

# Patient-oriented Research Project Description

**Project Title:** Understand the health and recovery needs of young adults receiving mental health and substance use services

**Project PI:** Dr. Skye Barbic

**Start and End Dates:** 2019-05-15 to 2019-09-01

**Position Type:**  Paid \$17/hr     Volunteer

**Hours per Week:** 5-10

**Number of Openings:** 2

**Clinical Research Area:** Psychiatry

**Location:** [Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences](#)

**Experience Level:**  BSc  MSc  MD  PhD  MD-PhD  PDF

**Keywords:** Psychometrics, program evaluation, integrated health services, primary care, Foundry

## Project Description:

The overall goal of this project is to address a national priority to incorporate patient- and family- oriented research into the development and assessment of community mental health services for youth with mental illness. Background and Rationale: In Canada, mental illness affects approximately 1 in 4 young adults aged 15 to 24 years. Adolescence and early adulthood are considered the peak periods for the onset of mental illness with 75% of all diagnoses having an onset before the age of 25. Paradoxically, Canadian youth are the one age group for which access to mental health services is the poorest. While significant progress has been made to understand the illness and self-management needs of youth with mental illness, little attention has been focused on their positive mental health and recovery needs. The evidence base for a patient- and family-oriented conceptual and measurement model to capture the mental health and recovery needs of Canadian youth with mental illness is to date underdeveloped. The specific aims of the project are to: (1) Understand the mental health and recovery needs of Canadian youth with mental illness, as identified by youth and young adults. (2) Understand the mental health and recovery needs of Canadian youth with mental illness, as identified by parents. (3) Use existing patient-reported outcome (PROs) measures designed to assess mental health and recovery in adults to determine what information can be gleaned about the recovery profile of youth with mental illness. (4) Estimate the extent to which available PROs are clinically meaningful and psychometrically fit for purpose to measure the mental health and recovery needs of Canadian youth. (5) Understand the extent to which the health and recovery needs of this population differ based on demographic and clinical factors, and community type (rural, small urban, urban).

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## Candidate's Role & Specific Tasks:

The student(s) will work along an internationally recognized team at Foundry ([foundrybc.ca](http://foundrybc.ca)) to understand how research can directly impact health innovation and service delivery and will be responsible for: (1) Literature review (2) Statistical analysis (3) Preparation of manuscript for peer review publications. The candidate(s) will bring a valuable contribution to the group by being able to quickly summarize the literature and help analyze the data for immediate use clinically and rapid dissemination in the peer reviewed literature.

## Mentorship Opportunities:

The trainee will be mentored by Dr. Skye Barbic and her team, including three research coordinators, 2 PhD students, and 2 MSc students with expertise in Patient-centred research

## Application Instructions:

Required Documents:  Cover Letter  Resume  Transcript  Class Schedule  Other: academic writing sample

If interested, please direct any further queries or the required documents to our Research Coordinator, Adelena Leon (email: [adelena.leon@ubc.ca](mailto:adelena.leon@ubc.ca); phone: 604-822-7069)