



Sébastien Prat, MD



HEALTH SCIENCES
Psychiatry & Behavioural
Neurosciences

Research Work

My research focuses on violent behavior and risk assessment. I am interested in understanding the psychobiological background underlying deviant behaviour. I have a particular interest in sexual offenses and online offenses. I believe that the use of technology such as virtual reality can enhance our understanding and treatment of offenders. In terms of sex research, I also developed an interest in studying normal sexual behaviour as a way to understand deviant sexual behaviour. Also, I feel that stigma and media representation of the forensic population are items that require further research to help these individuals to reintegrate into the community. Within the Forensic Program, we publish a forensic mental health journal, *International Journal of Risk and Recovery (IJRR)* that addresses articles relevant for clinical practice. We also launched recently *Hitting the Hammer Podcast*, that addresses forensic topics.

Current Research Projects Include:

- Characteristics of sexual behaviour in a control population
- Identifying true and fake sexual preferences (relevance for sexual offenders)
- Characteristics of non-paraphilic deviant sexual thinking

Engagement Opportunities

Introductory Level

- Participating in systematic review
- Copy Editing Article of the IJRR
- Data entry

Intermediate Level

- Administering protocols
- Reviewing articles prior to publication in IJRR
- Participating in quality control for Hitting the Hammer Podcast

Advanced Level

- Developing research protocol relevant for clinical practice
- Data analysis
- Manuscript writing (original research, systematic review)
- Interviewing experts for Hitting the Hammer Podcast

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