



# MedStar National Rehabilitation Network

January 19, 2021

MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital (MNRH) is a 137 bed hospital specializing in the rehabilitation of individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI), stroke, spinal cord injury, amputation, orthopedic injuries, cardiac conditions, and other neurological and physical conditions. The Psychological Services department currently includes eighteen psychologists (neuropsychologists, health psychologists, and rehabilitation psychologists), as well as two neuropsychology post-doctoral fellows, and one rehabilitation and pain psychology post-doctoral fellow. Our department plays an important role at MNRH, providing assessment and therapy to inpatients and outpatients through a variety of programs and clinics, as well as consultation services to medicine, speech language pathology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, case management, and nursing.

We are looking for a potential graduate student extern (1 position) for a half-time (16) practicum, focusing on outpatient neuropsychological assessment and evaluation of adults, ages 18+. Extern would begin their 12-month appointment in mid-August of 2021, beginning with training. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer a stipend.

## COVID-19

Restrictions and policies related to the COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate changes in an extern's clinical and educational experiences at various times throughout the rotation. For example, assessments may need to be conducted via a telehealth platform instead of in person.

## Opportunities include:

- Working with attending neuropsychologists and post-doctoral fellows to conduct neuropsychological evaluations
- Observing clinical interviews conducted by neuropsychologists (1 hour per week, depending upon patient availability)
- Learning to administer a wide range of standardized neuropsychological measures
- In addition to the clinical hours gained, externs will participate in the development of integrated reports, depending on their level of prior experience and individual rate of progress
- As externs become more independent, they may learn to write integrated reports in their entirety
- One-on-one supervision with attending neuropsychologists with expertise in neurological conditions, including TBI and stroke (2 hours per week, plus additional, when needed)
- Guidance and support from neuropsychology post-doctoral fellows (up to 1 hour per week, in addition to the supervision provided by attending neuropsychologists)
- Attendance and participation in MNRH in-house didactics (1 hour per week), as well as occasional attendance at a video teleconferencing didactics series with numerous VA, military, and rehabilitation centers, and brain cuttings at the DC VA (when available)
- When outpatients cancel, opportunities may be available to observe therapy and/or brief assessment with inpatients on the TBI and stroke rehabilitation units

## Responsibilities include:

- Observing clinical interviews and taking notes
- Establishing rapport with patients
- Administering standardized neuropsychological tests to patients
- Observing and documenting patient behavior

- Scoring standardized tests accurately, in an efficient manner
- Assisting with and/or writing integrated neuropsychological reports and incorporating constructive feedback with a timely turn around
- Attending weekly didactics

Prerequisites include:

- Prior assessment coursework
- Prior ethics coursework
- Prior experience administering some standardized measures in a practicum setting is preferred
- Prior completion of a master's degree in clinical psychology or equivalent progress within the applicant's training program is preferred (though applicant's prior practicum experience and coursework will be weighted more heavily than completion of a master's degree)

Interested applicants should e-mail a cover letter explaining interests, current CV (including a list of standardized measures administered during prior practicum), and two letters of recommendation (preferably emailed; one should be a mentor in the graduate program or the training director of the applicant's graduate program and the other writer should be a former practicum supervisor) to Dr. Garcia by the end of the day on **Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**. Select applicants will be invited for in-person interviews.

Pura Garcia-Serrablo, Psy.D.  
Clinical Neuropsychologist  
Externship Coordinator  
Psychological Services  
MedStar National Rehabilitation Network  
102 Irving Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20010  
Phone: (202) 877-1641  
Fax: (202) 291-5366  
E-mail: pura.garcia-serrablo@medstar.net