The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Miami offers a Clinical Health Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship founded on the importance of integrating health and behavior to achieve optimal treatment outcome and recovery. This training program emphasizes a cognitive-behavioral approach to treatment and adheres to a scientist-practitioner model. By developing early career psychologists to be behavioral science experts and important change agents within health care settings, this program is designed to optimally prepare its graduates for positions in major academic healthcare institutions. A strong emphasis is placed on fellows learning to become effective members of multidisciplinary care teams.

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Miami offers two one-year post-doctoral fellowship positions in Clinical Health Psychology. One position emphasizes general practice in Behavioral Medicine and the other position emphasizes specialized practice in the area of HIV/AIDS. Each position is a 12-month, full-time experience, providing the necessary post-doctoral hours required for licensure to practice psychology independently.

Graduates of our Clinical Health Psychology post-doctoral fellowship program are competitively prepared to work in a variety of settings, including:

- University-based teaching and private hospitals
- Private psychology practice with medical specialization
- Academic psychology departments
- Primary care clinics

Program Philosophy

Our philosophy is to provide a broad array of experiences for our fellows interested in specializing in Behavioral Medicine or HIV/AIDS. For instance, fellows may work with inpatients in the hospital setting or with outpatients in our ancillary special immunology clinics. They work across a variety of medical services and provide assessment and treatment to patients with both acute and chronic medical conditions and mental health needs.

Clinical Health Psychology fellows in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Miami aim to promote health and prevent disease through appropriately specialized psychological health care. This specialized care of patients acknowledges the critical links between mind, body and spirit in achieving the highest quality of life. The University Of Miami Miller School of Medicine serves a wide array of patients, allowing for the opportunity to work with ethically and culturally diverse adults and their families. Fellows provide assessment, intervention, and consultation to a variety of multidisciplinary medical teams. Many opportunities are available with regard to research development across the different rotations. Fellows are expected to develop an independent research project with the aim of presenting their work at national
conference or develop a manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed scientific journal, as well as participate in grant writing. In addition to applied experiences, applicants will also participate in a number of didactic experiences relevant to their work in clinical health psychology and neuropsychology. Through our close association with the University of Miami, Pre-Doctoral Externship Program, the fellow will also have the opportunity to supervise advanced practicum students in collaboration with the clinical health psychology and clinical neuropsychology fellow(s).

**Behavioral Medicine-Track**

The Clinical Health Psychology Program offers a wide range of experiences in the Behavioral Medicine Track including a focus on health promotion, disease prevention, improving treatment efficacy, and enhancing the quality of life in diagnostically diverse patient populations (e.g. HIV and Cancer).

**Areas of Specialization & Rotations**

**Eating Disorders Program-Adult Day Treatment:**
*Director: Lauren Ozbolt, MD*  
*Psychology Supervisor: Ingrid Barrera, Psy.D.*  
The Post-Doctoral Fellow would participate in the multi-disciplinary comprehensive treatment for adults struggling with anorexia nervosa (AN), bulimia nervosa (BN) and eating disorders not otherwise specified (ED-NOS). The program includes: inpatient treatment, day treatment and an intensive outpatient program (IOP). Under the supervision of Drs. Lauren Ozbolt, and Ingrid Barrera, the post-doctoral fellow would perform comprehensive evaluation, participate in treatment planning, and attend weekly multidisciplinary meetings where the progress of each patient will be discussed. Furthermore the post-doctoral fellow would be expected to participate in meal planning, as well as co-lead an after meal support group. Other opportunities that are available to the fellow include the possibility of conducting both individual and group psychotherapy using both cognitive behavioral therapy and dialectic behavioral therapy models.

**Women’s Health Inpatient Service:**
*Director: Dominique Musselman, MD*  
*Psychology Supervisor: Shirley A. Gazabon, Ph.D.*  
The inpatient mental health service is affiliated with Jackson Memorial Hospital and provides the fellow clinical research experiences with a full range of medical and psychiatric issues experienced by women receiving inpatient pre-natal and post-partum treatment. The women’s health inpatient clinics gives the fellow the opportunity to specialize in providing consultation, assessment, and treatment to HIV-positive and HIV-negative women and their families. Close collaboration with inpatient psychiatry, psychological consultation, and obstetrics medical providers is an essential component of the clinical care.
Sylvester Cancer Institute Outpatient and Inpatient Services:

Director: Beatriz Currier, MD
Psychology Supervisors: Maria Lopez, Ph.D. & Ingrid Barrera, Psy.D.

Fellows would be exposed to the tertiary, multi-disciplinary, assessment and state-of-the-art treatment of patients diagnosed with hematologic and solid tumors. The Sylvester Cancer Center approach is integrative and supportive, consisting of Psycho-Oncology, Palliative Care, and Integrative Medicine. Under the supervision of Drs. Beatriz Currier, Maria Lopez, and Ingrid Barrera, fellows would perform structured diagnostic assessments as consultants for medical and surgical oncology teams, construct psychosocial-biological treatment recommendations, and participate in clinical research. Clinical research projects currently consist of determining the prevalence of depression, neurocognitive dysfunction, and fatigue in individuals before, during and after chemoradiation for head and neck cancer. Fellows would gain experience in protocol development and as well as conduct data entry and quality management, statistical analyses, interpretation of results, manuscript publication, and grant application development.

University of Miami Hospital Outpatient Services:

Directors: Edmi Y. Cortes, MD
Psychology Supervisor: Shirley A. Gazabon, Ph.D.

The University of Miami Hospital, Mental Health Outpatient Clinic program provides assessment and treatment for a wide array of adult mental health problems including depression, anxiety, stress-related disorders, sleep disorders, psychotic disorders, adjustment to trauma, and various mental disorders. Services are provided by a multidisciplinary staff trained to work with adults and their families. The University of Miami Hospital, Mental Health Outpatient Clinic offers group and individual therapies (specialized and generalized), family education, medication management, stress-management training, and psychoeducation for improving health behavior and disease prevention. Groups and activities are categorized into mandatory sessions and elective choices; the client and assigned staff work collaboratively to identify electives of salient interest to the client’s goal and empowerment objectives. Several groups have themes similar to those offered in acute partial hospitalization; they are offered as part of an intensive outpatient program to enhance and sustain empowerment and greater self-sufficiency at a more independent/interdependent level of functioning.

Organ Transplant Outpatient and Inpatient Services:

Director: Jorge Sotelo, MD, FAPM
Psychology Supervisor: Ingrid Barrera, Psy.D.

The Post-Doctoral Fellow would be exposed to both inpatient and outpatient multidisciplinary treatment of patients seeking organ transplantation that can include: kidney, kidney/pancreas, liver, lung, intestine and heart transplant. The patient population includes adults from various ethnic and racial backgrounds. Under the supervision of Drs. Jorge Sotelo and Ingrid Barrera, the post-doctoral fellow would perform structured pre-transplant evaluations consisting of a clinical interview, as well as the administration, scoring, and interpretation of various types of assessments that integrate the following domains: neurocognitive, personality, substance use, mood and social support. In addition the opportunity to participate in research is also encouraged. Current projects include: 1) comparing how compliance and transplant outcomes are
affected by personality factors, substance use, neurocognitive deficits, the presence of a psychiatric illness and social support in patients with end-stage kidney and liver disease, and 2) looking at the personality traits of altruistic kidney donors.

Clinical Neuropsychological Services:
Director: Rene Hernandez Cardenache, Psy.D.
Clinical Neuropsychology Supervisor: Rosie Curiel, Psy.D.
The University of Miami, Clinical Neuropsychology Service offers a broad range of assessment training opportunities within the specialty of neuropsychology. The year-long rotation is designed to further advance the assessment skills of the rotating fellow by offering weekly assessment didactics comprised of specialized assessment seminars, and the forum to receive professional training in neuropsychological testing with culturally diverse, neurologically-impaired populations. More specifically, working out of the University of Miami Neuropsychological Assessment Clinic, Mental Health Hospital Center, the fellow will conduct clinical interviews, and examine patients referred from Neurology, Psychiatry, Neurosurgery, and other specialty clinics throughout the medical center on a weekly basis. Under the supervision of Drs. Hernandez Cardenache and Curiel, the fellow will be expected to assist with undertaking weekly consultations from inpatient psychiatry wards, and attend weekly supervision. While the vast majority of training will focus on adult cases, approximately 25% of the cases will involve child and geriatric neuropsychological assessment, providing a broad-based training experience across the life-span.

HIV-Track

Each of our placements at The Healing Place (THP) clinic is designed to give the fellow the opportunity to acquire the needed skills to practice clinical health psychology in a primary care setting with patients diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. In all placements, the focus is on using the biopsychosocial model, collaborative clinical care with medical providers, and systems theory. The fellows participate together in seminars that highlight the generalist nature of working in primary care and help to hone their clinical, collaborative, academic, and administrative skills. The clinical placements are in the following settings:

Areas of Specialization & Rotations

The Healing Place Clinic (THP)
Director: Lourdes Illa, MD
Psychology Supervisor: Shirley A. Gazabon, Ph.D. & Victoria Avellaneda, Psy.D.
The primary placement for the Fellow is at The Healing Place clinic, an outpatient behavior medicine clinic with emphasis on HIV. The Fellow functions as part of a multi-disciplinary team consisting of professionals in psychiatry, psychology, social work and trainees. The Fellow provides outpatient psychological services, including intake evaluations, individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy, couples therapy, and psychological testing to HIV positive adults and their families. The Fellow works in conjunction with the psychiatric team at the Healing Place and often co-manages clients. The Fellow obtains experience with a wide range of patients with psychiatric disorders,
diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and co-morbid complex medical treatment regimens. The Fellow will have the opportunity to conduct psychoeducational groups. The Fellow also participates in completing yearly mental health screens in the special immunology primary care clinics to identify patients with mental health concerns, initiate appropriate referrals and evaluate the impact of emotional functioning on treatment adherence and health status.

**OB-PRIM (PRE-NATAL IMMUNOLOGY) CLINIC**  
*Director: Lourdes Illa, MD*  
*Psychology Supervisor: Shirley A. Gazabon, Ph.D.*  
The women's health clinic gives the fellow the opportunity to specialize in providing consultation, assessment, and treatment to HIV-positive pregnant women and their families. Close collaboration with OB-PRIM medical providers is an essential component of the clinical care. The Fellow conducts mental health screens and provides individual, couples, and family therapy in a general obstetrics and gynecology clinic targeting underserved patients who are HIV positive. The Fellow also participates in the post-partum screening for depressive disorders and initiates appropriate referrals to psychiatry and/or other community resources. The patient population at the OB-GYN clinic primarily includes women of African American, Hispanic, and Haitian ethnic backgrounds who may have been recently diagnosed with HIV during the pregnancy or are receiving ongoing primary care. Brief psychological behavioral interventions provided within the primary care setting often address stress management, assisting with HIV disclosure, and medication adherence.

**ADULT SPECIAL IMMUNOLOGY CLINIC**  
*Director: Lourdes Illa, MD*  
*Psychology Supervisor: Shirley A. Gazabon, Ph.D.*  
The Fellow receives experience working directly with the primary medical care teams for HIV-positive individuals at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital Adult Special Immunology Clinic. In this role, the Fellow serves as a liaison between the team and THP and provides yearly mental health screens in the primary care clinics. The diversity of settings and role functions afford numerous opportunities to interface with a team of physicians, other health care professionals, case managers, and social workers within the department of Special Immunology.

**PEDIATRICS AND ADOLESCENT SPECIAL IMMUNOLOGY CLINIC**  
*Director: Lourdes Illa, MD*  
*Psychology Supervisor: Marisa Echenique, Psy.D. & Myriam Glemaud, Psy.D.*  
The Fellow receives experience working directly with the primary medical care teams for HIV-positive children and adolescents at the University of Miami, Special Immunology Clinics. In this role, the Fellow serves as a liaison between the team and THP and provides psychological treatment as needed in the pediatric and adolescent primary care clinics. The diversity of settings and role functions afford numerous opportunities to interface with a team of physicians, other health care professionals, case managers, and
social workers within the departments of Pediatric & Adolescent Special Immunology. The populations at the both clinics include patients of African American, Hispanic, and Haitian ethnic backgrounds. The Pediatric Clinic serves children and adolescents that have primarily been infected perinatally and the Adolescent Clinic attends patients who have generally acquired HIV behaviorally. Psychological behavioral interventions often focus on addressing stress management, assisting with HIV disclosure, and medication adherence. The importance of family dynamics and social support often requires family interventions. Finally, the psychology team and medical staff are involved in the transitioning process from Pediatrics/Adolescent clinics to the Adult Clinic.