

The Interventional Psychiatry Program at St. Michael's Hospital (Unity Health Toronto) is looking for undergraduate student researchers to provide essential assistance in ongoing clinical trials evaluating novel interventions for psychiatric disorders. In general, this role provides support to the Research Team and Principal Investigators on projects focusing on the design and implementation of novel interventions (neurostimulation, pharmacology, measurement-based care, and/or digital mental health interventions) for major depressive disorder, anxiety disorders, and other mental health conditions.

Volunteer options available for 2025 Winter, Spring/Summer, and Fall terms (minimum 5 hour/week commitment), with opportunities for course credit, theses, or funded studentships in future terms, under the direction of Dr. Venkat Bhat.

Student researchers will assist with recruitment, data collection, data processing and entry, transcription, qualitative and statistical analyses, clinical trials, and/or systematic literature reviews. Tasks may include systematic article screening, data entry and cleaning, signal processing, data quality checks, statistical analysis, machine learning or Al modelling, and following research procedures. Research may take place in a clinical or community setting, and thus tasks may vary depending on the nature of the research.

- Obtaining informed consent from participants for clinical trials
- Contacting participants for data compliance and/or follow-up assessment calls
- Data extraction, entry, and pre-processing
- Conducting quantitative (statistical, ML/AI) or qualitative (thematic, IPA, etc.) analysis
- Preparing protocols, informed consent forms, and/or ethics applications for upcoming clinical trials
- Understanding, interpreting, and reporting qualitative or quantitative data.
- Assisting with manuscript and report writing.

All student researchers are expected to carry out their assigned duties and responsibilities in a manner which prioritises patient and employee safety and confidentiality. Key accountabilities in this regard include:

- Strict compliance with patient/employee confidentiality practices and policies.
- Strict compliance with patient/employee safety practices and standards.
- Appropriate identification, reporting, and response to patient/employee confidentiality breaches in accordance with established policies and procedures.
- Appropriate identification, reporting, and response to patient/employee safety risks and incidents/events in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Qualifications, Skills, & Knowledge

- Enrolled in an Undergraduate program in Health Sciences, Psychology, Biostatistics, Engineering, Mathematics, or a related field OR demonstrable equivalent combination of specialised education and experience
 - Interest in pursuing a graduate or professional program is an asset

- Minimum GPA 3.7
- Experience with systematic reviews is an asset
- Experience with data collection, informed consent, or data entry is an asset
- Experience with quantitative (biostatistics) or machine learning/Al analysis is an asset
- TCPS CORE 2 is an asset
- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) certificate is an asset
- Basic computer (e.g., MSOffice, proficient typing skills) and problem-solving skills, required
- Intermediate organisation and time management skills, including multi-tasking and flexibility to adapt to changing workload, required
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team, required
- Strong attention to detail and communication skills (written, verbal, visual, presentation), required
- Experience with a reference manager (i.e. EndNote, Mendeley, etc.) is an asset
- Experience with systematic review tools (i.e. Ovid, MeSH terms, Covidence) is an asset
- Experience with quantitative analysis software (e.g., SPSS, R) is an asset
- Experience with computer programming, signal processing of physiological signals, or ML/Al modeling (e.g., Python, Matlab) is an asset
- Experience with scientific writing and APA/Vancouver formatting is an asset

Interested applicants should submit their CVs, unofficial university transcripts, and brief (1-page) cover letter to Dr. Karisa Parkington (karisa.parkington@unityhealth.to). Cover letters should overview the relevance of this role to the candidate's experience/career plan and their interest in interventional psychiatry research or biomedical engineering. Candidates selected for an interview will be notified by email.

We welcome applications from candidates of all backgrounds and communities (women, LGBTQ2+, Indigenous, lived experience with mental health, disabilities, neurodivergent, marginalized groups, etc.), supporting an equitable, diverse, and inclusive research team environment. Don't meet every single requirement? Studies have shown that people in underrepresented communities are less likely to apply to jobs when they don't meet every single qualification. We are dedicated to building an inclusive workplace, so if you're excited about this role but your past experience doesn't align perfectly, we still welcome you to apply.