



McLean Hospital

Geriatric Psychiatry Student Visitor Practicum
An Affiliate of McLean Hospital & Harvard Medical School

Internship Lab Placement Options:

The Technology and Aging Lab, directed by Dr. Ipsit Vahia, investigates the applications of technological interventions to enhance clinical care across the lifespan. Current research focuses on the application of electronic media into psychotherapy, wearables to track symptom changes from medication adjustments in patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), applications of virtual reality to enhance mindfulness in older adults with mood disorders, AI-based phenotyping for mood disorders and monitoring of medication side effects for patients involved in clinical trials for ADRD/MCI, and augmented reality to supplement activities of daily living (ADLs) for patients with ADRD/MCI. View our website at geropsychtech.org

The Geriatric Psychiatry Research Program, directed by Dr. Ipsit Vahia, addresses cutting edge research questions in the areas of dementia and mood disorders using new neuroimaging techniques, clinicopathological correlations, and other study methods. Current studies include a number of Industry-Sponsored Alzheimer's Disease clinical drug trials, longitudinal analyses of older adults with depression and bipolar disorder, and Investigator-Initiated clinical trials focused on treatment interventions for behavioral symptoms associated with Alzheimer's disease, and neuroimaging studies. View our website at geriatricpsychiatryresearch.org

The Mood and Cognition in the Aging Lab, directed by Dr. Sara Weisenbach, investigates how problems such as cognitive dysfunction and depression symptomatology relate to the ability to regulate emotions during late middle and older age. Participants take part in an interview to gather information about medical and psychiatric history, a physical exam and blood draw, cognitive testing, a functional MRI scan, and questionnaires. Some parts of this study can be performed virtually, and we are enrolling patients at Stony Brook University who are unable to attend in-person visits at this time due to the pandemic. The overall aim of this study is to use the knowledge that we gain from this study to develop better interventions for emotion dysregulation and depression in older people. We are enrolling participants with and without a history of depression. View our website at [Mood and Cognition in Aging \(maca-lab.com\)](https://maca-lab.com)



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Internship Overview

This internship is geared towards students who are **actively enrolled in an undergraduate program** and are interested in gaining clinical and research experience. Student Visitors are primarily responsible for assisting with lab related procedures that include but are not limited to data entry, patient escort, transcription, and literature review compositions. Student Visitors are also encouraged to pursue their own research interests and take advantage of McLean Hospital's resources such as attending grand rounds at the hospital. Students will receive 1:1 mentorship with PIs and available clinicians to discuss future career/research interests. Additional opportunities include learning how to practice administering neuropsychological batteries, shadowing research visits, learning about research processes, sitting in on lab meetings, and conducting an independent research project.

We offer students the option to work remotely, in-person, or on a hybrid schedule. McLean Hospital offers students the option to receive academic credit for the position. **Students interested in receiving academic credit must check with their institution to identify a suitable program and supervisor to oversee the student's progress and ensure they are meeting its curriculum and clinical education goals. McLean requires a signed affiliation agreement with the institution that outlines obligations of both parties to ensure proper implementation and evaluation of clinical research education for the student. This agreement is drafted by McLean and cannot be edited.**

Outstanding applicants for this position should have a predisposition to working with patients and demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills. Due to the dynamic and variable nature of the position, applicants should show careful attention to detail and have excellent organizational skills with an ability to prioritize tasks. If you have any questions about the position, please refer to our FAQ table at the end of this document. For lab specific questions, refer to the contact information listed below:

- Contact Rebecca Dickinson at rdickinson@mclean.harvard.edu
- Contact Rosain Ozonsi at rozonsi@mclean.harvard.edu
- Contact Jeremy Marciaz at jmaciarz@mclean.harvard.edu

Due to high volume of applications, emails with application materials will not be reviewed. Please use the application portal to formally apply.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

Responsibilities may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assisting with study procedures- Pre-screening potential study candidates- Data entry and database management- Literature reviews as needed	Qualifications of strong candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strong desire and willingness to learn- Interest in research, medicine, psychiatry, clinical psychology, neuroscience, biology, or psychology
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assisting investigators with presentation and manuscript preparations - Any other duties assigned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively enrolled in an undergraduate research program - Experience interacting w/ patients - Previous research experience <i>preferred</i> - Proficient computer skills - Ability to work in-person at McLean Hospital <i>preferred</i>
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FAQs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a difference in opportunities between an Academic Credit Student (ACS) and Student Visitor (SV)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There isn't a difference! We provide both types of students with the same opportunities! ACS refers to students who would like to receive academic credit for their participation in our program. <i>Further details explain in the bolded section above.</i> • How long can I stay in the lab as a student visitor? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student visitors can stay up to a full year in a lab :) • When is the best time to apply for an internship at GPRP? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We recommend applying at least 3 months prior to the semester you intend on starting. For ex: a student planning to intern in the summer around May should apply by February. • I made an error on my application, can I make changes? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All applications have the option to return to make changes. The link should be available upon starting the survey application. • I submitted an application and haven't heard back, what should I do? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If you haven't heard back up to three weeks from your submission, please contact one of our program leads, contact above, to inquire about your application status. • I did not get accepted into the program, can I apply again? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes! We encourage candidates to re-apply to our program if they do not get in the first time. • Can I work on any study or am I just assigned to one? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We balance the interests of the student and the needs of the program to curate a list of available student projects. You will not be limited to one study, but are expected to contribute to wherever help is needed. • Is this a paid opportunity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is an unpaid opportunity. Students are able to receive academic credit, <i>details in bolded portion above.</i>
