

Clinical Research Intern at McLean Hospital

The Laboratory for Affective and Translational Neuroscience (LATN) at McLean Hospital (PI: Diego A. Pizzagalli, PhD) studies the causes, consequences, and pathophysiology of depression using a multi-modal approach spanning environment, brain, and behavior. We are seeking a recent graduate to fill a full-time Clinical Research Intern position, assisting with two NIH-funded studies (study descriptions below). A stipend will be provided for this position. This is an exceptional learning opportunity for someone preparing for graduate school in clinical psychology, neuroscience, or a related field.

Early Life Stress and Depression: Molecular and Functional Imaging Approaches (ELS2):

Examines the relationship between childhood maltreatment and major depressive disorder through clinical interviews, self-report surveys, and functional, structural, and molecular imaging. Findings aim to clarify the lasting neural effects of adolescent sexual abuse and their link to adult depression risk.

Beyond Monoamines: The Role of the Nociceptin/Orphanin FQ Receptor in Major

Depression (REWARD 41): Investigates the role of the Nociceptin/ Orphanin FQ peptide in MDD pathophysiology utilizing MRI, PET, biospecimens (i.e., blood, saliva), and behavioral tasks and the Nociceptin/ Orphanin FQ peptide's relationship to anhedonia and stress sensitivity.

Responsibilities

Recruit study participants and conduct phone screens in REDCap to assess eligibility against strict study criteria

Schedule and run remote and in-person study sessions; build rapport with and consent participants

Lead MRI session logistics: coordinate and schedule scans, run behavioral tasks during scanning, and process blood via pipetting/centrifuging

Handle administrative tasks: organizing study paperwork, data entry, maintaining participant logs, processing participant compensation, communicating with the IRB on protocol changes, uploading bi-annual submissions to the NIH NDA

Qualifications:

Full-time, in-person position requiring a 6- to 9-month commitment; candidates must be local to or willing to relocate to the Boston area

Start date: Immediate/as soon as possible

Bachelor's degree in Psychology or related field preferred, or a combination of relevant research experience and education

Research/human subjects experience; experience with neuroimaging methods is preferred

If interested, please email clam@mclean.harvard.edu and ssyed7@mclean.harvard.edu with a CV, cover letter, 2-4 references, and unofficial undergraduate transcript.