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Yale Cerebrovascular Lab Postgraduate Clinical Research Position

Location: Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Connecticut
Duration: 2 years, Summer 2023 - Summer 2025

Background:
We are seeking a postgraduate fellow to join Dr. Nils Petersen's Cerebrovascular Lab in the Department of Neurology. The Petersen lab aims to use novel neuromonitoring techniques to optimize cerebral blood flow following acute neurovascular injury. The focus of the last few years has been preventing neurologic worsening after ischemic stroke and subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH). One-third of SAH patients experience delayed cerebral ischemia (DCI), which more than doubles the risk of poor outcome. So far, traditional medicine has suggested that DCI was caused by vasospasm, but recent clinical trials have demonstrated a lack of improvement in outcome when vasospasm is targeted, so vasospasm is clearly not the sole contributor to worse outcome. We are therefore investigating the mechanisms through which delayed cerebral ischemia contributes to disability and poor outcome after anterior SAH using neuromonitoring techniques such as near-infrared spectroscopy and EEG.

Training:
The postgraduate research associate will gain experience with a broad range of clinical research skills: the design and coordination of clinical trials, IRB development, medical record abstraction, and patient interaction. Human Subjects and HIPAA training will be provided in the context of Good Clinical Practice (GCP). Additionally, the candidate will be trained in EEG protocol, NIRS monitoring, and state-of-the-art blood pressure monitoring. The associate will also assist in the preparation of manuscripts and conference presentations. The position is ideal for recent graduates looking to gain clinical research experience prior to graduate studies in the health professions.

Mentoring:
Mentorship will come from working closely with senior lab members, weekly lab meetings, and 1:1 meetings with Dr. Petersen. Additional mentorship may come from collaborating with other researchers within the neurology department, as well as from outside institutions. Candidates will also be able to participate in and attend neuroscience grand rounds and weekly journal clubs. Past graduates have pursued MD or MD/PhD tracks after completion, details of which can be found on the YCVL website.

Education:
The ideal candidate will have completed a Bachelor's degree and will have prior experience in research. Experience with statistical analysis (SPSS, R, Matlab) is highly preferred, but not required.

The candidate should display a high level of initiative, logic, and creative problem-solving skills. Candidates should also be highly organized and reliable, with good interpersonal and communication skills.

Application Process:
Interested candidates should email their CV and a cover letter briefly describing their interest in the YCVL lab and their research/scientific background to liza.begunova@yale.edu and madelynne.olexa@yale.edu with the subject line "Postgraduate Position."

Additional Details:
The potential start date is in July 2023; however, some flexibility is possible. This is a two-year position. Standard postgraduate compensation: $38,000/year.