment, and psychotherapy (primarily cognitive-behavioural therapy) within the program. A cognitive-behavioural therapy group for depression has been offered in the past, which previous residents have co-led, if interested.

Psychology consultations are also provided as part of the Behavioural Response Team (BRT), which is a newer facet within GMHP, that provides consultations and short-term follow-up addressing urgent referrals for responsive behaviours related to mental health or addictions (although primarily dementia) in the community and long-term care. Teaching opportunities are also available to provide in-services to long-term care homes on topics such as addictions, senior mental health, and personality disorders. Residents may participate in a combination of assessment, psychotherapy (individual or group-based), consultations, and teaching during their rotation in this program, depending on their training goals and the opportunities available during their rotation.

Supervisor: Dr. Bonnie Purcell

St. Joseph's Health Care London: Parkwood Institute

Operational Stress Injury (OSI) Clinic

Adult Mental Health residents working at Parkwood Institute have the opportunity to work in the Operational Stress Injury (OSI) Clinic for Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP personnel and veterans. Opened in 2004, the St. Joseph's OSI Clinic is part of a national network of OSI clinics funded by Veterans Affairs Canada. These clinics are focused on assisting patients who suffer from a number of mental health conditions that can result from military or policing service. In addition, the network of OSI clinics is developing standards of OSI treatment through education and research. Psychology provides assessment and treatment, and common clinical issues include Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Mood and Anxiety Disorders, relational difficulties, substance and alcohol misuse, and chronic pain resulting from, or aggravated by, military service. Educational programs as well as individual, couples, group, and family counseling are also provided at the Clinic.

Residents will work as part of an interdisciplinary team of health professionals that includes Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Clinical Social Workers who work together to develop treatment plans tailored to the individual needs of each client. Residents complete assessments for treatment planning, as well as for Veterans Affairs Canada Pension and Rehabilitation Program eligibility purposes, typically involving clinical interviews, structured diagnostic interviews (e.g., the SCID-5, DART, CAPS), cognitive screening, and integration of self-report questionnaires. Intervention training experiences can be tailored to the interests of the resident. All residents are expected to conduct individual psychotherapy. Opportunities to cofacilitate a psychoeducation or treatment group (e.g., a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Depression group) are sometimes available. All residents are also expected to engage in consultation and collaboration with referral sources from the assessment through the treatment trajectory.

Supervisors: Dr. Rod Balsom
 Dr. Brenda Chiang
 Dr. Tracy Desjardins
 Dr. Nicole Elliott
 Dr. Tevya Hunter
 Dr. Steve Orenczuk
 Dr. Maya Roth
 Dr. Sonya Wanklyn

Assessment, Consultation and Education (ACE) Service

The ACE service focuses on providing psychological assessment for inpatients and outpatients in the context of a highly interdisciplinary team environment at Parkwood Institute – Mental Health. Patients presenting with severe and persistent mental illness can benefit from diagnostic, cognitive, and personality assessments resulting in strong case conceptualizations/formulations that are therapeutic and can inform treatment recommendations for the patient and their care team. Consultation to patients and their teams, along with education services offered to staff within mental health, can open up opportunities to aid in treatment and recovery. The resident will complete assessments, have opportunities to engage in consultation with patients and mental health care teams, and offer education to service providers as requested. Intervention opportunities may also be available on a limited basis. The resident will work closely with psychometrists in the service and may be able to supervise both students and psychometrists while in the rotation. Keeping up with new software platforms and test administrations in this ever-changing climate of assessments and technology is an exciting addition to this rotation.

Supervisor: Dr. Stephanie Dubois
Psychometrists: Julia MacKinley and Amanda Stirling

Adult Ambulatory Service

Adult Ambulatory Services provides mental health services to adult outpatients with a wide range of psychiatric disorders, primarily to those with more serious and chronic psychopathology (Psychosis, Affective, and Anxiety). Personality and comorbid mental or physical health disorders may coexist with any of the above. Referrals are accepted from Coordinated Intake. These include patients who are referred by LHSC and the community. Treatment is provided with interprofessional involvement (including psychiatry, nursing, social work, therapeutic recreation, occupational therapy, and psychology). The interprofessional service also aims at relapse prevention and recovery from mental illness. In this service, residents would be able to provide psychological assessment to adults, particularly cognitive, personality, and diagnostic assessments. Residents would also be able to provide psychotherapeutic intervention services from a variety of approaches, including cognitive-behavioural therapy and supportive and mentalization-based therapy, depending on supervisor availability. Interventions provided by residents would be primarily in the context of individual psychotherapy.

Supervisors: Dr. Jeremy Harrison
Dr. Farida Spencer

Concurrent Disorders Services

Psychology is also an integral part of Concurrent Disorders Services. This service provides specialized outpatient tertiary care to individuals who suffer from both severe psychiatric disorders as well as severe substance use disorders. Residents involved in this rotation intervene with patients with a wide range of substance use and mental health issues, addressing both aspects therapeutically. Treatment is individualized to meet the specific needs of these often challenging patients and includes motivational interviewing and cognitive-behavioral techniques to address substance use difficulties, and an integrative approach involving CBT, interpersonal and psychodynamic elements to address psychological disorders. Psychological assessment and group psychotherapy experiences are also opportunities in this rotation.

Supervisor: Dr. David LeMarquand

Inpatient Mental Health: Adult Treatment & Rehabilitation Program | Geriatric Psychiatry Program

As part of an interprofessional team at a tertiary care mental health facility, residents will have the opportunity to participate in either or both programs for their major rotation, in accordance with their training goals.

1) The Mental Health Treatment & Rehabilitation Program serves adult inpatients with serious mental illness. Cases are complex, often with chronic psychosis and complex trauma presentations. Residents may provide individual therapy, groups for psychosis, and behavioural consultations.

2) The Geriatric Psychiatry Program serves older adults with mental illness and/or severe behavioural responses that require inpatient specialized care. Presentations are wide-ranging. They include dementia, complex trauma, and psychosis. Residents may provide assessments and group therapy, with occasional opportunities for individual therapy.

Across both programs, residents can further elect to initiate and/or participate in program development, quality improvement, presentations, and research activities. Supervision is provided using a developmental approach. Dr. Wong's orientation is integrative, involving aspects of spiritually integrated therapy, third wave cognitive behavioural therapies, and trauma-informed somatic approaches.

Supervisor: Dr. Serena Wong (Supervised Practice; expected Autonomous 2024)

***St. Joseph's Health Care London:
Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care***

The Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care, located in St. Thomas, provides specialist inpatient and outpatient services to individuals who are in the forensic mental health system. Residents may have the opportunity to provide psychological assessment, diagnostic, consultation, and intervention services for individuals with mental illness while working with interprofessional teams in a unique clinical care setting.

Forensic Program

Psychology plays an important role in the Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care. This facility provides specialized mental health services to adults with a mental disorder who have committed a criminal offence, with an emphasis on the high risk and high need patient. The Forensic Program is comprised of 80 beds including assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation units as well as an Outreach Team. At all times the interprofessional teams working with our patients must balance the needs of each patient with the need for public safety. Patients present with a broad range of diagnostic categories such as schizophrenia, mood disorders, and personality disorders. A significant proportion of patients also have an addiction to drugs and/or alcohol. The Forensic Unit serves individuals who are on Court Ordered Assessments, are found either Unfit to Stand Trial or Not Criminally Responsible, or have been transferred from correctional facilities requiring treatment under conditions of security. Residents on the service could participate in forensic psychological assessments as well as diagnostic psycholegal assessments. Forensic assessments can include comprehensive psychosocial assessment, assessment of criminal responsibility, assessment of fitness, and/or assessment of risk. Residents could also be involved in a range of appropriate psychotherapies, gain experience with an interprofessional treatment team, and treatment planning. It may also be possible for the resident to obtain experience with Ontario Review Board hearings.

Supervisor: Dr. Laura Fazakas-DeHoog

TRACK	Adult Mental Health (see p. 41)		
ORGANIZATION	London Health Sciences Centre	St. Joseph s Health Care London	
SITES	Victoria Hospital (see p. 42)	Parkwood Institute (see p. 44)	Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care (see p. 47)
MAJOR ROTATION/ SERVICE *See list of Minor Rotation options (p. 73-80)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) - Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) - Geriatric Mental Health Program (GMHP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational Stress Injury (OSI) Clinic - Assessment, Consultation and Education (ACE) Service - Adult Ambulatory Services - Concurrent Disorders Services - Inpatient Mental Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forensic Program

Sample Combinations of Major and Minor Rotation Schedules:

Track	1st Six Months Major – 4 days/week	2nd Six Months	
		Major – 3 days/week	Minor – 1 day/week
Adult Mental Health	Assessment, Consultation and Education (ACE) Service (SJHC) - (4 days)	Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (DBT) (LHSC)	Child and Adolescent Assessment (CPRI)
Adult Mental Health	Geriatric Mental Health Program (GMHP) (LHSC) - (2 days) Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (LHSC) - (2 days)	Forensic Program Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health (SJHC)	Trauma-Related Disorders Clinical Research Program (LHSC)