



Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology APPCN Member Program

OVERVIEW AND SETTING: Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center is a Level I trauma center located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and home to the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, with a total of 198 buildings spanning 428 acres. The Department of Neurology at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, where this fellowship is housed, has been ranked by US News and World Report as being among the nation's best hospitals. The Neurology Department is home to a Comprehensive Stroke Center, Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, and a new Neuroscience ICU, and has subspecialty clinics in neuromuscular/ALS, Movement Disorders, Stroke, Behavioral Neurology, Headache, Multiple Sclerosis, and Pediatric Neurology. Additionally, Atrium Health has recently been nationally recognized on Newsweek's List of Top 100 Americans Most Loved Workplaces for 2022. Winston-Salem is a small, picturesque city located less than 2 hours from the Blue Ridge Mountains and 4 hours from the NC coast.

As with most academic medical centers, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist and Wake Forest University School of Medicine strive to fulfill the integrated missions of patient care, research and teaching, and providing patients with leading-edge technology and clinical trials. The objective of providing high quality clinical care and research training to postdoctoral level fellows is very much in accord with the tripartite institutional mission of the Medical School and Center. More specifically, as with other graduate medical education programs at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, our program mission is to train professionals who will become recognized as leaders in clinical care, applied research, and education.

CLINICAL TRAINING: This 24-month clinical neuropsychology fellowship, beginning between July 1 and September 9, 2024, has openings for two **adult** positions. The fellowship meets Houston Conference Guidelines for training in neuropsychology and has been approved for membership by the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology. The fellowship involves opportunities to see adult patients through the general Neuropsychology Clinic and specialty neuropsychology clinics. Pediatric training opportunities are also available

for interested applicants. The Neuropsychology Service at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist serves as the primary training site for all fellows. Outpatients make up the bulk of referrals, though an inpatient rotation is also available. Referrals involve a wide variety of patient populations, including dementia, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, stroke, epilepsy, and neuro-oncology. For more information, please visit our Neuropsychology and Neurology Clinic websites, and the Fellowship webpage:

<https://www.wakehealth.edu/Specialty/n/Neuropsychology>

<https://www.wakehealth.edu/Service-Line/n/Neurosciences>

<https://school.wakehealth.edu/Education-and-Training/Residencies-and-Fellowships/Postdoctoral-Fellowship-in-Clinical-Neuropsychology>

In addition to seeing patients through the general outpatient neurology clinic with a variety of conditions including concussion, traumatic brain injuries, cerebrovascular accidents/stroke, and multiple sclerosis, adult fellows will rotate in the following specialty clinics:

- 1) **Epilepsy Surgery Clinic:** Fellows will have the opportunity to perform Phase I clinical neuropsychological assessment for epilepsy surgery patients who are seen as part of their evaluation in our Comprehensive Epilepsy Center (CEC). There is also the opportunity for fellows to conduct post-operative assessment of these patients as well as Wada testing.
- 2) **Movement Disorders Clinic:** Both fellows will have the opportunity to evaluate patients with movement disorders as part of pre-surgical work-up for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) or gamma knife surgery for individuals with Parkinson's disease and essential tremor.
- 3) **Multidisciplinary Cognitive Disorders Clinic:** Fellows will evaluate older adults who are referred for evaluation of memory loss and/or suspected dementia. Fellows will be exposed to a wide variety of conditions including mild cognitive impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, frontotemporal dementia, and Parkinson's disease dementia/Lewy Body Dementia.
- 4) **Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit:** Fellows will have the opportunity to participate in a multidisciplinary treatment team on an inpatient Acquired Brain Injury Unit at the Sticht Center. The rotation includes brief cognitive/emotional screening of patients who are oriented enough for testing, education of patients/caregivers and staff members on the nature of the individual's cognitive deficits and injury, and participation in treatment team meetings to coordinate care. The patient population includes individuals ages 13 through 100 with a variety of acquired brain injuries such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, tumors, and other neurologic diagnoses. Additional opportunities include participation in the Acquired Brain Injury Task Force designed to expose the fellow to the administrative side of inpatient rehabilitation and experience coordinating the care of individuals with the attending doctors, advanced practice providers, and a variety of therapists.
- 5) **Neuro-Oncology Clinic:** Fellows will have the opportunity to conduct baseline and subsequent cognitive monitoring of patients with central nervous system brain tumors at regular intervals in the Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The typical caseload of adult fellows is 3-4 cases based on available psychometry support per week. Due to the variety of offerings, clinical opportunities range from 1-hour screenings for CNS tumors and inpatient rehabilitation evaluations to 4- or 6-hour comprehensive evaluations. All fellows provide consultation to referral sources, feedback with patients and families, and where appropriate, participate in intervention planning and monitoring as part of their duties.

DIDACTICS: Didactic opportunities are plentiful and include weekly Neuropsychology Seminars, Multidisciplinary Epilepsy Surgery Case Conference, Multidisciplinary DBS Case Conference, Multidisciplinary Tumor Boards and quarterly Psychometry Meetings and Behavioral Neurology Case Conference. Neurology Department Grand Rounds are held twice monthly. Elective didactics include Epilepsy Journal Club, Cancer & Cognition Research Meetings, Psychiatry Department Grand Rounds, Pediatric Grand Rounds, Clinicopathologic Conference, Brain Cutting, Radiology Grand Rounds, Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) Consensus meetings, and PM&R Grand Rounds.

ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS:

Our program emphasizes both clinical and research/quality improvement to enhance the care of our patients. Thus, fellows are expected to engage in either a research or quality improvement projects during their fellowship time. The extent of involvement in research is tailored to each fellow's interests and career goals. Fellow involvement in research may take several forms, depending on the interests of the fellow and faculty, available projects and data sets, as well as projects in development. Our research primarily focuses on epilepsy, mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease, brain tumors, and traumatic brain injury. Studies include evaluation of cognitive and emotional functioning, both pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions, lifestyle-type interventions, and assessment of predictors of cognitive outcome, treatment-related cognitive dysfunction, and drug-related clinical trials. Quality improvement projects are designed to enhance clinical services and patient care and may include development of new clinics, implementation of assessment tools within other programs, and evaluation of the impact of these services.

FACULTY:

Our faculty includes three adult neuropsychologists, two pediatric neuropsychologists, and a health psychologist:

Laura A. Flashman, Ph.D., ABPP, Professor of Neurology; Section Head, Neuropsychology Program, Training Program Co-Director; Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology

Clinical interests: Traumatic brain injury; multiple sclerosis; epilepsy; normal and abnormal aging; neuropsychiatry.

Research interests: Unawareness of illness and neurobiological correlates of unawareness of illness in neuropsychiatric disorders; functional/structural MRI of memory and attention in psychiatric illness, traumatic brain injury, Mild Cognitive Impairment and Alzheimer's disease.

Bonnie C. Sachs, Ph.D., ABPP, Associate Professor of Neurology, Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine (joint); Training Program Co-Director; Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology

Clinical interests: Alzheimer's disease; Mild Cognitive Impairment; atypical dementias, movement disorders

Research interests: Lifestyle interventions for Mild Cognitive Impairment; dementia; DBS for movement disorders; psychometrics; vascular disease/cognitive impairment

Bryant Duda, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neurology

Clinical interests: Pre- and post-surgical evaluation for epilepsy/movement disorders/brain tumors; neurodegenerative conditions; cancer; traumatic brain injury; psychiatric conditions

Research Interests: Impacts of brain surgery on cognition; cognitive training; neurobiological mechanisms of healthy and abnormal aging; cerebrovascular risk factors

Leah Chapman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neurology, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Pediatrics (joint)

Pediatric Neuropsychologist

Clinical interests: Neuro-oncology; traumatic brain injury/concussion; epilepsy; medically complex pediatric cases

Research interests: Late-effects of chemotherapy and radiation on the developing brain; neurodevelopmental implications of craniosynostosis and surgical interventions; traumatic brain injury/concussion; Tourette's syndrome/tic disorders.

Lia Thibodaux, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neurology

Pediatric Neuropsychologist

Clinical interests: Developmental disabilities (autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disability) within the context of genetic and other medical disorders; accessible assessments for patients who are deaf and hard of hearing, have behavioral difficulties, and/or are "difficult" to test.

Research interests: Measurement equivalence/ invariance of scores within specialized populations and utility of commonly used measures in specialized populations

BENEFITS: Health insurance, personal time off (sick leave, vacation time, time for professional development), and a small professional development fund each year. Stipends are based on NIH training guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS: We anticipate 2 adult-focused openings for a 2-year fellowship consistent with Houston Conference guidelines. This program participates in the APPCN Match, and adheres to all pertinent rules and procedures associated with the match (<http://www.appcn.org/matching-program>).

Education/training qualifications: Requirements include prior neuroscience courses, APA or CPA approved internship with a strong emphasis on neuropsychology, commitment to clinical research, and completion of doctoral requirements. Prior to appointment as a postdoctoral fellow, individuals must provide evidence of completion of all requirements for the doctoral degree from a regionally accredited university or professional school program, including completion of an APA or CPA accredited internship training; official transcript, copy of diploma or official letter from the Department Chair or Graduate Advisor will be acceptable. Postdoctoral fellows are appointed to full time positions for one year, renewable for an additional year. A total of 2000 hours of training are provided in each year, exceeding the postgraduate hours required for licensure in NC.

Qualified candidates should submit their application electronically by December 11, 2023.

Interviews will be held virtually, with the opportunity to meet with faculty who attend INS. We are a member of Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and participate in the APPCN Resident Matching Program.

Application must include:

- The following should be emailed as a single document to April Edwards, Fellowship Coordinator at: apedward@wakehealth.edu
 1. Completed application cover page (see fellowship webpage/attached).
 2. Personal Statement of experience, goals, and interests: Provide a 1-2 page maximum letter describing your clinical and research experiences and interests, fellowship objectives, and career goals.
 3. Current curriculum vitae
 4. Names of three references with their affiliation and e-mail address.
 5. Three sample reports with identifying information eliminated, reflecting a breadth of clinical experience.
 6. Up to three recently published articles, abstracts, or preprints (if available).

- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from your current supervisor/internship director, should be emailed directly by them to apedward@wakehealth.edu

- Official graduate transcripts. Please have institutions mail or electronically send these directly to:

April Edwards, Fellowship Coordinator (apedward@wakehealth.edu)
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Department of Neurology
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157



Wake Forest University
School of Medicine

Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Department of Neurology
Neuropsychology Fellowship Program

APPLICATION COVER PAGE
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Name (please print) _____

Mailing Address _____

Home or Cell phone number _____ Office phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Place of Birth: _____ Citizenship: _____

Testing Experience: Please list specific numbers of comprehensive neuropsychological assessments administered, neuropsychological screenings (e.g., RBANS, DRS-2 only), and reports you have written on the following patient age groups:

	Comprehensive Neuropsychological Assessments	Screening Assessments	Written Reports
Child (age 6-17)	_____	_____	_____
Adult (18-65)	_____	_____	_____
Geriatric (65 and older)	_____	_____	_____

Average number of comprehensive assessment cases completed/week during internship: _____

Average number of neuropsychological screenings completed/week during internship: _____

Research Experience: List the patient samples you have worked with and the methods employed:
