

Postdoctoral Research Position in Behavioral Science of Healthcare Attitudes and Decision-Making

The Meyer-Chabris Lab in Geisinger's [Department of Bioethics and Decision Sciences](#) and Geisinger's [Behavioral Insights Team](#) (BIT) are seeking an outstanding researcher for a position as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow. The postdoc will split time between the Meyer-Chabris Lab and BIT carrying out collaborative behavioral science research studying moral judgments and decision-making in the areas of medicine and healthcare. Areas of interest in the lab include patient and clinician attitudes towards unproven medical interventions; experiment aversion (see <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/116/22/10723.full.pdf> and <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/117/32/18948.full.pdf>) and other judgments and decision-making about science and technology; and public understanding of genetic influences on behavior and health (see <https://www.science.org/doi/abs/10.1126/science.ade1083>). The BIT conducts large-scale field experiments to, e.g., encourage flu and COVID-19 vaccination (see <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/vtxza/>, <https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2101165118>, and <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2782435>), improve clinician decision-making, and help patients make better choices about their health. The postdoc will be encouraged to propose and lead studies within these broad areas.

The postdoc will report to Professors Michelle Meyer, PhD, JD, and Christopher Chabris, PhD, Co-PIs of the Meyer-Chabris Lab and Faculty Co-Directors of the BIT, and to Amir Goren, PhD, BIT Program Director. They will join the growing community of social scientists at Geisinger and will collaborate with other researchers across disciplines inside and outside of Geisinger. The postdoc will assist in planning and carrying out web-based surveys and field studies, and in analyzing general patterns of responses as well as individual differences. They will also participate in the design of nudges for implementation at Geisinger and the subsequent evaluation of their effects on patient and other outcomes and their economic value. They will be expected to employ a combination of approaches, from the identification and analysis of existing real-world data sets, to the design and analysis of laboratory studies and field experiments. We are particularly interested in candidates with strong statistical and/or computational skills. Other duties include contributing to ongoing research projects, preparing talks and participating in seminars, and drafting reports, grant applications, and papers for publication. Meyer-Chabris Lab and BIT members have published in *Science*, *Nature*, *PNAS*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, and many other high-impact journals, and routinely present their work at national conferences. The Meyer-Chabris Lab and BIT are committed to open science; lab members preregister their studies and openly share data, materials, and code.

Required qualifications:

- A PhD (completed by start of employment) in social, cognitive, moral, or health psychology, behavioral economics, another social science, public health, communications, marketing, or any other relevant scientific discipline
- Graduate training in behavioral science research methods, including experimentation and multivariable data analysis
- Experience with statistical software (preferably R, others acceptable)

- Strong critical thinking skills
- Ability to work in an independent manner and complete increasingly complex tasks
- Strong teamwork skills and the ability to collaborate effectively with multiple stakeholders across disciplines/departments to field studies involving a marriage of clinical, behavioral, technological, data, and regulatory needs
- Exceptional organizational, planning, and analytical skills
- Competence in written, oral, and electronic communication skills

Desired qualifications:

- Scientific publications
- Experience in interdisciplinary research, working in collaborative teams, and managing research assistants
- Experience applying for research funding or other grant support
- Experience with programming and databases (e.g., Python, SQL)
- Experience with information visualization techniques and software
- Experience with qualitative research methods (e.g., focus groups, semi-structured interviews, coding free response data)
- Experience researching and/or implementing nudges and other behavioral interventions
- Training in behavioral economics
- Training in health economics
- Interest, experience, or expertise in the healthcare industry
- Interest, experience, or expertise in policy or normative research
- Interest, experience, or expertise in communicating science to the public

Duration: This is a one-year position with the possibility of renewal for one or more additional years conditional on funding and performance.

Start date: ASAP.

Location: Based on-site in Danville, PA, or remotely elsewhere in the U.S.

To apply: Please send a brief cover letter, C.V., and two representative publications or manuscripts in a single email to **chabris-meyerpostdoc@gmail.com**. Please include names, titles, and contact information for two references. Questions about the position may also be sent to the same address. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

About Geisinger: Geisinger is a large, integrated health services organization that, through its 10 hospital campuses, serves more than 3 million residents throughout central and northeastern Pennsylvania. As an aspiring learning health care system, Geisinger strives to integrate research into all aspects of medicine and healthcare delivery. Research at Geisinger benefits from the system's 25 years of electronic health records, its clinical data warehouse, and its rapidly growing biobank (more than 330,000 patient-participants consented for genetic sequencing, with over 170,000 exomes sequenced to date). Geisinger's main campus in

Danville, PA, is located within a three-hour drive of New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, DC.

About Geisinger's Behavioral Insights Team: The BIT was created in 2018 to apply behavioral science methods to the design, implementation, and experimental evaluation of “nudges” and other behavioral interventions intended to improve outcomes and experiences for patients, providers, employees, and other stakeholders of Geisinger and beyond. The BIT collaborates closely with leading behavioral scientists and research partners at the National Bureau of Economic Research, Harvard, and MIT via the NBER Roybal Center for Behavior Change in Health by executing NIH-funded field experiments each year at Geisinger. The BIT also collaborates with the Penn Medicine Nudge Unit and Wharton Behavior Change for Good (BCFG) initiative. BIT field experiments often involve tens of thousands of participants.

Professor Meyer: <http://www.michellenmeyer.com>

Professor Chabris: <http://www.chabris.com>

Department of Bioethics and Decision Sciences:

<https://www.geisinger.edu/research/departments-and-centers/bioethics-and-decision-sciences>

Behavioral Insights Team: <https://www.geisinger.org/innovation-steele-institute/innovative-partners/behavioral-insights-team>