**About our lab:**

The Longitudinal Research Program in Late-Life Suicide at the University of Pittsburgh aims to understand the interacting risk and protective factors related to biological and psychosocial factors of aging that lead to the elevated suicide rate in late-life. Known clinical and psychosocial suicide risk factors have low predictive value, and provide little insight into the high suicide rate in the elderly. Moreover only a small minority of those who contemplate suicide proceed to suicidal behavior, but traditional risk factors for suicide poorly distinguish between suicide ideators and suicide attempters and do not take into consideration the heterogeneity of suicidal behavior. We use a decision neuroscience framework and employ cognitive assessments, game theory experiments, decision process measures, and neuroimaging in addition to detailed characterization of psychopathology to understand how cognitive abilities and decision making contribute to suicide risk.

**Our lab is currently recruiting a full-time candidate to:**

* + Conduct semi-structured diagnostic interviews (i.e., SCID, SIDP, HAM-D, SSI) with depressed adults (ages 55+) with and without suicidal behaviors, substance use disorders, and comorbid Axis II disorders.
  + Schedule clinical, neuropsychological, and behavioral assessments and complete follow-up visits with research participants.
  + Assess suicidal risk and contact physician investigators when further assessment and intervention are needed
  + Write case summaries and present at clinical consensus meetings.
  + Participant recruitment including phone screening, inpatient unit screening, managing advertisements, and brainstorming strategies to increase response in targeted populations.
  + Perform online data collection via REDCap software and assist with data management.
  + Assist investigators with grant proposal submissions.
  + Ensure that deadlines are met, all data are collected and participants are scheduled in a timely manner.
  + Collaborate and communicate effectively with faculty and staff of other studies associated with the Longitudinal Research Program in Late-Life Suicide (i.e., for scheduling, recruitment, reporting)
  + Submit regular reports detailing the progress of the research, including NIH progress reports and IRB renewals.

**An ideal candidate** should be a bright, compassionate, and motivated person interested in psychiatry/psychology/neuroscience and have some research experience. This position offers clinical, neuroscience, and computer training, collaboration with a team of psychiatrists and neuroscientists, and optional academic activities providing opportunities for professional growth (e.g., review of the literature, authorship for presentations and publications).

**Qualifications are as follows:**

* + Bachelor’s degree in a field related to human behavior or mental health, such as Psychology, Neuroscience, Social Work, Biology or premed/research sciences/engineering required.  Spring 2019 graduates are encouraged to apply.
  + One year of research/clinical or relevant related experience required (undergraduate experience may be accepted if relevant).
  + Proven ability and motivation to ensure high quality standards in collecting data, attention to detail
  + Excellent communication, interpersonal, problem-solving, and especially organizational skills
  + Ability to prioritize and perform tasks in a flexible and efficient manner
  + Intermediate computer skills (all assessments to be completed electronically)
  + Must be able to travel to participants' homes or long-term care facilities
  + Interested in a 2-3 year commitment
  + Preferred: Mental Health experience working with adults or in the field of geriatrics, prior training in semi-structured clinical interviews and assessment scales (SCID, SIDP) and commonly used scales in depression  (e.g. HDRS, BPRS, Beck Scale for Suicidal Ideation, Beck Suicide Intent Scale)  and neuropsychological (e.g. Folstein MMSE) research.  Basic coding experience, and motivation to learn new software, are ideal.

**Amanda Collier (**[**collieral@upmc.edu**](mailto:collieral@upmc.edu)**) can be contacted for information about applying.**

**More information about our lab can be found at** [**http://gsuicide.pitt.edu/**](http://gsuicide.pitt.edu/)