



Full-time Post-Doctoral Research Position for summer 2026 at VA Boston Healthcare System

Postdoctoral Fellowship: Inhibitory Control, PTSD, and Suicide Risk in Veterans

Project Title: Characterizing the cognitive and neural mechanisms underlying PTSD and suicide risk in post-9/11 Veterans

Objectives:

1. Characterize hot (emotional) and cool (non-emotional) inhibitory control deficits in PTSD.
2. Identify neural mechanisms of inhibitory control deficits in PTSD using task-based fMRI.
3. Examine the neural underpinnings of suicide risk in post-9/11 Veterans.

Description:

The postdoctoral fellow will be involved in two funded VA Merit grants using innovative attention tasks, task-based fMRI, and ecological momentary assessment (EMA) to study cognitive and neural mechanisms of PTSD and suicide risk in post-9/11 Veterans. Responsibilities include data analysis, manuscript preparation, and presentation of findings at local and international meetings. The position offers strong mentorship and opportunities to develop an independent clinical neuroscience research program, with access to fMRI, EEG, and TMS facilities and support for grant writing.

The fellow will be part of the National Center for PTSD, the Boston Attention and Learning Lab (BALLAB), and the Neuroimaging Research for Veterans (NeRVe) Center, within a collaborative environment of clinical psychologists, cognitive neuroscientists, and biomedical engineers. The position is in-person at the VA Boston Healthcare System (Jamaica Plain).

Background required: Ph.D. in **Clinical Psychology** (preferred) or related field (e.g., experimental psychology, cognitive neuroscience).

Skills required: Experience with programming and fMRI required.

Citizenship: Must be a United States citizen.

Start date: We are looking for someone who can start in the spring/summer of 2026 and commit to two years.

Salary: \$84,579 plus full benefits

Deadline for Applications: Review will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled

If interested, please send cover letter, CV, and reference list to Dr. Michael Esterman (esterman@bu.edu) and Dr. Joe DeGutis (degutis@wjh.harvard.edu).