**Training at Children’s National**

We offer two-year, full time fellowships in pediatric neuropsychology. Our training combines clinical, didactic, and research activities to prepare you for a career in clinical-academic neuropsychology. We are a member of the *Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN)* and our program is designed to conform to guidelines set forth by the INS-APA Division 40 Task Force and the Houston Conference on Specialty Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology.

The patient population at Children’s National is culturally diverse, providing fellows with the opportunity to work with families from a variety of backgrounds. Fellows work with children and adolescents with a wide range of complex developmental and medical/neurological disorders. We are based in an outpatient medical setting. Referral questions most often relate to the child’s profile of cognitive strengths and weaknesses, diagnostic concerns, and educational and therapeutic program planning. Many rotations include a focus on multidisciplinary interactions. At Children’s National, we are particularly known for expertise in mild TBI/concussion, autism spectrum disorders, and the effects of medical and developmental disorders on executive functions. Development of assessment tools and research-based treatments are also areas of unique strength. We are deeply committed to training.

Our faculty and fellows are involved in grant-funded *clinical research*, and our team actively publishes in high impact, peer-reviewed journals. Our neuropsychology faculty members are leaders in the field, serving as grant reviewers, chair and committee members, and panel experts for national and international societies, research consortiums and foundations. This high level of expertise, combined with our location in the Washington DC area, uniquely positions us for involvement in *legislative advocacy* related to issues such as mild TBI in children and autism spectrum disorders. Several faculty members have attained or are currently pursuing board-certification in neuropsychology (ABPP/ABCN).

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**About Children’s National**

Serving the nation’s children since 1870, Children's National is a leading clinical and research institution, and is the only exclusive provider of pediatric care in the metropolitan Washington area. We are ranked among the best children's hospitals in the country. Children’s National offers services at the main hospital in the District of Columbia and at regional satellites throughout the DC area. The Division of Pediatric Neuropsychology has its main office at a regional outpatient center in Rockville, Maryland, and also serves children at the main hospital and at additional satellite locations in Maryland and Virginia. See [www.childrensnational.org](http://www.childrensnational.org) for more information.

The atrium of Children’s National – main hospital campus

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*Image of the atrium of Children’s National – main hospital campus*
Training Tracks

We have openings in three training tracks this year. Applicants are welcome to apply to more than one track. Please note that all tracks offer general neuropsychological training with a range of populations and prepare fellows for a career that blends clinical, research, and training activities. Tracks 2 (Concussion) and 3 (Autism) additionally offer the opportunity for more in-depth training in a rapidly-expanding and highly marketable area of pediatric neuropsychology. The tracks overlap in the experiences available, but differ in emphasis (percent time in different rotations) and research focus.

Track 1: Pediatric Neuropsychology – General Track
*Match Number 8803 – One opening.*

This track provides broad, general training in pediatric neuropsychology service to children and adolescents. The fellow receives exposure to a wide range of pediatric populations, with a balance between neurodevelopmental (e.g., ADHD, learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders) and medical/ neurological disorders (e.g., epilepsy, brain tumors, leukemia, concussions and other brain injuries). Patients are usually school-aged through late adolescents, with opportunities to see preschool-aged patients according to the fellow’s interests. Clinical experiences provide opportunities to develop facility with: battery selection and administration; focused history taking and process-driven behavioral observations; case formulation; provision of feedback; report writing; work with multidisciplinary teams; and consultation with schools. In this track, fellows see patients from the General Outpatient Service (about half of patients) and specific rotation-related populations (see Clinical Experiences, below, for a description of rotations and an example of a 2-year rotation plan). Typically, two days per week are spent providing evaluations. The fellow will also actively engage in research and will have a day a week of protected time for this. Opportunities are particularly strong in *hematology/oncology research* in the coming year, but other options may be available depending on grant funding. A wide-range of didactic and professional development opportunities (described below) prepare the fellow for a variety of career opportunities in pediatric neuropsychology.

Track 2: Pediatric Neuropsychology - Concussion and Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Track
*Match Number 8805 – One opening.*

The fellow in this track will receive broad-based general training in pediatric neuropsychology (similar to description for Track 1), paired with an in-depth experience in working with children who have sustained mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI)/ concussion. The fellow will be specially trained to provide evaluation, consultation and treatment through the Safe Concussion Outcome, Recovery & Education (SCORE) Program within the Division of Neuropsychology, under the direction of Gerry Gioia, PhD, one of the leaders in the field of pediatric concussion. The fellow will have the opportunity to work with a variety of medical professionals (e.g., emergency department, sports medicine, neurology, athletic trainers, physical trainers) regarding evaluation and treatment of mild TBI/ concussion. With faculty members, the fellow will be involved in providing brain injury education to schools, parents, medical professionals, and athletic programs and participate in community outreach activities.

In this track, approximately half of the fellow’s clinical activities (i.e., one day per week) are through the SCORE clinic. The other half will be a mix of General Outpatient Service and specialty rotations (such as Autism, EF Clinic, Epilepsy, hematology-oncology; see descriptions below). The fellow in this track will have one day per week of protected time for research on the effects of mTBI in children and the development of new assessment techniques. Thus, the fellow who completes this track will be well-positioned to pursue a career in general pediatric neuropsychology, and/ or to specialize in the rapidly-growing area of pediatric concussion.
**Track 3: Pediatric Neuropsychology/ Autism Track**  
*Match Number 8806 – One opening*

The fellow in this track will receive broad-based general training in pediatric neuropsychology (similar to description for Track 1), paired with an in-depth experience in the neuropsychology of high-functioning individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Some previous experience working with children with autism is required. Fellows in this track provide evaluations with children from one year of age through young adulthood in the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (CASD), within the Division of Neuropsychology. Many evaluations are within the context of multi-disciplinary teams (with psychiatrists, speech/ language pathologists, and developmental pediatricians). Fellows are trained in using gold-standard diagnostic measures (ADI and ADOS and participate in monthly group ADOS reliability sessions. The fellow will also have the unique opportunity to provide evidence-based executive function-focused group and individual treatment using the *Unstuck and On Target* curriculum developed at CASD. Approximately half of the fellow’s clinical activities are in CASD. The other half will be a mix of General Outpatient Service and specialty rotations (such as EF Clinic, Epilepsy, Hematology-oncology; see descriptions below). The fellow will have protected time for research (one to two days per week) on ongoing CASD projects, including federally-funded research to: develop and measure the efficacy of school-based and on-line executive function interventions; address disparities in access to care in ASD and ADHD; define the autism phenotype in females; and conduct neuroimaging of executive function in ASD. The fellow who completes this track will be well prepared for a career as a general pediatric neuropsychologist, and/ or a specialist in the neuropsychology of autism spectrum disorders.

**Clinical Experiences**

For fellows in both training tracks, approximately 45-65% of time is devoted to clinical work, which consists of a combination of general outpatient services and rotational or track-specific activities. Fellows typically complete the equivalent of two “clinic days” per week. A clinic day can follow various formats, such as a full neuropsychological evaluation, a more brief focused evaluation, or a day in concussion clinic seeing multiple new and follow-up patients. Fellows receive the assistance of our well-trained psychometrists, who administer and score a portion of the assessment, and also work with extern assistants (see Didactics and Professional Development Experiences, below). Fellows receive at least two hours of individual supervision per week, plus group supervision, with faculty involvement in cases tailored to the needs of the individual fellow to support growing independence. Fellows typically provide all of their clinical services at the Rockville office during their first year. During the second year, fellows will often divide their time between the Rockville office and the hospital campus in Washington, DC, to allow for completion of hospital-based rotations (e.g., epilepsy, hem-onc).
Clinical Rotations:

General Outpatient Service: All fellows spend a portion of their clinical time providing consultation and neuropsychological evaluation to our general service, which is for any referral for evaluation not coming through one of our specialty clinics/services listed below. The proportion of general outpatients is higher in the General track (approximately half of clinical service, especially in the first year) and lower (approximately a quarter) for fellows in the Concussion and Autism tracks. Patients seen in the general outpatient service include children and adolescents presenting with a variety of developmental or acquired neurocognitive difficulties.

Specialty Rotations: Rotations are organized to provide broad experience with neurodevelopmental disorders and a variety of referral questions in Year 1, and in-depth experiences with medical populations (e.g., epilepsy, hem/onc) in Year 2. Fellows in the Concussion track will spend relatively more time in the SCORE clinic rotation, and fellows in the Autism track will spend relatively more time in autism-related rotations, including neuropsychological and developmental evaluations and treatment. However, all fellows can be exposed to most or all of these populations, and we consider individual preferences and goals in order to individualize the training experience. Each rotation typically offers both didactic experiences (e.g., attending rounds) and experience with a given patient population.

Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (CASD) – This rotation provides experience in evaluating primarily high-functioning children with a prior diagnosis of, or a question of, autism spectrum disorder. The fellow will conduct neuropsychological evaluations and function as part of a multidisciplinary team of professionals. Differential diagnosis skills are emphasized as approximately half of referrals to CASD for question of ASD do not ultimately receive that diagnosis. Some have co-occurring medical disorders that increase risk of ASD (e.g., epilepsy, genetic disorders). Fellows receive individual and group supervision and participate in multidisciplinary team meetings, including case presentations and didactics. Fellows have the opportunity to provide school and parent consultation. Fellows (particularly those in the Autism track) can also provide group, individual, and family therapy.

Comprehensive Pediatric Epilepsy Program – The fellow participates in weekly multidisciplinary epilepsy team conference in the Neurology department, and provides evaluations of children and adolescents diagnosed with seizure disorders. The fellow will also follow surgery candidates through baseline assessment, possible Wada evaluation of language and memory functions, cortical mapping, and/ or functional imaging, and post-surgical evaluation.

Developmental Neuropsychological Evaluation – Evaluations (some as part of a multidisciplinary team) of preschool-aged children or those functioning at that developmental level, mostly referred to the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Executive Function Clinic – Our faculty are known for expertise in executive functioning. This clinic provides rapid, focused evaluations of children with suspected attentional and executive function problems. The rotation includes group supervision, and particular training in executive function profiles in ADHD and other neuropsychological disorders.

Hematology/Oncology Program - The fellow participates in clinical and neuroradiology rounds through the Hematology/Oncology and Neurology departments and learns about the cognitive sequelae of these disorders and their treatments. As part of the rotation, the fellow will provide consultations and evaluations to patients referred through the Hematology/Oncology and Neurology departments (Brain Tumor Institute). In addition, the fellow will also obtain clinical experience evaluating children with Neurofibromatosis (NF), and will provide consultation within the NF Institute.

Safe Concussion Outcome, Recovery & Education (SCORE) Program– This unique “primary care neuropsychology” clinic, situated within the Division of Pediatric Neuropsychology, conducts serial, focused neuropsychological evaluations with children who have sustained mild TBI/ concussions. Active treatment is also provided. The fellow will provide consultation to physicians, teachers, athletic and physical trainers regarding school and return to play/ activity issues.
Research
Approximately 20% of the fellow’s time is protected for clinical research. Fellows are matched to an area of research based first on training track, but also funding availability and interest. Current research programs focus on neurocognitive profiles of children and adolescents with developmental and acquired disorders including autism spectrum disorders, epilepsy, mild traumatic brain injury, cancer, genetic disorders (e.g., neurofibromatosis), and congenital heart disease. Several projects include neuroimaging (fMRI, DTI, MRS). The fellow is expected to be a productive member of his or her research team and to demonstrate competency for independent research after completing the program. For example, fellows are expected to present at professional conferences, and submit a review paper, chapter, research article, and/ or grant application by the end of the residency. Our program includes a research curriculum and monthly research meetings/ seminars to support the development of research skills. Our postdocs are authors on numerous peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and conference presentations. See below for examples of recent postdoc publications.

Didactic and Professional Development Experiences
Approximately 15-20% of the fellow’s time is devoted to didactics and professional development activities.

Weekly didactic/ professional development meetings: These meetings rotate each week and include Division Chief’s Seminars (with Dr. Gioia), group supervision, research meeting, and meetings with the training director.

Neuropsychology Seminar: The weekly neuropsychology seminar series is designed to prepare fellows for professional practice and board certification in neuropsychology. It includes review of major topics in functional neuroanatomy and neuropsychological disorders, as well as legal and ethical issues and fact-finding case seminars.

Sample Neuropsychology Seminar Topics
- Functional Neuroanatomy Review
- Pediatric Epilepsy
- Legislative Advocacy
- Executive Function Intervention
- Neurocognitive Issues in Brain Tumors and Leukemia
- Introduction to Forensic Neuropsychology

Autism Seminar: Fellows participating in the autism rotation will attend a seminar series within the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders. Fellows who are not currently on rotation are also welcome to attend.

Additional opportunities through the larger medical center include hospital Grand Rounds, Behavioral Medicine Grand Rounds, Neuroscience Seminar, Neuroradiology Rounds, Epilepsy team meeting, brain cutting, observing brain surgery, shadowing a neurologist, etc. Many of these meetings can be attended via video teleconference.

Teaching and Supervision Opportunities: The fellow will develop teaching and supervisory skills to prepare him or her for independent practice as a pediatric neuropsychologist within clinical and academic medical settings. Fellows develop their own supervisory skills with psychology externs and psychometrists. Fellows present topics in the neuropsychology seminar series, and may be asked to present in the Core Seminar Series for psychiatry trainees, and/or Psychology Intern Seminar or other presentations within the hospital. Fellows also regularly provide community education and outreach at the local level and beyond.

Faculty member Cat McGil with postdoc Maya Zayat (2013-2015) at the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in 2014
Sample Schedule for General Track Postdoc:

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<td>1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Concussion Clinic</td>
<td>Didactics</td>
<td>CASD supervision &amp; didactics, Team feedbacks, Writing</td>
<td>Autism Clinic or General Outpatient Clinic (alt. weeks)</td>
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<td>Research</td>
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<td>Supervision</td>
<td>Feedbacks</td>
<td>Writing</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Epilepsy Case</td>
<td>Didactics</td>
<td>Main Hospital: Epilepsy Team meeting; Research</td>
<td>Developmental Evaluation Clinic or General Outpatient Clinic (alt. weeks)</td>
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<td>Feedbacks</td>
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<td>Supervision</td>
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<td>Spring</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Extern supervision</td>
<td>Main Hospital: Research, hospital-based rounds/ didactics</td>
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Salary/Benefits

The current salary is $47,476.00 per year.

Children’s National Medical Center offers an excellent benefits package. Postdoctoral fellows receive four weeks of annual leave (vacation) per year, and accrue sick leave. There are nine paid federal holidays. We provide a professional expense stipend for conference travel, books, licensure fees, etc. The hospital offers a selection of health insurance plans, optional dental and vision coverage, flexible spending accounts, employee assistance program, back-up dependent care assistance, optional life and disability insurance. More information about hospital benefits is available at childrensnational.org/careers/benefits/. At our beautiful Rockville office, fellows have private offices with large windows, free parking, and free use of exercise facilities in the building. Fellows receive the support of psychometrists for their testing cases. We maintain scoring and statistical analysis software, and through our academic affiliate, The George Washington University, offer excellent online access to library resources including full-text journals.

How to Apply

Qualifications of Applicants: We will consider applicants who have completed APA/CPA-approved doctoral programs in Clinical or School Psychology, and an APA/CPA-accredited clinical predoctoral internship that includes a major rotation in pediatric neuropsychology. Applicants should have prior training in neuropsychological assessment in the context of strong general clinical training, and must have an established focus (in graduate coursework, training, and career goals) on working with children and adolescents. Our postdoctoral fellows are expected to be productive members of their research team, and as such, candidates should have completed an empirical dissertation, and formal coursework in statistics and research methodology, as part of their graduate program. Strong skills in statistical analysis are highly desirable.

Application Procedure: Children’s National is a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and participates in the APPCN Resident Matching Program (the “Match”) administered by the National Matching Service. All applicants must register with the National Matching Service. Information can be obtained from APPCN (www.appcn.org) or NMS (www.natmatch.com/appcnmat or 416-977-3431). This residency site agrees to abide by the APPCN policy that no person at this facility will solicit, accept or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.
Interviews for selected applicants will be conducted at the INS meeting in February. Note that the traditional “Interview Day” for postdoctoral positions is the day before the INS conference begins (Tuesday). We will conduct many of our interviews that day, but a small number of slots will be available later in the week for conference attendees. For applicants not attending the INS meeting, interviews can be arranged at our Rockville office instead.

Materials are due December 27, 2016. We have an online portal for submitting your documents. Please access it by going to https://cri-datacap.org/surveys/ and entering the code: LNNC9W8NM or click the following link: https://cri-datacap.org/surveys/?s=FWTAMMFKXF. If you have any difficulties, please email npsypdoc@childrensnational.org to request to have the link emailed to you or to ask to submit your materials another way. The following application materials are required.

Materials to be uploaded by the applicant:
- Cover Letter: Please indicate clinical and research interests, goals, and perceived match to our program/track(s) of interest
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two de-identified assessment reports written by the applicant
- The Doctoral Training Verification Form (only required if your doctoral degree is not yet complete). This form is available from APPCN, and should be signed by your training director or dissertation advisor (http://appcn.org/doctoral-training-verification). It is also acceptable for this document to be sent directly from your director or advisor (via email or mail) if preferred.

Materials to be emailed or mailed from other sources:
- Three letters of recommendation sent directly (email preferred) from the recommenders. We do not accept letters sent by the applicant.
- Official graduate transcripts sent from your graduate institution(s), by mail or email

Letters of recommendation and transcripts should be sent to:
Laura Kenealy, PhD, ABPP-CN
Division of Pediatric Neuropsychology
Children’s National Medical Center
15245 Shady Grove Rd, Suite 350
Rockville, MD 20850
Email: npsypdoc@childrensnational.org
fax: 301-765-5497

Questions? Contact Dr. Laura Kenealy at 301-765-5439 or LKenealy@childrensnational.org.

Neuropsychologists at Children’s National have authored multiple assessment tools, a research-based treatment program for children with autism spectrum disorders, and several apps for concussion recognition and response.
Our Faculty

Madison Berl, PhD, ABPP-CN
Neuropsychologist; Research Director, Division of Neuropsychology
Interests: Epilepsy, neuroimaging, plasticity of cognitive functions
Contact: MBerl@ChildrensNational.org; 202-476-2545

Angela Bollich, PhD
Neuropsychologist
ASD evaluation and treatment over the lifespan, executive function, language development and interventions
Contact: ABollich@ChildrensNational.org; 301-297-4036

Gerard Gioia, PhD
Neuropsychologist; Chief, Division of Neuropsychology; Director, SCORE Clinic
Interests: Concussion/ mild TBI, executive function, psychometric development
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Yael Granader, PhD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: ASD evaluation, Epilepsy, Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, executive function
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Kristina Hardy, PhD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: Pediatric oncology, Neurofibromatosis, ADHD, executive function intervention
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Laura Kenealy, PhD, ABPP-CN
Neuropsychologist; Training Director, Division of Neuropsychology; Director, Executive Function Clinic
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Lauren Kenworthy, PhD
Neuropsychologist; Director, CASD
Interests: Non-social ASD phenotypes, genotypes, and treatment
Contact: LKenwort@ChildrensNational.org; 301-765-5441

Catherine McGill, PsyD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: SCORE/ Concussion, advocacy and community outreach, cognitive effects of medical disorders
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Julie Newman, PhD
Neuropsychologist
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Deborah Potvin, PhD
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Interests: Autism Spectrum Disorders, early diagnosis of ASD, preschool assessment
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Cara Pugliese, PhD
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Allison Ratto, PhD
Clinical Psychologist
Interests: Autism Spectrum Disorders, developmental evaluations, cultural factors in assessment; Spanish-language assessment
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Maegan Sady, PhD
Neuropsychologist
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Jacqueline Sanz, PhD, ABPP-CN
Neuropsychologist; Assistant Training Director
Interests: Congenital heart disease, genetic and metabolic syndromes; Spanish-language assessment
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Leigh Sepeta, PhD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: Epilepsy, acquired brain injury, neuroimaging, plasticity of cognitive functions.
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John Strang, PsyD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: Executive function, gender identity, ASD evaluation and intervention, intervention research
Contact: Jstrang@ChildrensNational.org; 301-765-5447

Christopher Vaughan, PsyD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: SCORE/concussion, neuroimaging, test/ measure development
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Karin Walsh, PsyD
Neuropsychologist
Interests: Hematology/Oncology (neuro-oncology), Neurofibromatosis Type 1, anxiety and cognition
Contact: Kwalsh@ChildrensNational.org; 202-476-3923

Selected Recent Publications by Postdocs
Reflecting work done during fellowship with us (postdoc names are in bold).


