

## Women & Infants, Brown to offer Women's Mental Health Fellowship

*Applications are being accepted for a Fellow to begin training in July 2014*

PROVIDENCE – Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University have formed a 12-month Women's Mental Health Fellowship. The advanced study will be geared toward psychiatrists wishing to obtain specialized clinical training in the unique psychiatric needs of pregnant and postpartum women, the impact of infertility on women, and the impact of maternal mental illness on infants and children.

It will be the fourth such fellowship nationwide and the 12th fellowship offered through Brown at Women & Infants. "This is a tremendous accomplishment and testimony to the breadth of services available for women at Women & Infants," said Constance Howes, the hospital's president and CEO. "It would be difficult to create a comprehensive educational program that covers so many aspects of a woman's life and health without such a broad base of services."

The fellowship is designed to offer focused clinical training in women's mental health with an emphasis on perinatal psychiatry, according to **NEHA HUDEPOHL, MD**, an attending psychiatrist in Women & Infants' Center for Women's Behavioral Health and director of the new fellowship program.

Fellows will receive in-depth exposure to and training in:

- Pharmacology for pregnant and breastfeeding women
- Attachment disorders in the postpartum period
- Interpersonal psychotherapy
- Perinatal loss
- Substance abuse in perinatal women through the hospital's Project Link program
- Sociocultural influences on perinatal psychiatric illness
- Influence of menstrual cycle on mood disorders
- Trauma-based disorders
- Impact of maternal mental illness on the developing fetus and infant
- Interplay between cancer and women's mental health
- Infertility's impact on a woman's mental health

"Fellows will work in the various areas within the Center for Women's Behavioral Health – including our Day Hospital for perinatal mental health concerns, an academic inpatient consultation-liaison service, and at Project Link for women struggling with addictions in the perinatal period," Dr. Hudepohl said, adding that the Butler Hospital Women's Partial Hospital Program will also give fellows an opportunity to train with women who are chronically suicidal and meet criteria for Borderline Personality Disorder.

Women's Mental Health fellows can opt to focus their studies even more specifically on one of the program's core areas, add electives to supplement their training, and develop a research project in women's mental health under the supervision of a research mentor.

"Women & Infants provides multiple opportunities for exploring women's mental health," explained **MARGARET HOWARD, PHD**, a clinical psychologist, director of the Day Hospital, and associate program director of the new fellowship. "The fellows can spend time, for example, in the hospital's different clinic sites and provide outpatient psychiatric consultation for women with cancer, chronic medical conditions or infertility concerns."

Applications will be accepted starting September 1, 2013, for a fellow to begin training in July 2014. Applicants must have completed a residency or plan to complete a residency in general adult psychiatry prior to the start of the fellowship program and be board certified or eligible with the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in adult psychiatry. For more information on the fellowship, physicians can go to [womenandinfants.org](http://womenandinfants.org) or call the Center for Women's Behavioral Health at 401-459-7955. ❖



Neha Hudepohl, MD, will direct the new fellowship.

PHOTOS: W&I



Margaret Howard, PhD, is the fellowship's associate program director.