



## NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT CLINIC

### NEUROPSYCHOLOGY PRACTICUM

Packard Square Professional Centre - Lawrence, MA  
Brighton Marine Centre - Brighton, MA



#### **About Neuropsychological Assessment Clinic**

The Neuropsychological Assessment Clinic (NAC) is a multidisciplinary private clinic that offers a wide range of services to individuals across the lifespan with attention, learning, neurodevelopmental, and behavioral issues, as well as neurodegenerative and psychiatric conditions that commonly accompany these disorders. We specialize in providing neuropsychological, psychoeducational, and psychological testing, as well as psychotherapeutic support.

Our clinic offers a unique and appealing opportunity for graduate and post-graduate students with a strong interest in neuropsychology. We provide comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations across the lifespan, as well as individual, family, and couples therapy, and cognitive rehabilitation for individuals with neurological disorders (such as strokes), and group psychotherapy (such as ADHD group, Weight Management Group, Anger Management/Mindfulness Group, DBT Group).

As an independent private practice, we collaborate closely with referral sources, including psychiatrists, psychologists, neurologists, primary care physicians, and schools. Our affiliations with St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Tufts Medical Center for Children with Special Needs, and Boston Medical Center allow students to work alongside experienced neuropsychologists and other healthcare professionals.

At NAC, we are committed to providing students a unique learning experience tailored to their needs and interests. Our program is designed to provide students with hands-on training in neuropsychological assessment, emphasizing developing the skills necessary to conduct assessments in various clinical and research settings.

### **Training Programs At NAC**

Our clinic provides a comprehensive training experience in neuropsychological assessment designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct assessments in various clinical and research settings. Our program is supervised by experienced neuropsychologists and is tailored to meet the unique needs of each student.

NAC serves as a training site for practicum students, pre-doctoral interns, and post-doctoral fellows with a strong interest in neuropsychology from various Master's level and Doctoral programs in the area, including but not limited to:

- University of Massachusetts Lowell
- Boston University, Boston, MA
- Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- Northeastern University, Boston, MA
- Lesley University, Cambridge, MA
- William James College, Newton, MA
- Salem State University, Salem, MA
- Antioch University New England, Keene, NH

### **Accreditation**

- Full accreditation as a Post-Doctoral Fellowship Residency Training Program by the American Board of Professional Psychology in Clinical Neuropsychology.
- Good standing with the Association of Psychology Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowship Centers (APPIC).
- Internship Consortium with William James College and accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association

### **Training Model**

The NAC training in neuropsychology is an excellent opportunity for doctoral students in clinical psychology to gain practical experience in a growing field that is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with neurological and cognitive disorders

- Developing a comprehensive understanding of the neuropsychological assessment process, including the administration, scoring, and interpretation of commonly used neuropsychological tests.
- Developing a solid foundation in neuropsychology's theoretical and empirical principles, including neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and neuropsychological disorders.
- Gaining experience in diagnosing and treating a wide range of neuropsychological disorders, including traumatic brain injury, stroke, dementia, and other cognitive and neurological disorders.
- Developing strong clinical skills, including establishing rapport with patients, conducting thorough clinical interviews, flexible battery assessment, and putting together compassionate and effective treatment plans.

### **Clinical Experience**

At our training program, you will receive comprehensive training in all aspects of neuropsychological assessment. The focus is on diagnosing and assessing a variety of

neurological and cognitive disorders, developing treatment plans, providing feedback, and offering therapeutic interventions.

Under close supervision from experienced neuropsychologists, you will gain practical experience in evaluating outpatients with various neurodevelopmental, neuropsychiatric, and neurological conditions. This includes both pediatric and adult patients.

The cases you will work on range from neurodevelopmental disorders like ADHD and learning disabilities to neuropsychiatric disorders, suspected or known neurodegenerative dementias, mild cognitive impairment, brain tumors, stroke, multiple sclerosis, toxic exposure, epilepsy, and chronic pain. You will also learn about various medical and psychiatric conditions such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, vascular dementia, schizophrenia, and depression.

Referrals for child and adult patients typically come from primary care providers, community clinics, pediatricians, psychiatrists, neurologists, neurosurgery, infectious disease, and rehabilitation facilities. Assessment may also be requested to assist the patient, referring provider, treatment team, or the family in determining rehabilitation needs or educational planning.

During the practicum, you will learn the basics and advanced techniques for diagnosing neurodevelopmental, neurological, and neurodegenerative disorders, analyzing the interactions between cognitive impairments and psychiatric and physical illnesses, and understanding how patients' impairments affect their functional abilities.

Overall, this practicum program is an excellent opportunity for students with a strong interest in neuropsychology to gain hands-on experience in various neurological and cognitive disorders. You will work with experienced professionals and receive close supervision, allowing you to develop your skills and knowledge in this growing field.

As a practicum student, you will have access to our clinical database, which contains both clinical and neuropsychological data. This will give you valuable insights into assessing and treating patients with neurological and cognitive disorders. Furthermore, many of our practicum students present posters at local and national conferences. Some students even publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals or use data from the clinic in their dissertations. We are committed to supporting our students in their academic and professional pursuits, and we encourage them to use their experiences at the clinic as a springboard for their future careers.

In addition, you will attend weekly rounds and case conferences in neuropsychology and neurology, where you will have the opportunity to discuss cases with experienced professionals and learn from their expertise. You will also participate in weekly neuropsychology didactics, covering various topics related to neuropsychology assessment and intervention. To further enhance your learning, you will attend monthly neuropsychology fact-finding meetings to discuss research and new developments in the field with your peers and supervisors. You will also receive close supervision from our fellows at the NAC, who will provide feedback on your work and help you develop your skills.

Overall, this practicum program provides a comprehensive and organized approach to learning about neuropsychology assessment and intervention. You will have access to a wealth of resources and receive close supervision from experienced professionals, allowing you to develop your skills and knowledge in this growing field.

**Application Materials:** The application process includes submitting the following:

1. Letter of Intent- A one or two-page document summarizing your interests, experiences, internship plans, and future goals
  - When you apply for our program, please indicate your preference for the training location. We have two campuses in Massachusetts: one in Lawrence and one in Brighton. Alternatively, if you do not have a preference, please let us know. This information will help us ensure we can provide you with the best possible training experience based on your needs and preferences.
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. One Letter of Recommendation, preferably from a previous clinical supervisor

Additional materials (e.g., a list of neuropsychological tests you are intimately familiar with) that the candidate would like us to consider are welcome.

We welcome students with a strong interest in neuropsychology to apply for clinical training at our clinic. Please contact us if you have any questions or want to learn more about our program. Materials should be emailed to Irene Piryatinsky, Ph.D., ABPP, at [Irene.Piryatinsky@steward.org](mailto:Irene.Piryatinsky@steward.org)

## NAC Staff



**Director of Clinical Training: Irene Piryatinsky, PhD, ABPP-CN, Child/Adult Focus**

**Contact:** Irene.Piryatinsky@steward.org, (617-383-7804)

Dr. Irene Piryatinsky (she/her) is a board certified and licensed clinical neuropsychologist with years of clinical experience. She completed an American Psychological Association (APA) approved clinical psychology Ph.D. program, an APA approved internship at the Bedford VA, and two years of clinical neuropsychology fellowship at Brown University. At Butler Hospital in Providence, she was investigating the role of normal pressure hydrocephalus on cognitive functioning. Dr. Piryatinsky has extensive experience in cognitive testing in diagnosing Alzheimer's disease, frontal lobe dysfunction, and psychotic disorders in the elderly. She served as a pediatric neuropsychologist at the Brown University Baby Imaging Lab, where the focus of research was on developing and applying magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) techniques to study brain structure and development. The goal of the research was to provide the foundation from which to determine what happens in children who develop psychiatric disorders, such as autism, ADHD, or developmental delay. She holds faculty appointments at St. Elizabeth Medical Center and Boston Medical Center.



**Clinical Neuropsychologist/Supervisor: Taylor Allard, PsyD, Lifespan**

Taylor Allard, PsyD (she/her) is a licensed psychologist who completed her APA approved clinical psychology program and APA approved internship at Hutchings Psychiatric Center in Syracuse, NY. She is a neuropsychologist who works with clients across the lifespan in the areas of assessment, individual and group psychotherapy. Dr. Allard focuses on assessment of children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, and psychiatric conditions such as anxiety, mood disturbance, disruptive behaviors, adjustment disorders, trauma, language delays and intellectual disabilities. Her focus on the adult population includes evaluating individuals with mild cognitive impairment, dementia, multiple sclerosis, hydrocephalus, traumatic brain injury, and somatic symptom disorders. Dr. Allard evaluates adults referred for early detection, differential diagnosis for individuals with suspected cognitive impairment. Dr. Allard also evaluates adolescents and adults referred for psychodiagnostic assessment and focuses on the evaluation of psychosis, bipolar disorder, depression and anxiety, OCD, PTSD and personality disorders.



**Associate Director of Clinical Training: Maxine Kregel, PhD, Adult Focus**

Dr. Maxine Kregel (she/her) is an experienced neuropsychologist, conducting evaluations at BMC and supervising doctoral-level practicum students, interns and postdoctoral trainees. She previously supervised internship and post-doctoral level trainees at the VA Boston Healthcare System. Her areas of expertise include assessment and treatment of Parkinson's Disease (PD) and other movement disorders, including Huntington's Disease; neurotoxicant exposures, mild traumatic brain injury, learning disabilities, and various forms of dementia.