



Harriet MacMillan CM, MD, MSc, FRCPC



HEALTH SCIENCES
Psychiatry & Behavioural
Neurosciences

Research Work

Harriet MacMillan is a psychiatrist and pediatrician conducting family violence research. She is a member of the Offord Centre for Child Studies, a Distinguished University Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, and Pediatrics at McMaster University with associate membership in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact. She holds the Chedoke Health Chair in Child Psychiatry. Harriet's research focuses on the epidemiology of violence against children and women; she has led randomized controlled trials evaluating interventions to reduce child maltreatment and intimate partner violence and associated mental health impairment. Funding for this work has been provided by organizations such as the WT Grant Foundation, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). Harriet works closely with organizations such as PHAC and the World Health Organization.

Current Research Projects Include:

The Family Violence Research Program has several ongoing projects, which are focused on approaches to reducing child maltreatment and intimate partner violence and associated impairment. Harriet leads the VEGA (Violence Evidence Guidance Action) project, which involves the development of pan-Canadian guidance and a curriculum for healthcare and social service providers on recognizing and responding safely to family violence. VEGA and other projects often have smaller subprojects as part of an overall program of research. For example, within VEGA, one research project is examining medical students' perceptions of the family violence education they receive in their undergraduate programs. The Family Violence Research Program includes projects involving both quantitative and/or qualitative research. There are ongoing systematic reviews as well as projects addressing questions about the epidemiology of family violence, based on secondary data analyses of large datasets such as the Ontario Child Health Study. Family Violence Research Program meetings are held quarterly, and all students and trainees are welcome. This is a forum in which residents can learn firsthand about opportunities for research that arise throughout the academic year.

Engagement Opportunities

Introductory Level

- Extract data from articles for systematic reviews
- Transcribe data from qualitative interviews
- Prepare an oral presentation suitable for the Family Violence Research Program
- *Time commitments vary between 20 and 50 hours depending on extent of involvement*

Intermediate Level

- Conduct interviews with participants
- Assist with a systematic review including writing part of a manuscript
- Conduct the literature review for the introduction to a manuscript and assist in writing the introduction
- *Time commitments for above vary between 20 and 60 hours depending on extent of involvement*

Advanced Level

- Lead or be second author on a systematic review
- Lead or be second author on a study that involves secondary analysis
- Take the lead in writing the introduction of a manuscript
- *Time commitments for above vary between 30 and 80 hours depending on extent of involvement*

If you are interested in learning more, please leave your contact information with the Research Office and/or contact Dr. MacMillan at macmilnh@mcmaster.ca