2016 “Gap Year” Clinical Research Assistant Position in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics

**Description:** A 9-12 month paid internship program in clinical research related to child development and neurodevelopmental disorders is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York – part of Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System).

This Clinical Research Internship offers 1-2 accomplished students the opportunity to work closely with faculty mentors on research projects related to normal or abnormal child development. Research Assistants (RA’s) will assist clinical faculty with ongoing research projects and/or work collaboratively with one or more mentors in designing new projects of mutual interest. The Division has internal funding for clinical research. RA’s are not expected to write grants, and their research endeavors and activities are not dependent on extramural grants. Although the internship is primarily focused on clinical research, there may also be an opportunity to co-author a review article for publication in a peer-reviewed pediatric journal (see details below).

This clinical research internship is open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. Although the ideal candidate is a student who aspires to attend medical school in the near future, has a strong academic record and writing skills, research experience, knowledge of statistics, and a demonstrated interest in psychology, child development, and neuroscience, we welcome applications from any students who have excelled in any area of study.

**Research Focus:** The faculty have eclectic interests, as reflected in the diverse list of recent abstract presentations (see pages 3-7 below). The two primary mentors are Dr. Andrew Adesman and Dr. Ruth Milanaik. Dr. Adesman is primarily interested in secondary analyses of data made available by the CDC and other national organizations, though he will also sometimes initiate studies that involve collection of original data. Dr. Milanaik is primarily interested in projects that require collection of original data – either from retrospective chart reviews, prospective data collection coincident with out-patient visits, or in some cases, through mailings or on-line surveys.

**Research Abstracts:** RA’s will be co-investigators on multiple research abstracts submitted to national research meetings. A list of research abstracts accepted for presentation at national meetings in 2012, 2013 2014 and 2015 is attached. (Abstract decisions for the upcoming 2016 meeting will be announced in mid-February.)

**Research Abstracts/Publications:** With guidance from faculty mentors, RA’s will be responsible for drafting and revising research manuscripts for submission to peer reviewed pediatric journals. RA’s will be identified as either the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication.

**Review Article:** There may be an opportunity for RA’s to be first or second author on a review article for a peer-reviewed medical journal. This article would be clinically focused, relating to a specific developmental disorder or behavioral concern.
Program Dates: Start and completion dates for the Gap Year internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a full-time 9 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. With advance notice, research interns may take as many days off (without pay) as needed during their internship to visit medical schools for interviews.

Other Activities/ Expectations/Opportunities: The primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing. It is expected that this will comprise 90% of one’s time. RA’s will have the opportunity to attend clinical lectures about child development, developmental disorders and other lectures of interest available through the Children’s Hospital. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians in our sub-specialty area and potentially other pediatric sub-specialties as well. RA’s may occasionally be asked to assist with other academic or administrative tasks.

Stipend: This is a paid internship; interns will be paid $14 per hour for days worked.

To Apply: You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a résumé, and an unofficial transcript. Select applicants may be invited submit a writing sample such as a recent term paper. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Gap Year Research Internship" to Ms. Christine Peck at CPeck@northwell.edu.

Application Process & Deadline: The submittal deadline is February 22, 2016; all materials must be received by that date. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview in late February or early March, and notification of decisions will be made by mid-March.

Past Interns: The Gap Year Internship experience was created in 2014. Our first Gap Year RA was a co-investigator on numerous research abstracts and is first author on several different research manuscripts. She was accepted to several medical schools and is now an MS-1. Our current RA is also a co-investigator on innumerable research abstracts and is likewise first author on several different manuscripts (by March 1, she should have 3 manuscripts under editorial review by journals -- with 2 more papers in preparation for submission by May 1). Our current RA has already been accepted to several medical schools.

For Further Information: The research internship is coordinated by Dr. Andrew Adesman, Chief of the Division of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. Questions regarding the Gap Year internship or the application process should be directed to his assistant, Christine Peck, at 516 802-6101 (CPeck@northwell.edu).
Comments from “Gap Year” Research Interns:  
(solicited, but unedited)

2014-2015 Intern:  
"This position allows you to pursue research in a clinical setting, with endless possibilities for research projects. I was able to conduct research that I was personally interested in, which made the experience very enjoyable and rewarding. I felt like a respected member of the office because my interests and ideas were valued and encouraged. The projects I was involved in ranged from risk behaviors in adolescent populations to perception of support received by breastfeeding mothers. The group of physicians in the office are very approachable and excited to collaborate on research studies and have you shadow them during patients’ visits. I also had the opportunity to attend pediatric research conferences throughout the country to present my research, learn about other research in the field, and interact with pediatricians. By the culmination of my year in the position, I prepared four manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed medical journals. The skills I have learned from this position in research, oral presentation, manuscript preparation and patient care continue to help me in medical school. I would recommend this position to self-motivated aspiring physicians or researchers who are looking for a clinically oriented and research-driven gap year experience."

2015-2016 Intern:  
My gap year in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics has been a tremendously rewarding experience. In the past seven months, I was first author on a review article published in a peer-reviewed pediatrics journal, and first or second author on numerous abstracts submitted to the 2016 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting. In the upcoming months, I expect to submit several more original research manuscripts to peer-reviewed medical journals. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik have broad interests in the field of pediatrics and have also been very receptive to my own ideas and objectives. You would be hard-pressed to find mentors who spend as much time and effort as they do to make sure that your year is productive, fulfilling, and fun!  
Finally, I was incredibly thankful for how supportive Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were of my application to medical school. Given how time consuming the application and interview processes were, I found the flexibility of the work schedule to be invaluable to ensuring that I had a low-stress, but also highly productive, gap year. Without reservations, I would highly recommend this research position!
Platform Presentation:

- Risk Factors for Physical and Sexual Dating Violence among Teens*
- Immediate Impact of Newly Implemented Texting While Driving Laws on Teenagers in the United States, 2011-2013*
- Bidirectional Gender Bias in Over-the-Counter Supplement Recommendations: A Comparative Study*,**,***
- Over-The-Counter Testosterone Boosters And Underage Teens: Easy Access And Misinformation Provided By National Retailers*,**,***
- Relative Risks of Depression and Suicidal Tendency Among Victims of School- and Electronic-Bullying With Co-Risk Factors*
- Relationship between Caregiver Distractions and Children’s Risk Taking Behaviors on a Playground**,***
- Playground Observation Study: Come, Play, Put your Electronic Device Away**,***
- Low Health Literacy (HL): Potential Barrier To Using Parent-Completed Developmental Screening Tools (PCDST)

Poster Presentations:

- Victimization of High School Students: Impact on School Attendance and Weapon Carrying Behaviors*
- Support and Maternal Ratings of Factors that Influence Mothers' Decision to Breastfeed Beyond One Year of Age: Healthcare Providers, Family, and Friends*
- Breastfeeding Toddlers & Preschoolers: Is it More Common with Boys or Does the Mass Media Sensationalize Nursing?*
- An International Comparison of Factors that Influence a Mother's Decision to Breastfeed Beyond 1 Year*
- The Relationship between Seat Belt and Bike Helmet Use in U.S. Teens*

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* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
• Transportation Safety: The Effect of Primary vs. Secondary Seat Belt Enforcement Laws on Seat Belt and Bicycle Helmet Use*

• A Comparison of Texting While Driving by Teenagers: Driver Age and Experience*

• Body Image as a Mediator of Daily Consumption of Non-Diet Sodas in Overweight and Obese Teens*

• The Role of Diet in Teenage Obesity: Daily Fruit & Vegetable Consumption*

• Consumer Ratings of Baby Walkers: Ignoring the AAP's Warning?*

• Prematurity-Associated Growth Problems: A Parent's Perception of Risk*,**

• Parental Perception of Risk Associated with Prematurity*,**

• Parent Understanding of Age Correction and Developmental Patterns of Their Premature Infant*,***

• Weight Loss and Underage Teens: Supplement Recommendations from National Retailers*,**

• An Examination of Structural Obstacles between Neonatal Intensive Care Units and Delivery Rooms for NICU Response Teams*,**

• Gender Differences in Risk of Weapon-Carrying By Adolescents Who Are Victims of Bullying*

• Impact of Physician Training and Prescribing Volume on ADHD Patients Being Educated About Stimulant Diversion & Misuse*

• The Impact of State Laws Regarding Contraception Access and Use by Teen-Age Girls in the United States*

• Assessing Community Participation among Children with Developmental Disorders: Analysis of the 2011-2012 National Survey of Children's Health*

• Transition Readiness Among Teens and Young Adults With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder***

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.aps-spr.org)

2014 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

Platform Presentations:

- Association between Victims of Bullying and Weapon Carrying Among High School Students in the United States***
- Exponential, Not Additive, Increase in Risk of Weapons Carrying by Adolescents Who Themselves Are Frequent and Recurrent Victims of Bullying***
- Is Bottle Feeding Really a Risk Factor for Preschool ADHD?
- Prevalence and Student Perceptions of Prescription Stimulant Misuse at an Ivy League College*
- Comparison of Processing Speed, Math Performance, and Reading Performance in ADHD Children on Paper vs. Digital Interfaces*, **

Poster Presentations:

- Physician Perceptions and Knowledge of Diversion of Stimulant Medications for ADHD*
- Physician Practices To Prevent Diversion of ADHD Stimulant Medications*
- Association between Asthma and Physical Activity in Teens: Analysis of Representative National Data from the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)*
- Stability of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Diagnoses in Children Ages 2-17: Analysis of 2011-212 National Survey of Children's Health Data*
- Medical Evaluation of Children with Intellectual Disability: Clinician Non-Compliance with Published Guidelines*
- Faux Pas Recognition Testing as a Measure of Social Deficits in Children with ADHD: Assessment and Comparison with Parent Predictions*
- Relationship between Cognitive Development and Touchscreen Device Usage in Infants and Toddlers*, **
- Correlation of Touchscreen Device Usage and Television Viewing with Feeding Habits, Night Waking episodes, and Parent Frustration: A Pilot Study*, **

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.aps-spr.org)
2013 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

Platform Presentations:

• Smoking Policy on College Campuses: Influence of Sociodemographic Factors **

• Early Sexual Debut in the United States: Longitudinal Analysis of National Data from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System from 1991 – 2011*

• Electronic Bullying and Recreational Video/Computer Time in U.S. High School Students*

• Medication Management of Preschool ADHD by Pediatric Sub-Specialists: Non-Compliance with AAP Clinical Guidelines***

Poster Presentations:

• Texting While Driving among High School Students: Analysis of 2011 Data from the National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)*
  - Selected for Student Research Award, which included a $1,000 prize

• Sexual Risk Taking Behavior among US Teens: Update 2011*

• Diagnostic Evaluation of Children with Autism: Real-Life vs. Recommended*

• Parent vs. Teacher Ratings of Core and Associated Behaviors of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Preschoolers*

• Early Introduction of Solid Foods to Premature Infants and Impact on Feeding Behaviors**, ***

• Failure to Adjust for Gestational Age When Plotting Premature Infant Growth and Its Impact on Parental Satisfaction**, ***

• Prevalence and Duration of Breastfeeding in ADHD vs. Non-ADHD Children Ages 3–5: Analysis of 2007 National Health Survey Data***

• Clinical Criteria for Pharmacotherapy in Preschool Children with ADHD***

• The History of Amphetamines: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly!* [historical poster]

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Platform Presentation:

• Are Some Disabilities More Handicapping than Others? A Comparison of Teacher Grading of Children with Medical, Physical and Behavioral Disabilities*

Poster Presentations:

• Preschool ADHD and Impact on Family Functioning: Analysis of National Children's Health Survey 2007 Data*

• Long-Term Developmental Outcome of Children Whose Mothers Reported Loss of Fetal Activity During Pregnancy

• Stimulant Diversion and Access in Households with Children on Stimulant Medication for ADHD

• Is Tourette Syndrome More Common in Children or Adolescents with Atopic Disease? Analysis of a Population-Based Sample of Youth in the United States***

• Neuromotor Outcome of Young Children Whose Mothers Reported Loss of Fetal Activity

• Major Shortcomings of the Short Version of the Conners' Rating Scales-Revised for Diagnosing ADHD, Inattentive Type in Children

• Utilization of Questionnaires in Assessment & Management of Preschool ADHD: Analysis of Data from the 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health***

• ADHD Medication Holidays: Factors Involved in the Parental Decision Whether or Not to Continue Medical Treatment during the Summer***

• The Guthrie Test: A 50-Year Retrospective on Screening for Phenylketonuria [historical poster; not research]

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
“The internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics under Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik was one of a kind. In this internship, you are in a unique position as a student to conduct research on the forefront of the field, as well as work with patients and shadow physicians. I would strongly recommend this internship for any individual aspiring to be a doctor or psychologist. You get to conduct your own research and apply skills and techniques you’ve learned in class to a clinical setting. Additionally, the environment in the division is exquisite. The physicians and staff are all eager to work with you and make your research projects fun and enjoyable. You are also with a small batch of other intelligent and eager interns. Because the group is small, you get a great deal of attention. You are also bound to make great friends and work together on all your assignments. Even half a year later, I still talk regularly with all the interns from my class because we were friends inside and outside the division. Overall, this summer was excellent, and I would not hesitate to do it again.”

D.S., Yale

“The summer research internship was an incredibly rewarding experience. My experience at North Shore LIJ solidified my decision to pursue a career in medicine. I had the opportunity to shadow doctors in the office, visit the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, as well as conduct clinical research. I was also excited to first author an article, which was published in January.

Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are extremely supportive mentors. Their enthusiasm for medicine was infectious and I appreciated their interest in teaching the interns about medicine and clinical research. In addition, the office environment was extremely collaborative. I worked on projects with other summer interns as well as residents and fellows.

Through my summer experience, I learned what it is like to be a physician. I highly recommend this internship to anyone who is interested in medicine and clinical research!”

C.J., Harvard

"Interning at Cohen Children’s Medical Center this past summer was one of the most valuable summer experiences I have had thus far in my academic career. This was so different from any other typical internship because, along with being heavily involved in pediatrics research, we all received the opportunity to shadow in the NICU, PICU, and within the developmental and behavioral pediatrics division. While I expected to conduct a research project, I was not anticipating the privilege to work on two primary studies, a secondary data analysis, and a manuscript review article already accepted for publication. I definitely learned a lot about how to write and properly format research articles geared for publication, and feel more comfortable in my writing abilities."
If you receive the pleasure of working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, you will find that there is plenty of meaningful work to do, and that they both are fantastic mentors. Not only did I feel completely guided throughout the research process (from formulating a research question to completing the IRB protocol), I also knew that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik would meet with us if we ever had any questions or were looking for more opportunities to get involved within the clinic or in research. They treat you as an equal and put a lot of time and effort into the interns’ work. I could not ask for a more fulfilling, clinically meaningful research summer experience."

A.H., Yale (Master’s program)

Working at Cohen Children’s with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik this past summer was a unique and incredibly valuable experience. We were given full freedom and support to pursue whatever topic we were interested in within the scope of behavioral pediatrics. I think it is very rare to find an internship such as this one, where our ideas were treated with genuine interest and taken seriously. Through this internship, I learned how to conduct meaningful research on my own, experiencing every step first-hand—from brainstorming, to getting IRB approval, to making my own surveys and distributing them. In the short amount of time that I was there, I came out with so many worthwhile skills that will definitely help me in the future, such as writing up a survey or writing a manuscript. It was a privilege being able to work on my own interests here and receiving the help that I did from both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. It’s clear that they are genuinely devoted to seeing us succeed and accomplish the goals we set for ourselves, despite the fact that they had their plates full with their own manuscripts and patients. One of the biggest and undeniable perks of this internship is the opportunity to get published. The fact that the research we do and our writing will be actually published is incredible and definitely makes us stand out. I don’t think there are any other internships that make the promise of having your work published. While it may seem like a lot of work, we were definitely guided by all of the other doctors we were working with, so I never felt lost.

Other than what we learn from this internship, it was also a fulfilling experience because of the people you meet and become close to. The other interns and I became a very close-knit group immediately and we still keep in touch. The other doctors and nurses in the office are also very welcoming of us and made us feel included, even if we were only going to be there for a short amount of time. One of my favorite parts of this internship was getting the chance to shadow Dr. Milanaik. We would follow her around in the NICU and getting the chance to see patients like that is definitely preparing me for med school and made me even more excited to become a doctor. I had a great time during this internship and am so grateful for choosing to pursue it. I think many of its benefits are self-explanatory.

T.A., Harvard
“Working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik this summer in the division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was a highly rewarding experience. The type of research being done in this office was totally different from anything I had done before, and it really exercised my reading, writing, and critical analysis skills. Both doctors are extremely encouraging of using the internship to pursue research topics of interest to the student, and much of their time is dedicated to helping the interns with their projects. The internship also provides wonderful opportunities for shadowing. Visiting the NICU with Dr. Milanaik was a very powerful experience for me, and has sparked a huge personal interest in neonatal health care. This internship is an incredible way to spend a summer, and I would highly recommend it to anyone interested in pursuing medicine or a health-related profession.”

C.C., Yale
"The internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics has been the most rewarding academic experience of my life thus far. Both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are extremely passionate about fostering the growth and development of their interns, and therefore worked closely with me to find and develop projects tailored to my specific interests. The supportive environment of the internship pushed me to challenge myself in many areas, including scholastic-level writing and clinically-oriented research. The skills I've developed during this internship are 100% invaluable, and I am so grateful that I was awarded this opportunity."

J.B., Princeton University

"This internship was, by far, the most productive and rewarding summer experience I've ever had. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredible mentors -- they offered lots of guidance and support while also giving us the flexibility to pursue specific research topics that interested us. I worked on a review article and an original research study, both of which allowed me to hone my scientific writing skills and explore topics that I wanted to learn more about. Another wonderful aspect of this program is that it strikes a perfect balance between research and clinical exposure; shadowing Dr. Adesman and his colleagues gave me insight into the field of developmental-behavioral pediatrics and solidified my desire to become a physician. Overall, I couldn’t have asked for a better experience!"

B.K., Yale University

“"The summer internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was an extraordinary experience. Drs. Adesman and Milanaik were extremely supportive and worked so hard to make sure their research interns were able to explore what interested them most. They helped me figure out topics that excited me and gave me an incredible array of resources to discover more about them. Under their guidance, I became so much more confident in not only my research skills, but also my writing and critical thinking. The many shadowing opportunities allowed me to explore pediatric medicine and discover my interest in neonatology.”

L.F., Cornell University

“"My summer research experience in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was extremely rewarding and intellectually stimulating. As an undergraduate student, the opportunity to design and conduct independent research projects was a unique one
and speaks to the faith and confidence Drs. Adesman and Milanaik have in the summer interns. While being the main researcher on an independent project was admittedly a bit daunting at first, Drs. Adesman and Milanaik are great at working with interns through the entire process and the end result is a research experience that is tough to find elsewhere. The flexibility to explore my own interests with my research also led me to projects that excited my passions. Whether one is interested in a clinical study, data analysis, literature reviews, surveys, policy-based research, or really any other research method in between, Drs. Adesman and Milanaik will work with you to come up with a project to match these interests. With their assistance, having the opportunity to submit multiple abstracts to a national conference and draft a manuscript for publication is an extraordinary one for research interns.

What really distinguishes this internship, however, is the opportunity to work with Drs. Adesman and Milanaik. They are both great role models and mentors for anyone interested in medicine. They are also genuinely invested in the internship program and make sure to optimize each intern’s experience through different presentations and shadowing experiences, both in their division and throughout the hospital. For all these reasons and more, I would highly recommend this internship.”

M.H., Princeton University

“This far down in the comments, you should already be convinced that this internship is a meaningful, rewarding, incredible, exciting, rewarding, invaluable, rewarding, rewarding, rewarding, experience.

In addition to being all of the above, this internship, in the hands of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, goes above and beyond its promise to give interns the experience and mentorship they need to take ownership of significant research questions.

You will learn how to conduct a comprehensive literature search, you will write and submit to the IRB, you will conduct studies and collect data, and in the end you will have to figure out what your results mean. Along the way, you’ll be given ample guidance and candid feedback to keep you on track, and you will never leave a conversation not knowing what to do next.

Above all, my favorite parts of the internship were my conversations with Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, and the other interns. It’s amazing how even the slightest inkling of a research question could develop into a full-fledged project in an environment like this. Interns also have the incredible opportunity to submit abstracts to the pediatric annual meeting and/or to incorporate their findings in submissions for publication.

Finally, as testament to how massively productive, fun, and engaging my summer internship was, I’m happy to report that I’ll be joining the division for a year as a full-time research assistant before entering medical school.”

T.P., Yale University
Comments from Research Interns – Summer, 2013
(solicited, but unedited)

“I can quite honestly reflect that my time in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics (DBPeds) was one of the most rewarding summers of my life. Through the guidance of Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman, I was able to rapidly build my skills as a researcher, from drafting questionnaires to creating testable hypotheses to writing project proposals. The environment is very team-oriented, and while I was afforded the flexibility to develop my own individual research, the DBPeds staff and my fellow interns were always close at hand, ready with constructive criticism, support, and new ideas.

Both Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman are very invested in their interns and will do whatever it takes to ensure you flourish as a researcher. I worked most closely with Dr. Milanaik, who is one of the most fun and vivacious physicians I have ever met. She is full of great ideas and dedicated to making sure you get the most out of your internship. She always went out of her way to afford myself and the other interns with special opportunities like going on rounds with residents in the hospital and scheduling tours for us in the PICU. Dr. Adesman is also a wonderful mentor to have. Although he is an expert in his field, he always makes sure to take time out of his busy schedule to check in with you, help you with a project, or point you toward more compelling opportunities.

Aside from the rich clinical experience you gain, you are also able to form close bonds with everyone you work with. Each staff member is very welcoming and interested in not only getting to know you but also in giving you advice about anything. In addition, you will work alongside other college students who may share many of your interests! If you are interested in children, medicine, research, or all three, this is definitely one of the best ways you could possibly spend your summer!”

O.O., Princeton University

“This internship was an invaluable experience to me for many reasons. On a personal level, it strengthened my interest in medicine by exposing me to the realities of the field in the NICU, PICU, and DB Peds clinic. Furthermore, the research was exciting because I had the freedom to study any aspect of clinical psych in DB Peds that interested me.

When it came time to apply to medical school, I drew heavily on my shadowing experiences to explain my motivations to go into medicine. Moreover, being able to say I was first author of an abstract selected as a platform presentation at a preeminent pediatric conference really strengthened my application.

Lastly, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredibly intelligent, well-respected, and caring physicians and mentors. Their guidance in the clinic and with my research, as well as the opportunity to experience New York City, made my summer something special. I highly recommend this internship to any student interested in research and medicine.”

K.S., Northwestern University
“The clinical research internship has given me an opportunity to work alongside mentors who truly have a passion for what they do. Their guidance and interest towards my learning have enabled me to take part in so much more outside of my research project, such as being able to attend grand rounds and visiting the NICU unit. I also enjoyed getting to know the medical residents, and was able to obtain useful advice regarding medical school and the medical profession. Overall, this has been a wonderful and rewarding experience, and I highly recommend this internship to anyone who is considering a career in medicine.”

J.L., Carnegie Mellon University
Comments from Research Interns – Summer, 2012
(solicited, but unedited)

"The summer internship was definitely my most meaningful research experience to date. I had the chance to be the first author on a published paper, where I improved my writing skills as well as learned to critically evaluate medical journal articles. I also appreciated the many shadowing opportunities I was given throughout the course of the summer, which helped me to get a better understanding of what exactly behavior and developmental pediatrics entails."

A.B., University of Pennsylvania

“Working at Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was an incredible experience. I had the chance to participate in interesting research and shadow doctors and hospital rounds, all while learning enormously about the world of developmental pediatrics and about research in general. There are a lot of new and exciting things happening in this world, and I had a great summer in the midst of it!”

SM, Princeton University

“The summer internship was an incredibly rewarding experience for me. From the opportunity to do research alongside experts in the field, to the inviting weekly lectures given by attendings and residents eager to teach, to the balance of warmth and professionalism in the office, I couldn’t have asked for more from this internship.”

K.G., Bryn Mawr College; Columbia University (Post-Bacc.)

"The summer internship was an intellectually exciting experience that solidified and defined my interest in medicine. The hands-on combination of clinical research and physician shadowing gave me a great sense of what it’s like to pursue a career in medicine. The individualized guidance I received as a research intern allowed me to focus on my personal interests and to better understand clinical research in the medical setting."

A.T., Columbia University
“The summer internship exceeded my expectations in every possible way. There is an incredible amount of flexibility in terms of the specific research each intern decides to conduct. The internship rewards those who are passionate about Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics and are committed to putting in 100% every day. Hard-working interns can finish the summer with a number of abstracts to submit to annual meetings and with a manuscript to submit to the most prestigious pediatrics journal (as first author!). Dr. Adesman is the best mentor I have ever had and I assure you that he will go out of his way to ensure that you get the most out of the internship. While the internship offers interns the independence undergraduates want and deserve, Dr. Adesman is always available to offer advice and support. Not only are you able to conduct meaningful clinical research, but you are also awarded the opportunity to shadow Dr. Adesman and other doctors in the field. When I shadowed Dr. Adesman, he went out of his way to review every patient file with me before we entered the patient’s room. Depending on your interests, Dr. Adesman is also more than willing to reach out to doctors in other fields, as he has many connections and is very well respected by all. I shadowed a pediatric endocrinologist and it was one of the most rewarding shadowing experiences I have had. Furthermore, you will make some wonderful friends, as you get to spend the summer with a number of other students who are similarly driven and passionate about the field. If you are a confident writer looking for an internship in which you can work with one of the experts in the field to conduct cutting edge research on a related topic of your choice, you should absolutely apply. You will get more out of one summer than other undergraduates or graduates get in two years.”

A.B., Princeton University

“The summer internship was an incredible learning experience. I got a chance to really initiate clinically-relevant research projects and follow through with multiple projects. As a research intern, you are involved in each step of the process, from conducting the background research, to writing and submitting IRB protocols, as well as recruiting subjects. This holistic experience makes this program unique, since it can be difficult to gain experience with all of these aspects of clinical research at once in other programs. We were even able to get an abstract from one of these projects accepted in the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research! Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik also give students the opportunity to shadow them in the clinic, which really gave me an insight into the practice of developmental and behavioral pediatrics. Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, as well as the residents and fellows in the department, were incredibly supportive mentors and really encourage driven students to wholeheartedly pursue clinical research. I would recommend this program to any pre-med who is interested in pursuing research.”

R.R., University of Pennsylvania
"My summer spent in the Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics was rewarding in several different ways. I had the opportunity to participate in research on exciting and important topics, such as preschool ADHD and teacher bias in the classroom. I was even able to continue some of this research for my senior thesis at Princeton University.

In addition to conducting research, I also gained exposure to a medical field that I knew very little about, developmental and behavioral pediatrics. As a psychology major and pre-medical student, this position tied together my interests perfectly. In fact, because of my rich experiences two summers ago, I am now considering entering this field for my career.

In addition to the numerous opportunities offered through the program, Dr. Adesman is a wonderful mentor. He is a brilliant physician, who generates wonderful research hypotheses. Unlike many other mentors, his primary goal is to see his interns succeed. He has access to many different resources, such as several nation-wide databases, that are available to use when attempting to answer research questions. He provided guidance, not only with my research, but also on my future career and my medical school prospects.

All in all, my summer spent as a research intern in D-B Peds was like none other. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in the field.

A.K., Princeton University
Comments from Research Interns – Summer, 2010
(solicited, but unedited)

“Working with Dr. Adesman as an undergraduate gave me valuable research and writing experience that prepared me for a clinical psychology doctoral program. The opportunities to co-author academic papers not only strengthened my CV and applications, but also significantly improved these practical skills that have been critical in graduate school. I also gained clinical experience through shadowing him while he saw patients, which further prepared me for working in a clinical setting.’

A.C., Washington University in St. Louis