

**VAPORHCS Psychology Internship Program**  
**Summary of Modifications to Internship Rotations due to the COVID-19 Updates**

**HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY ROTATION**

Primary Supervisor: Bret Fuller

Backup Supervisors: Veronica Rodriguez, Gina Ortola

During the COVID-19 crisis, the expectation is that the intern will practice from a remote location other than the VA, unless the intern requests and requires an accommodation to work from a private office at work. Usually in the intern's residence, the teleworking space is required to ensure confidentiality. All documentation and personal health information (PHI) and personal identifying information (PII) is to remain behind VA firewalls. The intern will be supplied with remote access software but must have a camera and microphone on a personal computer that is compatible with VA systems. Interns will do assessments, therapy, meetings and supervision over telehealth platforms. Among the platforms that are available to interns are Doximity Dialer, Veterans Video Connect, WebEx and MS Teams. Trainees cannot practice across state lines; therefore, all patients must be physically located in the same state as the supervisor and intern are located. The clinical caseload for the rotation has remained essentially the same during the pandemic. The assessment referral numbers have decreased in number, but the ADHD and bariatric assessments are anticipated to increase again over the summer and fall of 2020.

**MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC ROTATION**

Primary Supervisor (Portland): Gina Ortola

Backup Supervisors (Portland): Bret Fuller, Chad McGhee

Primary Supervisors (Fairview): Jennifer Caspari, Josh Rinker, Katherine Shepherd and Joyce Yuan, in rotation

**Backup Supervisors (Fairview):** Rotation supervisors serve as backups to whomever is currently primary supervisor.

During the COVID-19 crisis, the expectation is that the intern will practice from a remote location other than the VA, unless the intern requests and requires an accommodation to work from a private office at the VA. The intern's clinical caseload, including individual and group therapy and assessments, has remained essentially the same; however, patient care is being offered through telehealth platforms. Supervision is being conducted via video conferencing platforms.

**NEUROPSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP ROTATION:**

Primary Supervisors: Theresa Demadura and Joshua Clark, in rotation

Backup supervisors: 1<sup>st</sup> Backup Theresa Demadura or Joshua Clark (whoever is not currently Primary); 2<sup>nd</sup> Backup Bret Fuller

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the supervisor and intern are located. Telehealth assessment batteries are limited by feasibility issues for some measures, but they continue. Individual cognitive rehabilitation services are being offered via telehealth, and cognitive rehabilitation groups may begin later in 2020.

### **POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) ROTATION**

Primary Supervisors: Stephany Rodriguez, Emily Stasko, and Irene Powch, in rotation (Portland); Daniel Levine, Crystal Lozier, Amy Wagner, and Trisha Vinatieri, in rotation (Vancouver)

Backup Supervisors: Rotation supervisors serve as backups to whoever is currently primary supervisor.

During the COVID-19 crisis, PCT interns will have the option of working from home, seeing clients through video-telehealth and supervision conducted similarly. Staff meetings are conducted virtually as well. For interns who are not able to work from home, private and clean office space is available at both the main VA medical center in Portland and the Vancouver campus. The intern's clinical caseload, including individual and group therapy and assessments, has remained similar to what it was before the pandemic (e.g., PE cases, CPT cases, CAPS assessments).

### **PRIMARY CARE MENTAL HEALTH INTEGRATION (PCMHI) ROTATION**

Primary Supervisors: Erin Fettes and Aakash Kishore

Backup Supervisors: 1<sup>st</sup> Backup Odessa Cole; 2<sup>nd</sup> Backup Gregory Baron

During the COVID-19 crisis, the expectation is that the intern will practice from a remote location other than the VA, unless the intern requests and requires an accommodation to work from a private office at the VA. Interns continue to provide same-day consultation to the patient aligned care teams (PACTs). However, rather than seeing referred Veterans in the clinic treatment room, functional assessment and intervention is provided by phone or video. Interns also participate in PCMHI huddles and PACT meetings via video as their schedule allows. Interns have the opportunity to conduct readiness assessments for transgender Veterans who are seeking gender-affirming medical interventions as clinic need arises. These assessments and feedback sessions currently take place by phone or by video. DBT Skills and Tobacco Cessation groups not currently being offered (subject to change), but LGBT Support Group, Women's Stress Management, and MOVE! Group continue to be offered by video or by phone. Supervision of interns is conducted via telesupervision and includes live observation, co-therapy (e.g., groups), and weekly consultation about cases.

### **SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SATP) ROTATION**

Primary Supervisors: Pamella Howard, Wendy Johnson, and Carolyn Peterson, in rotation

Backup Supervisors: Chris Anderson and Veronica Rodriguez

During the COVID-19 crisis, the expectation is that the intern will practice from a remote location other than the VA, unless the intern requests and requires an accommodation to work from a private office at the VA. Interns are teleworking and providing patient care individually and for groups via phone and video. Interns are meeting for supervision via video conferencing applications. Trainees may not be able to participate in or conduct Liver Transplant Evaluations at this time due to licensure limitations on service provision across state lines. Trainees may co-facilitate groups via video platforms for classes such as Prevention and Management of Relapse and Seeking Safety. Opportunities for biopsychosocial intakes via phone or video within the same state as trainees are located are also available.