

## **Post-Doctoral Fellow Positions in Youth Mental Health and Early Psychosis**

A group of youth mental health and early psychosis researchers at the Douglas Research Centre (affiliated to McGill University) and Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM) invites applications for Postdoctoral Fellow positions from candidates interested in gaining expertise in and significantly contributing to research projects focused on **youth mental health, early intervention in mental health, and innovative approaches and research methods associated with these fields.**

### **Background**

The vision of the research programs that unites these researchers is that young people in Canada and internationally have timely access to appropriate, youth-friendly mental healthcare, and enjoy well-being and social, educational, and economic participation within their community. This program is multidimensional with arms touching various themes in youth mental health and early intervention for psychosis such as mental health determinants, pathways to care; treatment delays; models of evolution and illness course; service models and interventions to improve outcomes and the engagement of young people and their carers; data and measurement; measurement-based care, data repository systems, learning health systems; implementation science; digital interventions (e.g., gamification, e-mental health assessment and treatments, web-based and VR training, etc.); staging and stepped care models; etc.

Across projects, cross-cutting features include the engagement of multiple stakeholders (young adults with lived experience, families/carers, service providers, community organizations, Indigenous partners, people from vulnerable and minority groups including newcomers, LGBTQ2+ community, homeless youth), researchers, policy-/decision-makers, etc.; integrated knowledge translation; co-design; attentiveness to equity, diversity and inclusion; and an emphasis on practice and policy impacts. While the specific methods prioritized may vary by project, the researchers share an appreciation for diverse methodologies (qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, knowledge synthesis, consensus methods, arts-based, research-action etc.), forms of knowledge and disciplines, and for the power in integrating them.

The program is founded on advanced services and knowledge translation (KT) platforms such as ACCESS Open Minds, a pan-Canadian youth mental health network (CIHR-SPOR) and SAR-PEP, a Quebec-wide learning health system of early intervention services for psychosis; and integrated clinical research programs such as the Clinique JAP and the Prevention and Early Intervention Program for Psychosis (PEPP). It also has links with many key initiatives in early intervention and youth mental health (e.g., Aire ouverte, Quebec's integrated youth services initiative; working groups on clinical staging and stepped care; etc.).

### **Position Overview**

Post-doctoral fellows will work with supervisors to identify one primary research project/area of work. While there is scope for some variations based on individual fellow's interests, the list of areas we are focusing on at present include (a) learning health systems on early intervention for psychosis and/or youth mental health including supporting the development of a digital infrastructure for the capture, linkage, and timely sharing of relevant data (b) digital learning environments (e.g., training and support for data, measurement and representativeness); (c) global mental health (especially a current project based in Nigeria) (d) Indigenous mental health (e) youth mental health (e.g., digital approaches, services research, etc.); (f) transdiagnostic course of illness progression (e.g., clinical staging, stepped care) (g) early intervention for psychosis interventions and outcomes.

Each post-doctoral fellow will be supervised by at least one of the 4 researchers/program leaders coming together in this call (Drs. Amal Abdel-Baki, Manuela Ferrari, Srividya Iyer, Jai Shah). Where appropriate, candidates will be encouraged to work in a co-supervision model to ensure integration of varied, complementary perspectives. The candidate will work closely with the research groups' collaborators across Quebec, Canada and internationally.

Each recruited post-doctoral fellow will have the opportunity to actively contribute to conceptualization, implementation, data collection and analysis, knowledge translation and stakeholder engagement and develop a solid foundation for a future career as a researcher or clinician-scientist. Examples of other activities include but are not limited to developing research protocols, project design and execution; preparing grants and ethics applications, scientific writing (manuscripts, reports etc.), participation in scientific outreach activities (seminars, conferences, etc.) and supervision of students, and innovative knowledge dissemination activities.

To enhance skill sets of team members including post-doctoral fellows, monthly workshops and team meetings are organized regularly. External and/or internal speakers are invited to provide training sessions on topics such as youth mental health research, research methods (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods), systematic review, meta-analysis, responsible conduct of research and personalized training of data analysis software. Additionally, team members regularly attend seminars, present posters at national and international conferences, write scientific publications and conduct knowledge translation activities. Such a vibrant learning environment will provide excellent opportunities to the postdoctoral fellows to hone their current research skills and progress towards establishing their own independent research program and successful career in academia, research or other leadership context.

### **Educational Background and Experience**

- PhD or equivalent qualification in a related field (Public Health/Psychology/Physical & Occupational Therapy/Epidemiology/Sociology/Psychiatry/Nursing/Education, Social sciences, etc.)
- Experience with quantitative or qualitative or mixed methods research methodology and related software applications (e.g., SPSS, STATA, SAS, NVIVO, ATLAS.ti, etc.) is required.
- Bilingualism (English and French, spoken and written) is preferred, but proficiency in at least one of these two languages is required
- Previous experience with youth mental health and/or early intervention will be an asset
- Experience with grant applications, publications, scientific presentations, KT activities will be an asset
- Ability to work collaboratively in an interdisciplinary team environment will be an asset.
- Experience working with young people, families, community partners, lived experience experts will be a strong asset
- For the Postdoc focused on Indigenous health, priority will be given to Indigenous candidates and those who have experience working in Indigenous contexts or with Indigenous young people.

**Salary:** \$50,000 annually (plus benefits) is guaranteed until other funding sources cumulated (e.g., FRQS, CHIR, etc.) greater than this amount is found; PDF will be supported to apply for their own salary support funding, prizes, and grants.

Travel to national and/or international research meetings, and funds for operational costs associated with research projects will be offered.

**Location:** Douglas Research Health Centre (affiliated to McGill University) or Centre de recherche du Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CRCHUM)

**Duration:** Two-year full-time appointment, with possibility of renewal

**Deadline to apply:** 2022-10-15

**Preferred start date:** 2022-10-30 or before or after based on discussion and mutual convenience

### **Instructions to apply**

Please email your application package at [navdeep.kaur.comtl@sss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:navdeep.kaur.comtl@sss.gouv.qc.ca) with the following items as a single PDF with the subject "Postdoctoral Fellow application":

- Curriculum vitae
- Name and contact info for 3 academic references
- List of peer-reviewed publications and knowledge translation activities relevant to the position
- Research interest statement letter that aligns with the position and mentions one or more areas of work (as listed above)

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Postdocs working at the Douglas Research Health Center are registered as Postdoctoral fellows at McGill. See <https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/>.

Postdocs working at the CRCHUM are registered as Postdoctoral fellows at Université de Montréal. See <https://admission.umontreal.ca/etudes-aux-cycles-superieurs/programmes-detudes/stages-postdoctoraux/>

### **Links to biography of program leaders and affiliated organizations:**

<https://www.chumontreal.qc.ca/en/crchum/chercheurs/amal-abdel-baki>

<https://douglas.research.mcgill.ca/srividya-n-iyer>

<https://douglas.research.mcgill.ca/jai-shah>

<https://douglas.research.mcgill.ca/manuela-ferrari>

<https://accessopenminds.ca/>

<https://sarpep.ca/>

<https://www.mcgill.ca/mappro/>

<http://premierepisode.ca/clinique-jap/>

*McGill University is strongly committed to equity and diversity within its community. We welcome applications from racialized persons/visible minorities, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as from all qualified candidates with the skills and knowledge to productively engage with diverse communities. McGill implements an employment equity program and encourages members of designated groups to self-identify. Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application process may contact, in confidence, [accessibilityrequest.hr@mcgill.ca](mailto:accessibilityrequest.hr@mcgill.ca).*

*L'UdeM met les valeurs de diversité, d'équité et d'inclusion au cœur de chacune de ses missions. Par l'entremise de son programme d'accès à l'égalité en emploi (PAÉE), l'Université de Montréal invite les femmes, les Autochtones, les minorités visibles, les minorités ethniques et les personnes ayant des limitations à soumettre leur candidature. Lors du recrutement, nos outils de sélection peuvent être adaptés en toute confidentialité selon les besoins des personnes vivant avec des limitations qui en font la demande. L'Université adopte une définition large et inclusive de la diversité allant au-delà des lois applicables et*

*encourage toutes les personnes qualifiées, peu importe leurs caractéristiques, à poser leur candidature. Si vous le souhaitez, vous pouvez aussi indiquer votre appartenance à un groupe visé dans votre lettre de présentation dont prendra connaissance le comité de sélection et l'assemblée des pairs lors de l'évaluation de votre dossier.*