

# Psychology Undergraduate Internship Placement – Home Treatment Team

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## Location of Placement

There are two Home Treatment Team bases in Cornwall to cover the whole of the county. The team bases are located in Bodmin and Redruth – the placement could be based in either or both of these team bases.

## Accessibility:

Is a car required to undertake this placement?

A car would be preferable although not a requirement if you are able to transport yourself to the team base.

## Description of Role:

Include key tasks and opportunities

We are looking for reliable and motivated individuals to support the Home Treatment Team in developing psychological aspects of service delivery. The Home Treatment Team works intensively with people experiencing an acute mental health crisis. We have links with many other parts of the mental health system and other agencies such as mental health inpatient wards, psychiatric liaison services, community mental health teams, emergency services and social care. A placement in this service offers an interesting position from which to learn about a person's journey through different parts of the system and how they fit together including legal frameworks such as the Mental Health Act.

The role of psychology is relatively new in the Home Treatment Team and a placement with us would provide an exciting opportunity to help develop our service and consider all the aspects of the role of a clinical psychologist including clinical assessment and therapeutic skills; team support and development; and research and evaluation skills - all applied within a fast paced clinical setting.

Your role will be to support the Clinical Psychologists in the Home Treatment Team with using assessment and formulation skills in order to help 'make sense' of clients' difficulties using a range of psychological models; developing psychologically informed care plans; and supporting other members of the team with developing psychological knowledge and skills. Our role is constantly evolving and we are keen to evaluate the effectiveness of our work. Therefore, there are lots of opportunities for applying research and evaluation skills to clinical practice.

Specific duties would be likely to include:

- Gathering relevant information (e.g.by reviewing client case notes; using semi-structured interviews with clients, families and staff)
- Assisting the clinical psychologist in facilitating and writing up complex case discussion groups for staff.
- Conducting literature searches, developing materials, managing materials and equipment, and writing reports to support developing practice.
- Using a range of research methods including structured questionnaires to gather information about client, family and staff experiences of the service.
- Developing systems to manage data collection and analysis for service evaluation.
- Assisting the clinical psychologist in delivering training to staff.

The Home Treatment Team works with clients who are considered 'high risk', usually in terms of harm to themselves or risk of suicide. For this reason you will not complete independent clinical work. However, there will be opportunities to shadow and join other staff. Your role will be invaluable as you will be uniquely positioned to support the development of new approaches within the service. A willingness to learn and reflect on your own thoughts and feelings in what can be an emotive environment will be essential.

**Preferred placement duration in weeks:**

Intern can negotiate placement length based on university course requirements

**Placement days:** (please tick)

3 days a week if located in 1 team or 4 days a week if opting for a split placement