



About Mercy Health - St. Rita's

Mercy Health - St. Rita's Medical Center has been named by IBM Watson Health as one of the highest performing 100 Top Hospitals in the nation for 2023. As the region's leader in health care, Mercy Health - St. Rita's delivers a complete scope of services, as well as easy access to leading physicians, advanced technology, and experienced and compassionate caregivers.

Our Psychology Doctoral Internship will provide:

- The ability to train in a licensed, 424-bed regional medical center with Level 2 trauma status.
- Opportunities to co-train with medical and pharmacy residents
- The *EPIC* electronic medical record system
- Experienced and dedicated clinical psychologists supervising training experiences in a variety of settings.
- Minor rotations in assessment (dementia, ADHD, and autism screening clinics) and health-focused groups (including cognitive-behavioral therapy groups for insomnia, pain, and healthy lifestyle changes).

Mercy Health is a mission-driven organization committed to making every patient's life better - mind, body and spirit. Mercy Health serves eight regions in Ohio and Kentucky, making us one of the largest health systems in the nation. Mercy Health is also in the top 20 percent of health systems in the nation for quality and efficiency.

Our Team



Samantha Cain, PhD
Program Director
 SMCain@mercy.com
 770 W. High St., Suite 300



Esther Strahan, PhD
Rehabilitation Supervisor
 EYStrahan@mercy.com
 770 W. High St., Suite 300



Thomas Hull, PhD
Core Faculty Member
 TWHull@mercy.com
 770 W. High St., Suite 300



Jeff Cigrang, PhD
Core Faculty Member
 JCigrang@mercy.com
 770 W. High St., Suite 450

Office Phone Number:

419-604-3386

Psychology Training Email: psychologytraining@mercy.com



Scan the QR code for
 more information



Clinical Psychology Doctoral Internship



Goals and Program Structure

Our health psychology-focused internship will provide learners with broad experience in clinical health psychology. Our graduates will have the knowledge and skill base needed to work closely with physicians and other medical providers. The intern will gain a clear understanding of the effects of medical disorders and therapies on behavior, and behavioral influences on health conditions. Training will focus on the skills needed to work in a variety of multidisciplinary teams within a medical setting. Interns will also develop strong differential diagnostic and assessment skills when working with the general population, and will treat outpatients in our clinic.

Interns will complete four, three-month long rotations, which include Bariatric Surgery, Neurorehabilitation Psychology, Integrated Behavioral Health in Family Medicine, and Mental Health and Assessment. Interns will also complete minor rotations in our neuropsychology clinic several days per month over the course of the 12 month long internship. They will gain skills in providing cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for pain and CBT for insomnia, working with individuals and groups. There may also be an opportunity to develop and lead a group in another health-related evidence-based topic of the intern’s choice.



Rotations

Major Rotations

Bariatric Surgery

The intern on the Bariatric Psychology rotation will provide pre-surgical bariatric evaluations to determine candidacy for outpatient bariatric surgery. The intern will also provide brief treatment aimed at improving patients’ psychological symptoms and problematic eating behaviors that could interfere with long-term weight management success. The intern will co-facilitate support groups throughout this rotation to promote short- and long-term behavioral changes. Other opportunities include brief follow up with patients, participation in interdisciplinary staff meetings, and implementing psychotherapy groups.

Neurorehabilitation Psychology

The intern on the Neurorehabilitation Psychology will provide bedside evaluations and provide evidence-based psychological services within an acute rehab setting. Reasons for consultation include adjustment to strokes, brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, competency evaluations, phantom limb pain, irritable bowel syndrome, motor vehicle accident victims requiring inpatient rehabilitation, and those with conversion disorders. Other opportunities include participation in rehab team meetings, co-facilitating weekly mindfulness groups, attending and providing staff trainings, and co- training with medical students and residents. Interns will also carry a small outpatient general mental health caseload during this rotation.

Mental Health and Assessment

The intern on the Mental Health rotation will provide interview-based assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, and psychotherapy. This clinic is the primary outpatient clinic for the department. Interns will provide evidence-based psychotherapy for a variety of mental health concerns. Regular meetings with the rotation supervisor provide support for dealing with new and problematic cases. There will be opportunities for interns to learn evidenced based care for trauma with a focus on written exposure therapy (WET) and cognitive processing therapy (CPT).

Integrated Behavioral Health in Family Medicine

The Family Medicine rotation spans three months and offers interns the opportunity to gain experience in functioning as an integrated psychologist within a family medicine clinic that hosts a family medicine residency. On any given day, interns will be responsible for seeing both scheduled patients and patients referred on the same day as “warm handoffs” from family medicine residents.

Rotations

Minor Rotations

Neuropsychology Clinic

Interns will be required to complete two days per month in our psychology testing clinic for 12 months. Interns will administer and score neuropsychological testing. Reasons for testing could include learning disability, autism, dementia, and diagnostic clarity.

Health Psychology Groups

Interns will also be co-facilitating groups focused on pain management, and cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-i). Each intern will experience at least one full cycle of pain management groups, and one full round of our CBT-I group protocol.



HOW TO APPLY

The program uses the application provided by APPIC and is available at their website, <http://www.appic.org/>.

The application and all supporting documentation is submitted electronically through APPIC.

All applications must be submitted by November 5th each year.