Start Date: May-June 2018

Principal Investigators: Thilo Deckersbach PhD (primary supervisor), Darin Dougherty MD, Alik Widge MD PhD

Responsibilities: Full-time Clinical Research Coordinator II (CRC II) needed in the Division of Neurotherapeutics, a multidisciplinary clinical neuroscience group. We conduct neuroimaging, EEG, behavioral, and clinical studies of severe psychiatric illness. Most of our work uses Deep Brain Stimulation and similar devices as tools to both treat disease and understand the brain.

The CRC II will be responsible for both data collection and analysis. Data collection includes application of neuroimaging and electrophysiology (fMRI and EEG), behavioral/psychophysical tasks, and standardized questionnaires. The CRC II will be responsible for performing fMRI, PET, and behavioral data analysis for several studies involving neural mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness. Data analysis will include a variety of statistical methods, and will likely require learning new software tools (e.g., SPM, Freesurfer). The CRC II will also help produce reports, scholarly clinical research abstracts, posters, and manuscripts for publication and can expect to be credited as an author on many of these.

The CRC II will work closely with Investigators, study staff and the Institutional review Board (IRB) to implement and oversee studies and submit appropriate regulatory forms, document, compile and maintain clinical research data, patient files, regulatory binders and study databases. The CRC II can expect to conduct clinical assessments and work closely with patients by coordinating and administering, scoring, and evaluating study questionnaires/interviews. There will be opportunities to shadow clinicians in the division and/or observe neurosurgeries as part of our research data collection.

The position requires high level technical and analytical skills, the ability to manage data software systems, strong research and writing skills, and the ability and desire to work independently. The CRC will be working closely with severely ill psychiatric patients for data collection, and so should be comfortable and considerate while working with clinical populations. We give preference to candidates who are interested in clinical/translational research work as part of their long-term career.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with at least 1 year of related research experience not for course credit required. Candidates of all majors are welcomed, but must possess a strong interest in clinical problems and neuroscience. Strong interpersonal skills are a must, and experience with psychiatric clinical populations is highly preferred but not required. Candidates must be organized with attention to detail and able to work independently. Candidates must also possess good writing and editing skills, and basic programming skills in a scientific language such as MATLAB, Python, or R. Familiarity with UNIX/LINUX and C shell scripting is recommended but not required. Candidates must have prior neuroimaging experience, including familiarity with fMRI data analysis. Proficiency in FreeSurfer, SPM, or similar programs is a plus.

Ongoing/upcoming projects:
- multiple DBS studies funded by the Brain Initiative
- multi-site studies of the neural basis of consciousness
- neuroimaging studies of trichotillomania, eating disorders, and endocrine dysfunctions.

Please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter to Aishwarya Gosai at agosai@mgh.harvard.edu