



Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship – Cleveland, Ohio



Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Overview, Application Process, and Benefits

Cleveland Clinic
9500 Euclid Ave, S31
Cleveland, OH 44195
216-445-1637

Updated September 20, 2024

APPCN Match # **9685**

Welcome from the Program Director:



Thank you for your interest in the Cleveland Clinic APPCN two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology as the next phase in your professional journey. We view fellowship as the culmination to the training experiences you have gained throughout your doctoral education. It is during this last stage of formal supervised experiences that you will discover your personal practice style and continue to develop your professional identity. As your training director, I am committed to advancing your understanding and applied knowledge of brain-behavior relationships by tailoring your fellowship experiences to balance your training needs with your interests and career goals. Education is a core mission of the Cleveland Clinic and all faculty share a commitment to training the next generation of clinicians. Our goal is for our trainees to obtain advanced specialty competence in clinical neuropsychology through a range of training opportunities that include clinical, research, teaching, supervision, advocacy, and promotion for equity, diversity, disability, justice, and inclusion. Graduates of our fellowship are well prepared for careers as scientist practitioners in hospital-based practices and medical school settings. The curriculum provides the foundation for graduates to pursue board-certification through the American Board of Professional Psychology. We strive to promote an environment that will challenge you while being supportive with a focus on supervision with developmental progression towards autonomy.

The Cleveland Clinic Graduate Medical Education program is one of the largest in the country and trains approximately 1900 residents and fellows in 109 training programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) as well as 100 programs, such as ours, outside of ACGME umbrella. Additionally, the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM) was established 18 years ago and is dedicated to training physician-investigators through one of the most unique and highly competitive programs.

I hope that the following program information provides a glimpse into the clinical, research, and professional opportunities available at the Cleveland Clinic and the faculty's dedication to the education, training, success, and well-being of our fellows. We enthusiastically welcome trainees from diverse backgrounds and those who have faced historical and traditional barriers. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about our fellowship after you have reviewed this brochure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pam D". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Pamela M. Dean, Ph.D., ABPP
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology
Program Director
Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellowship
Cleveland Clinic (Ohio)
Associate Professor of Neurology
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University

Program History

The Neuropsychology Section was established as a formal patient care center within the Department of Psychiatry and Psychology at Cleveland Clinic in 1986 and moved to the Department of Neurology in 2019. The Cleveland Clinic's postdoctoral fellowship in adult clinical neuropsychology was established in 1993 and is a founding member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN; www.appcn.org). The Cleveland Clinic is an internationally known tertiary medical center and is consistently ranked as one of the nation's best hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.



The fellowship operates under the Section of Neuropsychology in the Department of Neurology. The Neuropsychology Section consists of 14 neuropsychologists (eight board-certified through the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology), 13 psychometrists, two post-doctoral fellows, and practicum students. Faculty includes 11 adult providers, two pediatric, and one lifespan rehabilitation neuropsychologist. Throughout all aspects of clinical care, research, teaching, education, professionalism, and interactions, the division promotes racial and cultural equity and inclusion.

Fellowship Mission

Cleveland Clinic offers a two-year, full-time postdoctoral fellowship for advanced training in Clinical Neuropsychology that is individually tailored to the training needs and interests of the fellow. The program offers a **Major Area of Study** in Clinical Neuropsychology and operates in accordance to the Division 40/Houston Conference Guidelines (*The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 1987, 1, 29-34; *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 1998, 2, 203-240), which will be updated as information from the Minnesota Conference is released. The fellowship is designed for trainees who have completed an APA/CPA accredited doctoral program in clinical/counseling psychology and who have a strong academic, clinical, and research background in the fundamentals of neuroscience and neuropsychological assessment.

The training model is designed to provide fellows with advanced clinical, research, educational, and didactic immersive experiences necessary for developing professional-level clinical interpretative and consultation skills while under the supervision of the neuropsychology faculty. The goal of the fellowship is to prepare trainees for successful completion of the board certification process through the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology and for careers in interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary hospital-based and academic medical settings.

Basic Requirements & Application Procedure:

Currently, only applicants with primary interests in adult neuropsychology are being considered.

Fellowship Dates: On or about September 1st, 2025, through August 31, 2027.

Application deadline: December 2, 2024

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Eligibility Criteria

Minimum criteria must be met upon entrance to the program:

- Completion of an APA/CPA accredited doctoral program in Clinical or Counseling Psychology (PhD or PsyD) including defense of doctoral dissertation.
- Completion of an APA Accredited Predoctoral Internship

Highly desired criteria:

- Past clinical practica in an academic and/or VA medical setting in Clinical Neuropsychology
- Predoctoral Internship, Major Area of Study in Clinical Neuropsychology
- Strong foundation in Clinical Neuropsychology including course work in neuropsychological assessment and neuroanatomy
- Interest in academic medical setting-oriented careers.
- Graduate level training and clinical experiences in a scientist-practitioner model.
- At least 1 first authored publication in a peer reviewed journal as well as other scholarly experiences.
- Leadership experiences at the local, regional, and/or national level.
 - *For more information on desired criteria and training see:*
[Sperling et al \(2016\) Taxonomy for Education and Training in Clinical Neuropsychology: past, present, and future.](#)

Application Process

1. Register for the APPCN match (<https://appcn.org/>). Cleveland Clinic's Match Number is **9685**.
2. Please register an account at with InfoReady at the link below and answer the questions (please do not send an additional cover letter):
<https://ccf.infoready4.com/#freeformCompetitionDetail/1951511>
 - Please be ready to upload the following info to this page
 - Current CV
 - Scanned copy of your official transcript
 - The APPCN Verification of Doctoral Training Form ([APPCN Doctorate Verification](#))
 - Or a statement from your graduate school clinical training director indicating your status in the program and probability of completing the requirements for the doctoral degree prior to the start of fellowship.

***APPCN Verification form is waived for those already conferred a doctoral degree.*

3. Three letters of recommendation should be sent directly from letter writers to Dr. Dean.

****If there are post-match vacancies, follow the same procedure above, completing the link. You may also be asked to sent at least one letter of recommendation.**

Training Program Description

Trainees gain experiences through general and specialty clinics that expose fellows to a range of complex medical and neurological disorders. The Section of Neuropsychology also receives cross-cultural referrals for neuropsychological evaluations, utilizing certified interpreters, which offers a unique clinical training experience.

Fellows rotate through three, 4-month rotations each academic year. The first year includes a combination of both general and specialty clinics, which allows fellows to have exposure to variety of patient populations. Fellows have the opportunity to specialize in their second year including focused clinical rotations, research, teaching, supervision/mentorship of practicum students, and selected didactics that complement learning experiences and interests. This is intended to meet the fellow's specific interests and training needs and prepare trainees for their desired professional position.

Education is a core mission of the fellowship; therefore, in addition to clinical and research experiences, fellows have a variety of didactic and education training opportunities.

Expectations and Time Breakdown:

Year 1: 70% Clinical 10% Didactics 20% Research

- 3-4 Cases with 1-2 supervisors
- Trainees may protect time for research, but particular research day will flex based on supervisor/rotation schedule

Year 2: Opportunity to move to 60% Clinical, 10% Didactics, 30% Research

- Research time is discussed during orientation week and approved by the training committee. It is based on history of productivity, achieving competency benchmarks, and fellowship goals.
- Clinical cases may be adjusted based on research deadlines in communication with the training director, research mentor, and clinical supervisor.
- If Clinical time remains at 70%, # of cases can depend on:
 - Type of job trainee is seeking (**minimum of 6** cases but can increase up to 8 cases)
 - Training needs if not hitting benchmarks (increased focus on depth vs breadth)
- Expectation: On site 5 days a week (M-F)

Sample Schedule						
Year 1						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
8:00	Interview 1	Epilepsy Patient Management Conference		Interview 3	Epilepsy Grand Rounds	
9:00						
10:00						
11:00		Neuropsychology Didactic				
12:00	Interview 2	Neurology Grand Rounds		Interview 4		
1:00						
2:00		Supervision				
3:00						
4:00						
5:00						
	20% research, 10% didactic, 70% clinical (includes face to face, chart reviews, and report writing)					
Year 2						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
8:00		CBH Consensus Conference	Interview 4	Interview 5		
9:00		Interview 1	Supervision			
10:00		Interview 2				
11:00		Neuropsychology Didactic		ICNR Didactic		
12:00		Neurology Grand Rounds	Monthly Neurorehabilitation Didactic	Interview 6		
1:00		Interview 3				
2:00						
3:00						
4:00						
5:00						
	30% research, 10% didactic, 60% clinical					
	Clinical Activities					
	Research Activities					
	Didactics					

Clinical Rotations

In consultation with supervisors and the training director, clinical cases are selected to best meet the training needs and goals of each fellow. There is no shortage of cases to choose from with roughly 85 patients seen through the different clinics each week between all of the faculty. Fellows learn how to write efficient and succinct reports in a fast-paced environment where multidisciplinary teams and providers rely on timely feedback from our evaluations. Although the Section is a psychometrist-based service, we recognize the importance of direct patient contact in developing a strong clinical understanding of process variables and patient behaviors that underlie test performance. Therefore, fellows will test some patients throughout the two-year fellowship with the majority occurring during the first year.

General Adult Neuropsychology Service

Patients are referred to General Adult Neuropsychology service for a variety of concerns including neurological disorders (e.g., multiple sclerosis, neurodegenerative conditions, cardiovascular history, Pre-LVAD, stroke, brain tumor, traumatic brain injury, anoxic brain injury), mood disorders, and other cognitive difficulties. Referral sources include neurosurgery, general neurology, geriatrics, psychiatry, internal medicine, transplant, and cardiology, among other departments within Cleveland Clinic, as well as external providers. This is a busy and fast-paced service that is utilized by many providers and departments. In 2022, this service saw nearly 3,000 patients, including both adult and pediatric patients.

Epilepsy Service



Cleveland Clinic's Epilepsy Center diagnoses and treats more than 10,000 patients (children and adults) per year. In 2021, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the CCEC accommodated 20,508 total outpatient visits, 1,700 patients were admitted to the inpatient Epilepsy Monitoring Units, and a total of 173 patients underwent respective epilepsy surgery.

Neuropsychologists in this center work with a multi-disciplinary team comprising neurosurgeons, epileptologists, neuroradiologists, bioethicists, EEG technologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and advanced practice providers.

Neuropsychological evaluations are conducted to assist in determining candidacy for epilepsy surgery, and patients are typically re-evaluated following surgery to track post-surgical cognitive change. Fellows attend weekly epilepsy patient management rounds to review patient data and discuss treatment options, including suitability for surgery. While most patients are seen in the outpatient neuropsychology clinic, some patients are evaluated on the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU), which features digital EEG monitoring equipment and is staffed 24 hours per day.

Center for Neurological Restoration

Cleveland Clinic's Center for Neurological Restoration provides medical management and surgical innovations in the treatment of various disorders, including Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, essential tremor, dystonia, and normal pressure hydrocephalus, among others. It is comprised of two sections: (1) Movement Disorders and Functional Neurosurgery (with locations in Ohio and Nevada) and (2) Headache and Facial Pain; however, the neuropsychology staff only work in the movement section and are not seeing patients in headache or pain.

Neuropsychologists in this Center work as part of an interdisciplinary team, including neurologists, neurosurgeons, psychiatrists, researchers, biomedical engineers, and other specialists. Within this context, neuropsychological staff perform evaluations for movement disorders patients to aid with diagnosis and management at all stages of disease. The majority of the evaluations are performed to assess patients for suitability to undergo functional neurosurgery procedures, including deep brain stimulation (DBS) or MRI-guided focused ultrasound (MRgFUS) for patients with movement disorders and shunting for treatment of hydrocephalus. Post-operative evaluations are also conducted to track treatment effectiveness and symptom management. Surgical patient diagnosis and treatment plans are discussed every two weeks in multi-disciplinary patient management meetings.



Center for Brain Health

The Center for Brain Health at Cleveland Clinic is an assessment and treatment center for individuals with neurodegenerative and other cognitive disorders. Diagnoses include Alzheimer's disease, frontotemporal dementia, primary progressive aphasia, dementia with Lewy bodies, and other parkinsonian disorders (e.g., progressive supranuclear palsy, corticobasal syndrome). Multidisciplinary staff include neuropsychologists, behavioral neurologists, sleep medicine specialists, psychiatrists, geriatricians, social workers, and physician's assistants, as well as nurses and medical assistants. Our center also works closely with occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology.

Neuropsychological evaluations are conducted to assist with differential diagnosis and treatment planning, as well as to track disease progression and assess for safety (e.g., driving, living independently). Patient diagnoses and treatment plans are discussed in weekly multidisciplinary Consensus Conference meetings. The Center also conducts a weekly Interdisciplinary Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar jointly with the Las Vegas center, with topics varying week to week.

Rose Ella Burkhardt Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center

The Rose Ella Burkhardt Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center is a nationally recognized leader in the diagnosis and treatment of primary and metastatic spine, nerve, and brain tumors, and their effects on the nervous system. This center records approximately 8,000 patient visits and performs more than 900 surgeries per year.

Neuropsychological evaluations help physicians to understand the neurobehavioral and neural systems effects of the brain tumor and/or treatments on cognitive functioning. This multidisciplinary team includes physicians, psychiatrists, neuropsychology, neurosurgery, neuroradiology, radiation oncology, CNS radiosurgery, and laboratory/translational research. Evaluations may also be used to help track recovery trajectories over time, assess for safety, as well as contribute to treatment planning. Fellows are welcome to join weekly Brain Tumor Board meetings.

Mellen Center for Multiple Sclerosis

The Mellen Center for Multiple Sclerosis Treatment and Research was established in 1984 and is now one of the largest and most comprehensive programs for MS care and research worldwide. This multidisciplinary care team evaluates patients not only for MS but also other autoimmune neurological conditions, such as autoimmune encephalitis. Neuropsychological assessments are conducted to monitor disease progression, assist with vocational/occupational planning, and assess treatment response, including immunotherapy and stem cell transplantation.

Neuropsychologists work closely with neurologists, neuroradiologists, psychologists, social workers and occupational and speech therapists. There are many opportunities for fellows to participate in multidisciplinary care and research.

Pediatric Neuropsychology

The pediatric neuropsychology service provides evaluations to children who have a medical history of CNS illness or injury. The goal of the evaluation is to provide recommendations to parents, providers, and schools regarding appropriate services, modification, and accommodations when they return to school. In some cases, children who are candidates for epilepsy surgery are evaluated to determine the risk for dysfunction following surgery and provide the epilepsy team with information regarding cognitive abilities.

The service also works closely with pediatric hematology/oncology as well as aspects of the transplant teams for kidney and heart transplants. We have also begun to see children with history of stroke, multiple concussions, sensorineural hearing loss, craniosynostosis and history of neurodevelopmental disorders.

Research

Faculty from the adult and child neuropsychology programs are actively involved in ongoing clinical research. The neuropsychology section maintains several IRB-approved patient registries and faculty are involved in many ongoing collaborative research projects both within and outside the institution. Areas of research include: epilepsy surgery, neurosurgical treatment of movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, dementia, teleneuropsychology in patients with movement disorders, intervention trials for seizures and cognitive impairment in epilepsy, RNS/DBS for treatment of epilepsy, and the Cleveland Clinic Brain Study.

Pediatric neuropsychology projects are examining attention, processing speed, memory, and language in children with epilepsy, examining cognitive abilities in children with PTEN hamartoma tumor syndrome, genetic mutations, and changes in cognition, attention and processing speed following chemotherapy, radio-therapy and surgical treatments for the hematology/oncology population.

Fellows will receive 20-30% protected time for research and are expected to submit **at least 1** first authored **manuscript** for publication and **at least 1 presentation** at a national conference during the two-year fellowship.

Examples of publication types include: retrospective or prospective research studies, review articles, meta-analyses, or book chapters.

- The type of project and percent research time will depend on the fellow's research history and future goals and will be collaboratively decided upon between the fellow and their research mentor with approval final approval from the fellowship committee.
- Opportunities for grant-writing may also be available for interested fellows.
- Cleveland Clinic is highly supportive of research activities, and provides excellent statistical, computer, graphic art, photography and editorial support services. Independent and/or new collaborative research projects will be encouraged, and grant applications are highly supported.

Travel time is provided to present at professional meetings, and some financial support for travel is available, especially for first-authored papers based on work accomplished at Cleveland Clinic. See the benefits section for more information.

Didactics

Education is a core mission of the fellowship. Fellows receive 10% time for didactics and seminars weekly. This includes the weekly Neuropsychology Seminar, monthly Professional Development Seminar, and monthly multisite journal club that is held virtually with neuropsychology fellowships in the Cleveland area.

Weekly Neuropsychology Seminar:

- This is conducted in conjunction with the staff and trainees at the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas via videoconferencing. Seminar presenters rotate weekly and include staff, fellows, and invited speakers from related disciplines. Practicum students also have the opportunity to present to the group to gain valuable experience in scientific or case presentation.

Monthly Professional Development Seminar:

- Seminars focus on professional practice and identity, supervision, advocacy, preparation for the employment interviews and negotiations and more. Trainees also will have the opportunity to engage Fact Findings and other portions of the Board Certification Oral Exam.

Monthly Neuropsychology Journal Club:

- This is a multisite virtual journal club with trainees from local Cleveland fellowship sites including University Hospitals, the VA, and Akron Childrens. This is an opportunity to build relationships with neuropsychology trainees and faculty in our area.

Additionally, trainees can select from wide variety of specialty didactic and training opportunities including:

- Brain Tumor Board Meeting
- Movement Disorders Video Rounds
- Epilepsy Patient Management Rounds
- Center for Brain Health Consensus Conference & Interdisciplinary Clinical Neuroscience Seminar
- Neurology Grand Rounds
- DBS/NPH Patient Management Rounds & Education Rounds
- Psychiatry Grand Rounds
- Pediatric Neuroradiology Patient Management Rounds (bimonthly)
- Epilepsy Grand Rounds
- Neurology Seminar Series

Additional Training and Learning opportunities include:

- 3-month course in Epilepsy/Neurophysiology/EEG
- 4-month course in Medical Biostatistics
- Observing Neurology in various specialty clinics, Neurosurgery, DBS surgery, or Cognitive Rehabilitation
- Brain cuttings/Neuroanatomy

- Monthly neurorehabilitation didactic

Supervision

Formal clinical supervision is provided on an individual basis to review cases. Informal supervision is also available as needed, and staff typically have an open-door policy. Supervisors have different approaches to supervision with some maintaining closer contact depending on the nature of the rotation and the needs of the trainee, with the goal of developmentally appropriate autonomy.

Teaching

Teaching and supervision is an important aspect of professional skill development. During the 2nd year, Fellows will have the opportunity to supervise undergraduate and doctoral practicum students utilizing an umbrella model of supervision. Fellows also have the opportunity to supervise psychometrists. Fellows are invited and encouraged to join faculty in lectures to medical/neurology residents and other trainees, other didactics forums (e.g., Grand Rounds), and at other community events. We believe these teaching experiences enhance trainees existing knowledge and experiences with a variety of neuropsychological assessment procedures and neurological disorders.

Mentorship

The fellowship utilizes a mentorship model. In addition to support from the training director and rotation supervisors, at the start of their fellowship, trainees will select a research mentor. Fellows will also have a preceptor, who is a faculty member without an evaluative role outside, of our neuropsychology section.

Evaluations

The postdoctoral fellow's progress is evaluated by the faculty, which includes the rotation supervisor(s), research mentor, and training director, and are competency based. Feedback regarding the fellow's strengths and opportunities for growth is provided to the fellow and forwarded to the Cleveland Clinic's Graduate Medical Education (GME) office. Performance is also assessed via fact-finding exercises modeled after the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN)'s Oral Exam as well as the APPCN written exam. If a fellow is not progressing or achieving the expected level of competence, a specific plan to remediate identified weaknesses will be developed per GME policies. We value the input and feedback of fellows, which is obtained through regular meetings with the training director and section head as well as through program evaluations.

Terms and Conditions

Fellows must have completed all of the formal requirements for the doctorate before beginning postdoctoral training; appointments begin in September. Although the Cleveland Clinic's Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship is designed as a two-year program, contracts are made on a year-to-year basis, with renewal for the second year being made by mutual consent. Note: Cleveland Clinic employees must be tobacco-free.

Financial Support and Benefits

Type of Support	Details
Annual stipend/salary for full-time fellow first year	\$65,361
Annual stipend/salary for full-time fellow second year	\$67,564
Vacation	15 days per academic year
Personal paid time off	5 days per academic year
Conference Attendance Days	Up to 3 working days per year and \$2500 for academic travel reimbursement and \$1000 for educational reimbursement
Health Benefits	Comprehensive health, dental, vision insurance for fellow and immediate family at minimal cost to the fellows.
Other Benefits	Membership in the House Staff Association (discounted event tickets, networking opportunities, and social events with other residents), & onsite fitness center and pool access.
Other	Salary determination, grievance process, allotment of vacation and meeting time, and other institutional procedures occur in accordance with the General Policies for Graduate Medical Education. Please see GME for additional details.

Neuropsychology Section Staff

As neuropsychologists, we are members of the Professional Staff. Several staff members have academic appointments or pending appointments with Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM).

- [Ana Arenivas, PhD, MPH](#) joined the section in 2021. She has a central interest in pediatric epilepsy and congenital/genetic conditions associated with seizures. Her primary appointment is in the Epilepsy Center, Neurological Institute where she works as a clinician scientist providing neuropsychological services to pediatric patients and conducting research in cognition in pediatric epilepsy and related genetic conditions. Additional background and interests include assessment with non-English speaking individuals and global research in tuberculous meningitis.
- [Kayela Arrotta, PhD, ABPP-CN](#) joined the section in 2019 with an appointment in the Epilepsy Center. Her clinical work primarily involves conducting pre- and post-surgical epilepsy evaluations, although she also sees a small portion of patients within the general adult neuropsychology service. Her research interests are to improve the prediction of cognitive outcome following epilepsy surgery and understand the long-term functional implications of post-surgical cognitive changes.
- [Aaron Bonner-Jackson, PhD, ABPP-CN](#) joined the Section in 2011 bringing expertise in neuropsychological assessment of dementia syndromes. His primary appointment is in the Center for Brain Health and his research interests include studies of progressive neurological conditions.

- [**Robyn M. Busch, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the Section in 2005 and took over as Head of the Section of Neuropsychology in 2020. She has a primary appointment in the Epilepsy Center, Neurological Institute and a secondary appointment in the Genomic Medicine Institute, Lerner Research Institute. Dr. Busch's clinical and research interests focus on cognitive assessment and prediction of neurobehavioral (cognitive and mood) outcomes in individuals who undergo epilepsy surgery. Her current research program seeks to identify genetic and genomic factors that underlie neurobehavioral dysfunction in epilepsy or contribute to poor cognitive outcome following epilepsy surgery.
- [**Pamela M. Dean, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#), joined the Section in 2022 and has an appointment in the Center for General Neurology with a special interest in the evaluation and behavioral management of neurodegenerative disorders and brain tumors. She is the Director of the Clinical Neuropsychology Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program and Associate Professor of Neurology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. Her research and scholarly interests include both neurologic and rehabilitation populations as well as professional and training-related initiatives. Dr. Dean serves on several national neuropsychology professional organizations including holding leadership roles that focus on education, training, mentorship, supervision, and professional advocacy. She also is on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology. Additionally, she is proficient in American Sign Language and provides culturally and linguistically appropriate neuropsychological evaluations to prelingually Deaf patients.
- [**Darlene Floden, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the Section in 2007 and has appointments in the Center for Neurological Restoration (CNR) and Cerebrovascular Center. She primarily provides services to adult patients with movement disorders and patients with acute and chronic stroke. Part of her time is devoted to NIH funded research related to cognitive screening, frontostriatal brain circuitry, and surgical outcomes in deep brain stimulation and high frequency focused ultrasound.
- [**Rachel Galieto, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the section in 2017 as an adult neuropsychologist with appointments in the Mellen Center for Multiple Sclerosis and general adult Neuropsychology. Her research primarily involves understanding factors associated with cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis.
- [**Laura Hancock, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the section in 2023 and has an appointment in the Center for General Neurology. Her clinical work is focused on a combination of general adult neuropsychology service and adults with multiple sclerosis, which is her area of special interest and expertise. Her research interests include cognitive and emotional functioning in people with MS and individuals at risk for Alzheimer's disease. She has a special interest in older adults with MS and developing a better understanding of how cognitive skills change among people with MS as they age, and what factors might help us prevent future cognitive decline. She is also interested in cognitive rehabilitation efforts to help restore cognitive skills that have been lost for people with MS.
- [**Patricia Klaas, PhD**](#) joined the Section in 2004 with clinical responsibilities in pediatric neuropsychology. Dr. Klaas' research interests involve memory and language issues in pediatric epilepsy surgery patients. Areas of interest also include head injury, congenital cardiac disorder, childhood stroke, and neurodevelopmental disorders. Current research focuses on cognitive assessment of individuals with PTEN mutations (with Dr. Busch), cognitive functioning in children with chronic kidney disease, phase II studies of new epilepsy medications, cognitive functioning in Continuous Slow Wave Sleep, and early medulloblastoma.
- [**Cynthia Kubu, PhD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the Section in November 2001 to provide clinical services to adult patients with an emphasis on candidates for deep brain stimulation and

MRI guided focused ultrasound at the present time. A significant portion of her time is devoted to NIH funded research related to ethics in the context of neurological disorders and treatment. She is active in the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) and currently serves as the Interim Vice Dean for Faculty for the CWRU School of Medicine.

- [**Katherine Reiter, PhD**](#) joined the section in 2019 as an adult neuropsychologist with appointments in the Center for Brain Health (CBH) and the general adult neuropsychology service. Her primary clinical interest is memory disorders with additional foci in stroke and traumatic brain injuries. Her research interests include the influence of Cognitive Reserve on age-related cognitive and brain structure changes.
- [**Anny Reyes, PhD**](#), joined the Section in 2024 and has an appointment in the Epilepsy Center, Neurological Institute. Her clinical interests focus on the neuropsychological evaluation of individuals with epilepsy and brain tumors, cultural neuropsychology, and assessing non-English speaking populations, particularly Spanish speakers. Dr. Reyes's research examines the neuropsychological, behavioral, and psychiatric comorbidities of epilepsy, aiming to enhance cognitive diagnostic frameworks and identify modifiable risk factors and social determinants of health that influence outcomes in epilepsy. She uses community-engaged research approaches to design and implement educational, lifestyle, behavioral, and cognitive interventions aimed at promoting brain health equity in diverse and underserved populations. In her leadership roles, Dr. Reyes is dedicated to enhancing diversity in neuropsychology and neuroscience through mentorship and recruitment, advancing biomedical research in historically excluded populations, and promoting brain health equity among underserved communities.
- [**Scott Sperling, PsyD, ABPP-CN**](#) joined the section in 2020 and has an appointment in the Center for Neurological Restoration (CNR). He provides services to patients undergoing evaluation for deep brain stimulation or high intensity focused ultrasound lesioning for the treatment of movement disorders, as well as adults and older adults with cognitive and memory complaints. He has a history of funded research and currently conducts studies investigating non-motor symptoms, the relationship between Ch4 degeneration and cognitive decline and neuropsychiatric symptoms, and the outcomes of neurosurgical interventions in patients with Parkinson's disease. He is also an active leader in the areas of education, professional development, and advocacy.
- [**Kelly Wadeson, PhD**](#) joined the Section in 2012, adding expertise in rehabilitation. Her primary appointment is in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and she sees patients in Neuropsychology at least one day per week. Her clinical neuropsychology practice includes school-age children through adults.

[The Cleveland Metro Area](#)

There is easy access to Lake Erie, an excellent metropolitan park system, and the nearby Cuyahoga Valley National Park for outdoor recreational activities. In the summer, there are water sports on the lakes and rivers including paddle boarding and even surfing (for skilled surfers).

Cleveland, an ethnically diverse, mid-sized city located on Lake Erie, features a host of cultural attractions, recreational activities, major sporting events, arts, and culinary scene. Cleveland is home to the second largest theater district in the U.S., a park system featuring 23,700 acres in 18 reservations, and is the birthplace of rock 'n' roll, home to the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. Cleveland Clinic is located near the University Circle area, which is the cultural epicenter of Cleveland. This area features Severance Hall and the world-renowned Cleveland Orchestra, the Cleveland Museum of Art, several other museums, and Case Western Reserve University.

Downtown Cleveland, home to all major sports venues and an exploding culinary scene. All of this is approximately two miles from Cleveland Clinic's main campus.

For more information visit the following link:

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/patients/visitor-information/about-cleveland#why-cleveland-tab>



Some activities and points of interest in the Cleveland area:

[Cleveland Orchestra](#) (world-class orchestra performing at Severance Hall)

[Cleveland Metroparks](#) (system of parks and trails encircling Cleveland, known as the "Emerald Necklace")

[Cleveland Museum of Art](#)

[Holden Arboretum and Botanical Garden](#) <https://holdenfg.org/>

Metroparks Zoo: <https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/zoo>

[Cuyahoga Valley National Park](#)

[Rock and Roll Hall of Fame](#)

[Playhouse Square](#) (performing arts center hosting theater, comedy, musical, and dance performances)

[West Side Market](#) (large, indoor public market in Ohio City neighborhood)

East 4th Street: <https://www.east4thstreet.com/>

Cleveland Flats: <https://www.thisiscleveland.com/about-cle/downtown-cleveland/the-flats>

Professional sports: [Cleveland Browns](#) (football), [Cleveland Guardians](#) (baseball), [Cleveland Cavaliers](#) (basketball), and [Cleveland Monsters](#) (AHL hockey).

You can also visit [Thisiscleveland.com](https://www.thisiscleveland.com) or <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/patients/visitor-information/about-cleveland> and <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/-/scassets/files/org/about/who-we-are/cleveland-clinic-facts-and-figures-2021.pdf?la=en> for more information about activities in and around Cleveland as well as up to date facts and figures about the Cleveland Clinic.

