



## **Associated Neurologists, P.C.**

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### **Nuvance Health, Neuroscience Institute Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship**

#### **Application Information:**

- 2 year postdoctoral fellowship in adult neuropsychology
- Submission deadline: rolling basis until filled
- Materials to submit:
  - Letter of Interest
  - CV
  - Deidentified Sample Report
  - 2-3 Letters of recommendation

**Website:** <https://www.nuvancehealth.org/services-and-treatments/neurology-and-neurosurgery>

#### ***Brief Overview***

The position is designed to prepare graduate students for a career in clinical neuropsychology and subsequent board certification (ABPP) in neuropsychology. Fellows participate in didactic learning and the majority of a fellow's time is devoted to outpatient neuropsychological assessment. The remaining time can be tailored to individual interests, including participation in research, delivery of psychoeducational and psychotherapy services, and rotations in other departments that provide neuropsychological services to specific populations (e.g., headache clinic, stroke center, movement disorders, pre/post neurosurgical evaluations). Our program adheres to the Houston Conference Guidelines and we endorse the scientist-practitioner model of training, emphasizing a flexible battery approach to neuropsychological assessment.

The salary and benefits package is commensurate with other local institutions in the area. The Neuroscience Institute at Nuvance brings together highly trained neurologists, neurosurgeons, and neuropsychologists, to offer patients integrative, comprehensive, state-of-the-art services, including diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitative care for patients with a broad range of neurological, neurodegenerative and brain disorders. Nuvance Health spans a geographic area in western Connecticut from Norwalk, along the Long Island Sound, to Kent, in the rolling foothills of Litchfield County. Nuvance's commitment to clinical care, teaching and the notably diverse population that receives care in our facilities makes Nuvance a vibrant training site for students, residents and fellows. This dedication to education, coupled with a strong commitment to research distinguishes Nuvance Health and WCHN as a community-based academic medical institution.

#### ***Clinical Training***

We are part of a large, well-established outpatient neurology practice in southwestern Connecticut and Hudson Valley. Our department is comprised of neuropsychologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, physician assistants, physical therapists, psychiatrists, and clinical

research coordinators for clinical trials. Fellows will have training in adult neuropsychological assessment with a diverse clinical population. The main focus of our work is outpatient neuropsychological assessment of adults with neurological disorders. We see a large number of individuals with neurodegenerative conditions, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, brain tumors, and stroke. We see patients from several multidisciplinary clinics including outpatient neurology, movement disorders, stroke, headache and concussion/TBI clinics. The neuropsychology service also sees individuals with epilepsy and seizure disorders. We perform pre and post-operative assessments for individuals undergoing DBS placement surgery and shunt placement in NPH. Our role is to provide individual assessment, feedback to patients, families, and team members, and cognitive assessment for clinical trials. Additionally, a fellow has the opportunity to see individuals or groups for psychotherapy or psychoeducation groups, though this is not a requirement of the fellowship. After an initial orientation period, the fellow will be responsible for 4-5 clinic slots per week engaged in outpatient neuropsychological assessment. The program focuses primarily on adult assessment, but all patients are viewed with a life-span developmental focus, and there may be opportunities to see pediatric cases if there is interest on the part of the resident.

An incoming fellow will already have training in assessment, interpretation, report writing, and principles of brain-behavior relationships. Our fellowship is designed to provide the large and varied clinical experience necessary to prepare individuals for independent practice. Students will also have the opportunity to see complex, rare neurological syndromes typically seen in large, University-based Medical Centers (e.g., recent fellow cases have included Hashimoto's encephalopathy and corticobasal degeneration) while also developing expertise in classic syndromes and neurodegenerative disorders by working as an integral member of our interdisciplinary neurology practice.

### ***Education and Didactics***

In compliance with the Houston Conference Guidelines, the fellowship is designed to provide advanced clinical, didactic, and academic training in clinical neuropsychology. Journal club (with a focus on clinically relevant literature), weekly case conference review, along with mock fact-finding exercises are held regularly to prepare students for board certification and independent practice. There are also opportunities to discuss cases with professionals in other disciplines (e.g., epilepsy or child assessment). Opportunities to sit on neurosurgery, neurology and psychiatry grand rounds, participate in movement disorders treatment team meetings are available to all fellows. Our primary faculty is comprised of four neuropsychologists and secondary faculty include neurologists and neuropsychologists in the wider Nuvance Health and WCHN community.

Although this is primarily a clinical training program, research opportunities exist within both the neuropsychology service as well as the broader medical community and its affiliates. Consistent with training guidelines, the resident will complete at least one scholarly project over the course of the residency. Additional research involvement is possible, but would be driven largely by the interest level and motivation of the resident. Preparation of a research project for publication or presentation at a national conference is highly encouraged.

### ***Supervision***

Fellows participate in individual and group supervision where they have the opportunity to interact with faculty and interdisciplinary teams. Each fellow will have at minimum of two faculty neuropsychology supervisors for individual supervision and will be exposed to a range of supervisory styles. Most supervision is case-by-case with formal supervision sessions scheduled as needed. Supervision is initially more “hands on” (e.g., full participation during interview and feedback) and then decreases as the fellow progresses. There is an open-door supervision style and supervisors are always available for discussion and problem-solving throughout a clinic day. As a small highly individualized program, the fellowship also provides continuous evaluation and feedback. The supervisor has professional responsibility for all services provided to patients. The amount of supervision meets and typically exceeds APA and state licensure requirements.

Postdoctoral fellows also have opportunity for tiered supervision of neuropsychology externs and undergraduate students. This often involves overseeing the externs’ clinical evaluations and reviewing test administration to give advice on working effectively with individual patients.

### ***Current Clinical Trials/Research Projects***

In addition to several funded initiatives regarding novel care for patients with memory disorders, we do cognitive and behavioral assessments of patients and caregivers as part of pharmaceutical clinical trials.

Current studies include:

- A Multicenter, Global Observational Study to Collect Information on Safety and to Document the Drug Utilization of Tecfidera (Dimethyl Fumarate) When Used in Routine Medical Practice in the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis (Esteem)
- An Observational study of Ocrelizumab treated patients with Multiple Sclerosis to determine the incidence and mortality rates of breast cancer and all malignancies
- Long-term Nicotine Treatment of Mild Cognitive Impairment
- A Clinical Study of patients with symptomatic neurogenic orthostatic hypotension to assess sustained effects of Droxidopa therapy
- Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, Phase 2 study comparing up to 1400mg of LY3002813 with placebo over 76 weeks in approximately 250 patients with early symptomatic AD

While this is a primarily clinically-focused fellowship, our practice also has a number of research opportunities for interested fellows. Fellows are invited to collaborate with us on existing research or develop independent projects. Presentation of research at scientific meetings and preparation of manuscripts for publication is highly encouraged.

### ***Licensure***

During the first training year, it is recommended that the fellow spend time preparing for both the EPPP examination and the Connecticut Jurisprudence Examination for state licensure, which

can typically be taken by the midpoint of the first training year, depending on prior training experiences. Achieving licensure will not impact the training structure of the program, but in addition to allowing for more complete billing of resident's work, this increases the flexibility of training experiences and positions the resident well for subsequent employment.

***Diversity and Inclusion***

We respect, support, and celebrate diversity in our professional and local community. Our fellowship program complies with all applicable civil rights laws and does not discriminate, exclude or treat differently trainees, employees, or patients on the basis of race, age, color, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or gender expression.

**ALL QUESTIONS AND APPLICATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:**

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