

## **Adult Neuropsychological Assessment - Epilepsy Program @ VGH**

### Supervisor

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### About the Practicum

The Epilepsy practicum takes place in the Adult Epilepsy Program at Vancouver General Hospital. This practicum provides outpatient neuropsychological evaluation experience only. Trainees will acquire experience and skills in neuropsychological evaluation of patients with seizure disorders stemming from a variety of etiologies (i.e., mesial temporal sclerosis, tumor, migration disorders, autoimmune disorders, acquired brain injuries). Assessment is provided primarily for pre- and post-surgical evaluations. Patients who are not suitable for surgery but have cognitive complaints are also seen.

Depending on their stage of training, trainees will review patient history, clarify referral question with referring neurologist, conduct clinical interview and testing, score test protocols, review relevant literature, write the evaluation report, and provide feedback to the patients and their family. Those who become proficient in pre-surgical neuropsychological evaluations will also present neuropsychological data to the epilepsy team during Seizure Rounds. Interpreter services are used with individuals who do not speak English. Trainees are encouraged to work with patients with diverse individual, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds depending on available referrals.

Trainees have the opportunity to interact with the multidisciplinary epilepsy team comprising of neurologists, neurosurgeons, neuroradiologists, nurses, a psychiatrist, a pharmacist, a dietitian, and a social worker on a daily basis and/or during the weekly consensus Rounds. Trainees who come with extensive testing skills will have the opportunity to work with psychometrists. The practicum student is part of our Clinic's active training program with several residents and fellows in neurology, neuropsychiatry, and/or neuropsychology, and is encouraged to participate in the monthly journal club hosted by the neurology residents/fellows.

This practicum provides the unique opportunity to follow patients through the process of epilepsy presurgical investigations. In addition to training in neuropsychological evaluations, trainees may shadow neurologists on their outpatient consultation and inpatient Rounds at the Seizure Investigation Unit, participate in multidisciplinary case discussion, and observe neurosurgery. When available, trainees may also observe Wada testing and/or extraoperative language mapping or in awake craniotomy.

### Structure and Duration

This practicum is offered year round if the trainee is able to commit to at least 3 days a week for a mutually agreed time frame. As this is a fast-paced setting, trainees who are able to dedicate full time (5 days/week) to this practicum will find the learning experience much more enjoyable.

### Stipend

None

### Application Requirements

Trainees at the practicum level must have completed graduate level neuropsychology coursework including neuropsychological assessment (with mastery of at least the full WAIS and WMS) as well as some general clinical psychology courses. Trainees who have completed coursework in clinical neurology and/or functional neuroanatomy will find this practicum much more manageable and enriching than trainees who do not have these foundational knowledge. As this is a specialty training experience, only trainees in neuropsychology track are accepted. Prior practical experience is not required but preferred.

### Application Process

Please email your application package to [jing.tan@vch.ca](mailto:jing.tan@vch.ca) by February 23, 2026. The package should include your curriculum vitae and a cover letter outlining the relevant neuropsychology coursework you have completed, your training in neuropsychological assessment to date, and why you are interested in this practicum. The successful applicant will be notified by March 23, 2026.