

The **Glendon Centre for Cognitive Health (CCH)** supports research in neuropsychology with a focus on cognitive aging. Our researchers are involved in creating knowledge transfer and best practices in the field. The center's three pillars include: applied research, student internships, and outreaches to the Francophone community.

Neurological conditions (diseases, disorders, and injuries) affect Canadians of all ages. Both the number of individuals facing these challenges and the associated health care costs, are expected to rise as the Canadian population ages¹. Policy solutions to support individuals will not be universal, but common clusters of conditions and characteristics are important to consider when targeting resources². Over the next four decades, the world's population aged 60 and over will triple³. With Francophone seniors outside of Quebec being an underserved population in Canada, training is urgently needed to make sure that we are in the forefront of these demographic challenges. It is crucial to develop innovative assessments and treatment approaches in both official languages, which aim to promote health span for all Canadians.

North-South Brain Health Educational Initiative Pilot Project

The goal of this pilot project is to share and transfer advanced knowledge in cognition and on the brain to primary care and community teams. The project aims to support front-line workers by further improving their understanding of the brain, various behaviors and diagnostics, treatments as well as community support programs for those afflicted with cognitive disorders. This will be done with a focus on the provision of services in both official languages.

This approach brings together interdisciplinary health care providers from across the province to enhance their knowledge. Furthermore, the project provides clinicians with some pragmatic tools to become leaders in neurological care as well as promote self-management within their communities. The project also serves as a foundational network for further development of clinical and research activities, as part of a larger strategy to improve the delivery of health services to Franco-Ontarians.

Pilot project: a free certificate in neuropsychology with a specialization in dementia care

This **bilingual interactive course** (five days in duration) will be given at Glendon Campus, York University. It will provide participants with updated knowledge of research and best practices in brain health, neurological conditions, and dementia.

This certificate is offered to professionals with a bachelor's degree or higher education as well as graduate students, who have extensive experience in the care of persons with neurodegenerative disorders.

¹ Ng R, Maxwell CJ, Yates EA, Nysten K, Antflick; J, Jetté N, Bronskill SE. *Brain Disorders in Ontario: Prevalence, Incidence and Costs from Health Administrative Data*. Toronto, ON: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences; 2015. ² *Mapping Connections : An Understanding of Neurological Conditions in Canada*, National Population Health Study of Neurological Conditions; September 2014. ³ *Livre blanc sur les assises de la santé en français en Ontario*, Octobre 2014.



Growing, learning, discovering, innovating

Specific topics include:

- The structure and function of the healthy human brain, various cognitive functions and their relationship to the brain.
- Injury or disease on cognition and overall functioning.
- Training on the use of tool kits designed for screening/monitoring cognitive impairment, cognitive interventions for memory deficits, and research designs to assist with person-centered care plans of patients with cognitive impairment due to **neurodegenerative disorders**.
- An evaluation and feedback of the pilot education program will be required to receive the certificate.

Within the project, a registry will be developed and will include regional, provincial and national pathways to access person-centered care. Specific attention will be paid to the Francophone networks throughout the province and the nation.

Criteria for participant selection:

The Glendon Centre for Cognitive Health is seeking a variety of professionals in Ontario to take the “Brain Health” certificate (6 credit certificate in neuropsychology) on August 9th to 13th, 2018. This free pilot course focuses on neuropsychology, cognition, and behavioural symptoms.

As part of the program, participants will be asked to provide feedback about the course content, discuss challenges and best practices and share success stories with the research team. At the end of the project in November 2018, a publication will be circulated.

Participants must:

1. Have a B.A. in health sciences or social service with extensive work experience in the field of neurodegenerative diseases, self-care management, dementia, or gerontology
2. Work in or in relation to a primary care multidisciplinary team

Participants will:

1. Participate in a 5-day knowledge exchange (clinical cognitive neurosciences updates in the morning; case studies, practical tool kits, sharing of resources, and referral paths in the afternoon)
2. Complete a placement assignment (see description)

All personal information shared will be confidential. To register submit your résumé prior to July 30th 2018.