

A postdoctoral training position is available in the [Louis Lab](#), in the department of Neurology at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Our Lab has several exciting projects related to both clinical and neuropathological changes in Essential Tremor.

**Position Summary & Additional Job Responsibilities:**

Dr. Elan D. Louis, the Chair of the Department of Neurology, is interested in hiring a full-time, paid, post-doctoral trainee who will be involved in the Pathologomics of Essential Tremor and the Clinical Pathological Study of Cognitive Impairment in Essential Tremor (COGNET) studies. The goal of these clinical research projects is to understand the postmortem brain tissue changes that occur in essential tremor, comparing these changes to those seen in patients with other neurological diseases, and especially the degenerative changes that occur in the cerebellum. At the same time the COGNET study will allow for the assessment in cognition as the participants age. These studies, funded by the NIH, draw on the expertise of clinical neurologists and neuropathologists, and partner with a motivated essential tremor community. This position is perfect for a motivated person who is interested in obtaining additional clinical research training.

As part of their educational experience, the post-doctoral trainee will learn about the cause of neurological diseases, the development of methods for clinical evaluation of patients with a broad range of tremor disorders, methods of analyzing clinical human subjects' data for research purposes, and tools available for clinic-pathological studies of human disease. The trainee will also shadow at the Movement Disorders Clinic and attend Neurology Grand Rounds. These meetings will allow the post-doctoral trainee to learn to recognize a range of involuntary movements in the study participants and to learn about the other research studies that are currently being conducted by the department.

The post-doctoral trainee will learn about numerous aspects of clinical research from study design and planning, questionnaire development, preparation of materials for institutional review board evaluation, and selection of appropriate methods to evaluate and track study subjects. Opportunities for independent research will be available to the post-doctoral trainee and are strongly encouraged. Thus, the post-doctoral trainee will learn about statistical analyses methods to interpret study data and how to prepare and publish first author, peer-reviewed manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Their publication portfolio will center around the clinic-pathological findings that are elucidated during the execution of these projects.

It is expected that this educational experience will serve as an educational link between the trainee's graduate experience and their future academic/educational advancement into a clinical research career.

Pathologomics and COGNET are not clinical trials but part of prospective clinical-pathological studies. The post-doctoral trainee's activities will include the recruitment and enrollment of study subjects, data collection and management. The trainee will also act as the liaison between brain donors, their families and physicians, pathologists, and funeral homes to create personal brain donor plans that ensure that donation is carried out at the time of death. Also, the trainee will act as the liaison between the New York Brain Bank, the principal investigator, and the laboratory technicians. Miscellaneous administrative tasks will include conducting follow-up phone calls with brain donors who were previously visited, requesting, and collecting deceased brain donors' medical records.

Information on our postdoctoral training program, benefits, and a virtual tour can be found at <http://www.utsouthwestern.edu/postdocs>.

**Preferred qualifications/experience:**

*Candidates must possess and be able to demonstrate the following preferred qualifications/experience:*

- Must hold a recent M.D. and/or Ph.D. degree.
- Must commit at least **2 years** for this position.
- Must have excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills.
- Basic computer skills such are required.
- Prior clinical research experience leading to publication in peer-reviewed journals is preferred.
- Familiarity with SPSS and REDCap is preferred.
- Experience conducting phone interviews with elderly patients is preferred.
- Experience handling sensitive information in a tactful and professional manner is preferred.

Interested individuals should send a CV, statement of interest, and a list of three references to Dr. Ali Ghanem at [ali.ghanem@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:ali.ghanem@utsouthwestern.edu).