



Our Team



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About Mercy Health - St. Rita's

Mercy Health - St. Rita's Medical Center has been named by IBM Watson Health as one of the 100 Top Hospitals in the nation for 2023. St. Rita's delivers a complete scope of services with advanced technology and experienced and compassionate caregivers.

Our internship's inpatient training site is located within St. Rita's Medical Center and is connected to our ambulatory clinics via walkways. We receive logistical and financial support from our outpatient psychology clinic and from our hospital graduate medical education programs.

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 physician and pharmacy residents
- The EPIC electronic medical record system
- Experienced and dedicated clinical psychologists supervising training experiences in a variety of settings
- Opportunities to take part in dementia and ADHD screening clinics, with autism screening experiences available depending on referrals.

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.

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Scan the QR code for more information.



Clinical Health Psychology Doctoral Internship



Goals and Program Structure

Our clinical health psychology-focused internship will provide learners with broad experiences in diagnosis, assessment, and evidence-based interventions for the problems patients are facing. The intern will gain a clear understanding of the complex relationships between medical disorders, emotions, and behavior. Training will focus on the skills needed to work in a variety of multidisciplinary teams within both medical and outpatient settings.

Our graduates will develop strong differential diagnostic and assessment skills that will prepare them to work effectively with patients in the general population. Our interns will assess and treat outpatients in our clinic.

During our 12-month internship, interns will complete three major and two minor rotations. Interns will receive a minimum of four hours per week of supervision. Didactics will include education on medical topics, how to integrate psychological interventions in medical settings, discussion of core principles within clinical health psychology, and exploration of issues related to ethics, culture, and serving marginalized populations. Interns will also co-train with medical residents, providing opportunities for collaboration. Five to six hours per week are dedicated to didactics.



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.

Rehabilitation Psychology

The intern on the Rehabilitation Psychology rotation 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, conversion disorder, phantom limb pain, irritable bowel syndrome, and multiple fractures. Other opportunities include participating 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 see outpatients while on this rotation.

Mental Health and Assessment

The intern on the Mental Health rotation will provide interview-based assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, and psychotherapy in 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 an effort to identify therapy cases with a health psychology focus; however, interns will carry a general mental health caseload as well. There will be opportunity for interns to learn evidence-based care for trauma with a focus on written exposure therapy (WET) and cognitive processing therapy (CPT).

Rotations

Minor Rotations

Neuropsychology Clinic

At least one day per month, interns will participate in the psychology clinic where they will administer and score neuropsychological tests. Reasons for testing could include learning disabilities, autism, dementia, and diagnostic clarity.

Health Psychology Groups

Interns will facilitate groups focused on cognitive behavioral therapy for pain management, and cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-I). Additionally, there will be opportunities for interns to co-facilitate health-related groups in other areas, such as diabetes management or brain injury support groups, depending on the intern's clinical or research interests.



HOW TO APPLY

The program uses the application provided by APPIC and 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.