***Wellstar Health System***

***Pediatric Neuropsychology Advanced Practicum Description***

**Site Name**: Wellstar Health System – Psychological Services: Pediatric Neuropsychology Advanced Practicum

**Primary Supervisors**: Jonathan N. Dodd, Psy.D, ABPP; Alyssa Krentzel, Psy.D.

**Location**: 3939 Roswell Road, Suite 200. Marietta, GA 30062

**Setting**:Outpatient ambulatory clinic – Pediatric Behavioral Health

**Referral Sources**: The vast majority of referrals come from neurologists and pediatricians with occasional referrals from child and adolescent psychiatry.

**Patient Population:** Children, adolescents, and young adults (ages 3 – 21), with most patients being of school age (elementary and middle school age), with neurological and/or neurodevelopmental disorders or cognitive/learning complaints. The most common referring neurological diagnosis is epilepsy, with other diagnoses including traumatic brain injury/concussion, Tourette syndrome, learning disorders, and ADHD.

**Intended Trainees:** This advanced practicum is suitable for trainees who have already completed at least one neuropsychology practicum or who had experience as a neuropsychology psychometrist prior to their graduate program, or other significant testing experience in a related field.

**Practicum Structure**:

* 11 months (roughly Aug 2025 – July 2026) depending on trainee availability/interest and graduate program approval.
  + 3-month practicum experiences are available for advanced candidates depending on graduate program requirements.
* Training rotations will most likely be 50/50 between Drs. Dodd and Krentzel, with variation in supervision schedule to meet the needs of the trainee (e.g., to maximize breadth of exposure to different clinical populations).
* First 6-8 weeks dedicated to test check-off (observation, self-study, practice with psychometrists).
* After completing test training portion, 4–5-month rotations with each supervisor.

* **Clinical Activities**:
  + 2 days per week (Mon-Thurs) for 11-month practicum (estimated 30 – 35 cases total):
    - **Day # 1** is a “clinical day” during which the student engages in provision of clinical services, including clinical interviews and test administration.

(testing batteries range from 4-7 hours of direct patient contact)

* + - **Day # 2** is a “non-clinical day” reserved for scoring, report writing, and supervision (being on site not required, although may not be able to avoid for some cases). However, feedbacks may also be scheduled on this day, so the student has the opportunity to develop feedback skills under supervision.
    - Friday didactics offered, but not required
  + Once testing patients independently, the student preps his/her own cases during the week prior to the date of the patient’s appointment. This takes place on the “non-clinical day.” Case preparation includes: 1) record review in electronic medical records (EPIC); 2) selecting the proposed test battery based on patient diagnosis and referral questions; 3) briefing the supervising neuropsychologist on the case; and 4) conceptualize and review relevant literature. (This constitutes about 30 minutes of individual supervision on the “non-clinical day.”
  + 3-month practicum experiences are available for advanced students with strong testing background experience in pediatric neuropsychology (i.e., do not require significant initial training in test administration and can start conceptualizing cases early on).
  + Provisions to practicum structure can be made depending on the graduate program specifications (e.g., 1 ½ day maximum).
* **Supervision**: The student receives a minimum of 2-3 hours of individual supervision per week by one of the primary supervisors (Drs. Dodd or Krentzel) for clinical training (detailed breakdown below) as well as monthly meetings with the Training Director (Dr. Dunn) for administrative needs.
  + Case Preparation & Case Conceptualization: At least 1 hour per week of formal individual supervision focusing on case preparation and case conceptualization.
  + Supervision of clinical training activities: Additional supervision via direct observation is provided during clinical interview (1 hour) and feedbacks (1 hour), as well as on an on-going basis to ensure proper test administration and assist with clinical decision-making as problems or issues arise.
* **Didactics**: Virtual, synchronous didactics are held on Fridays 11a-12p and either 1p-2p or 10a-11a depending on the week. Participation by the trainee is strongly encouraged.
  + Didactics cover a range of topics related to neuropsychology, neuroimaging, neurology, psychometric principles, etc., and are based on standards from the *Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology* (APPCN). Topics include both pediatric and adult presentations on a rotating basis.
    - An optional experience depending on the training needs of the student can be that the student will select a clinical population or topic in which they wish to develop expertise. With mentorship from their supervisor, the student will become familiar with their chosen topic and will present one topic of their choosing in didactics during their rotation.

**Evaluation procedures**:

* For 3-month rotation, evaluations will occur at the end of the rotation using the preferred evaluation form of the student’s graduate program or one provided by our program. For a 12-month practicum, evaluations will occur quarterly using the preferred evaluation form of the student’s graduate program. Communication regarding the student’s areas of strength and goals for continued development are provided on an as-needed basis, as well as in formal evaluation. Students are provided on-going feedback regarding performance and progress towards their training goals.

**Grievance Procedures**:

The student will discuss potential grievances directly with the supervisor. If the situation is such that the student does not feel comfortable with direct communication with the supervisor regarding the matter at hand, then they should contact the graduate program training director to discuss an appropriate and ethical course of action.