

Curriculum Vitae

Kamhawy, Ahmed Sherif AbdelAziz

He/Him/His

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Medical Education

New York Medical College, United States of America

07/2023 - 05/2027

M.D., 05/2027

Education**Undergraduate** - McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada

Biology; Neuroscience; Psychology;

09/2018 - 05/2022

B.S.; 05/2022

Postgraduate Training

None

Honors & Awards

- Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship Award
Research - Institutional award and stipend for four weeks of full-time summer research.
Received: Jun, 2024
- mission:Brain Hackathon 2nd Place Award
Other honor or award classification - 2nd place for project judged to have significant promise in improving healthcare outcomes in LMICs.
Received: Jun, 2024
- P.L. Newbigging Scholarship
Academic Excellence - Highest program-wide academic achievement in first-year undergraduate psychology courses.
Received: Sep, 2019
- Yates Scholarship
Academic Excellence - One of 12 students university-wide recognized for academic achievement.
Received: Sep, 2019

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Professional Memberships

- American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP)
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)
- American Association for Community Psychiatry (AACP)
- American Psychiatric Association (APA)

Hobbies & Interests

I have been rock climbing for many years and recently started training in Muay Thai. Soccer has been a part of my life since childhood, both watching and playing. I also continue to enjoy playing video games.

Certifications**Other Certifications:**

Basic Life Support: May, 2025 - Apr, 2027

General Psychiatric Management (GPM) for Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) Course Certificate: Sep, 2026

Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) Certification: Jun, 2026 - Jun, 2028

Experiences**Victim Advocate and Rape Crisis Counselor; Club Co-President**

Sexual Assault and Abuse Victim Empowerment Program, Westchester Medical Center
Volunteer/service/advocacy

10/2023 - 04/2026
Valhalla, NY

Served as a New York State-certified rape crisis counselor from April 2024–April 2025 and progressed from secretary to co-president of the associated medical school club.

- Accompanied sexual assault survivors during forensic examinations, providing emotional support, advocacy, and interdisciplinary referral across an average of 10 overnight on-call shifts/month.
- Provided telephone support to domestic violence victims identified by police as high risk for serious injury or death, including safety planning and service referral, across 5 overnight shifts/month.
- Connected students with volunteer opportunities and hosted speakers for educational sessions on trauma-informed care, abuse and trafficking screening, and mandated reporting.

Most Meaningful:

Supporting survivors has taught me that presence and respect often matter more than saying the perfect words. I continue to approach difficult conversations by listening more than speaking, tolerating uncertainty, and helping patients retain autonomy over their decisions when possible.

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Physician Navigator, Physician Optimization Team

Emergency Department, Southlake Regional Health Centre
Work

02/2023 - 07/2023
Newmarket, ON, Canada

Worked one-on-one with individual emergency department physicians, organizing workflow and completing non-clinical tasks to support physician and department efficiency.

- Strategically selected and located patients to be seen, managed paper charts, organized supplies and personnel for procedures, and managed phone calls to double number of patients seen by emergency medicine physicians compared to historical no-navigator averages.
- Utilized software development skills to iterate on a MEDITECH automation tool and save an additional 60 seconds per patient encounter across all physicians.
- Selected as designated navigator of the former emergency department chief based on demonstrated efficiency, reliability, and ease of collaboration.

Most Meaningful:

Protecting a clinician's attention is part of protecting patient care. By standardizing workflow and reducing avoidable delays, I saw how small systems changes can improve the quality of care provided. I utilize what I have learned to stay efficient in my own work as a developing clinician.

Organization Co-President

Varsity Esports, McMaster University Athletics
Other extracurricular activities/clubs

09/2018 - 05/2022
Hamilton, ON, Canada

Advanced from varsity team captain, to team coach and manager, to ultimately be selected as president of McMaster University's varsity esports organization, combining competitive play with community leadership.

- As team captain, implemented strategies in real-time, resolved tensions, and led video reviews.
- As team coach and manager, organized player tryouts, practice sessions, and professional coaching.
- As president, coordinated with school faculty and a 16-member student leadership team to run 14 varsity esports teams in their respective collegiate leagues.
- As president, managed the largest student club on campus, including hosting an annual intramural league, weekend tournaments, and social events with up to 80 participants.

Most Meaningful:

Although each role required a different approach, the overarching goal remained the same: building a competitive, supportive community around a shared passion. I continue to draw on this experience to remain focused on the big picture when adapting to complex problems or changing responsibilities.

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to R Programming

Center for Collaborative Research, New York Medical College
Education/training

06/2026 - 07/2026
Valhalla, NY

Served as a teaching assistant for a virtual summer R statistical programming course with 91 enrolled medical students.

- Graded assignments and provided feedback for six programming assignments.
- Developed asynchronous tutorials guiding students through statistical analyses of a real-world medical research project.
- Held weekly office hours to answer student questions and provide individualized support with course material.

Clinical Research Assistant

Department of Psychiatry, New York Medical College

06/2026 - Present (05/2027)

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Clinical Research Assistant

Research

Valhalla, NY

Contributed to a translational study investigating biological predictors of the development of PTSD after hospital admission for physical trauma using markers of gut microbiome, systemic inflammation, and intestinal and blood-brain barrier permeability.

- Recruited and consented hospitalized patients for an average of 3 days/week, which involved administering standardized assessments, collecting biological samples, performing initial sample processing, and conducting telephone follow-up assessments.
- Assumed responsibility for day-to-day operations during a six-week leave of the senior research resident. Tasks included coordinating recruitment and scheduling, implementing protocol changes, and training new research assistants.

Event Logistics Coordinator, Psychotherapy Residency Fair

Austen Riggs Center and APA Psychotherapy Caucus Medical Student Interest Group

05/2026 - 09/2026

Professional organization

Stockbridge, MA

Led the event logistics team for the 7th annual psychotherapy-focused psychiatry residency fair, connecting approximately 300 medical students with 32 residency programs and working within an 18-member student leadership team.

- Coordinated program time slots and developed an algorithm assigning participants to breakout rooms based on geographic preferences.
- Restructured event schedule to include a 30-minute lunch break, reducing participant fatigue and supporting engagement through the end of the event.
- Managed real-time event operations, including live schedule adjustments, program communication, and technical troubleshooting to keep sessions on time.

Healthcare Hackathon Competitor

mission:Brain Foundation; Columbia University BMES; Entrepreneurship at Cornell

06/2024 - 03/2025

Other extracurricular activities/clubs

New York City, NY

Developed and pitched minimum viable products at three healthcare hackathons, addressing challenges in continuity of care, peer recovery support, and patient-clinician communication.

- Received second place for VibeCheck, a text-messaging-based platform allowing physicians to securely and efficiently store important patient information for access by follow-up providers in internet-limited regions of Sierra Leone.
- Developed SOBR, an app connecting patients with substance use disorders to peers in recovery to improve patient access to non-clinical support.
- Developed PatientVoice, an LLM-assisted prototype for eliciting and summarizing more comprehensive pre-visit histories to improve visit efficiency and make patients feel more heard.

Crisis Helpline Responder

Distress Centres of Greater Toronto

11/2022 - 06/2023

Volunteer/service/advocacy

Toronto, ON, Canada

Provided telephone crisis support during weekly shifts of up to 6 hours for callers experiencing emotional distress, loneliness, or suicidal ideation.

- Utilized non-judgmental active listening and emotional validation to establish rapport and reduce acute distress.
- Collaborated with callers on safety planning, lethal means counseling, and short-term problem solving to mitigate immediate risk.
- Assessed suicide and self-harm risk and escalated calls according to established crisis-intervention protocols.
- Maintained accurate documentation of caller concerns, risk assessments, safety plans, and referrals.

Pharmacy Assistant

Cliffside Pharmacy; New Era Pharmacy; Kassel's Pharmacy; Main Drug Mart IDA

06/2022 - 02/2023

Work

Toronto, ON, Canada

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Pharmacy Assistant

Worked full-time in concurrent roles across independent community pharmacies processing prescriptions, assisting patients, managing inventory, and collaborating with managers on operational improvements.

- Launched and maintained an automated inventory management system at Main Drug Mart IDA that reduced single-day prescription delays by 76% and remains in use today.
- Addressed patient concerns by actively listening, identifying sources of confusion, and helping to resolve errors to maintain pharmacy efficiency and patient rapport.
- Developed Excel Power Query dashboard to automate tracking of profitability, patient acquisition, and patient attrition metrics.

Undergraduate Student Researcher

McMaster University Human Cognition Lab
Research

09/2020 - 05/2022
Hamilton, ON, Canada

Completed an honours thesis and independent research in cognitive psychology at McMaster University's Human Cognition Lab, studying navigation and spatial memory.

- Led a three-part translational study utilizing an image-based navigation task to examine whether integrating landmarks into GPS instructions improved navigational performance and measures of spatial memory for similar routes.
- Contributed across the research lifecycle, including literature review, ethics submission, participant recruitment, statistical analysis, manuscript preparation, and experimental task design using PsychoPy/Unreal Editor.
- Presented findings at provincial, university-wide, and departmental research forums.

Scholarly Work**Journal Article (peer-reviewed)**

Trandafirescu M, **Kamhawy A**, Iraj S, Paliwoda E, Hirani R, Nevitt K, Boyd C, Karp NS. Component-Level Frailty Domains as Independent Predictors of Postoperative Outcomes After Immediate Breast Reconstruction. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. September 2026.

Publication Status: *Submitted*.

Most Meaningful, Breast Cancer Reconstruction

Oral Presentation

Trandafirescu M, **Kamhawy A**, Iraj S, Paliwoda E, Hirani R. Component-Level Frailty Domains as Independent Predictors of Postoperative Outcomes After Immediate Breast Reconstruction. Oral presentation: New York Medical College Medical Student Research Seminar Series; 05/2026. Valhalla, NY.

Breast Cancer Reconstruction

Kamhawy A, Katt A, Wei H. (Finalist Presentation) VibeCheck: An SMS-Based Large Language Model System for Patient Follow-Up in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. Oral presentation: mission:Brain International Healthcare Hackathon; 06/2024. Boston, MA.

Event Link: <https://www.missionbrain.org/programs/hackathon>

Most Meaningful, First Author, Healthcare Innovation and Technology

Poster Presentation

Smeallie E, **Kamhawy A**, Grullon G, Fisher K, Hirani R, Etienne M. American Neurological Association (ANA) Annual Meeting. Poster presented: *Inpatient Severity, Resource Utilization, and Discharge Outcomes in Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder Versus Multiple Sclerosis: A National Inpatient Sample Analysis*. San Diego, CA; 10/2026.

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Kamhawy A, Sarker S, Rawat V, Aziz A, Pathak S. Entrepreneurship at Cornell Health Tech Hackathon. Poster presented: *SOBR: A Virtual Peer Support Platform Connecting Patients With Substance Use Disorders to Peers in Recovery*. New York City, NY; 03/2025.

Event Link: <https://hackathon.cornell.edu/health>

First Author, Healthcare Innovation and Technology

Shen S, **Kamhawy A**, Dam GB, Trivedi H. Columbia University Biomedical Engineering Society Hacking Health Hackathon. Poster presented: *PatientVoice: Streamlining Clinical Encounters Through LLM-Assisted Chief Complaints*. New York City, NY; 02/2025.

Event Link: <https://ai.columbia.edu/events/columbia-bmes-healthcare-hackathon>

Healthcare Innovation and Technology

Kamhawy A, Katt A, Wei H. mission:Brain International Healthcare Hackathon. Poster presented: *VibeCheck: An SMS-Based Large Language Model System for Patient Follow-Up in Low- and Middle-Income Countries*. Boston, MA; 06/2024.

Event Link: <https://www.missionbrain.org/programs/hackathon>

First Author, Healthcare Innovation and Technology

Arnold K, **Kamhawy A**, Sharma P, Sarker S, Shedden J. McMaster University Undergraduate Student Research Award Poster Session. Poster presented: *Individual Differences in Navigation and GPS Use: Mental Health, Working Memory, and Spatial Abilities*.

Hamilton, ON, Canada; 11/2022.

Navigation and Spatial Memory

Kamhawy A, Sharma P, Arnold K, Sarker S, Shedden J. Provincial Annual Ontario Psychology Undergraduate Thesis Conference. Poster presented: *The Quest for Better GPS: Exploring GPS Use, Spatial Memory, and Alternative GPS Design*. St. Catharines, ON, Canada; 06/2022.

Most Meaningful, First Author, Navigation and Spatial Memory

Sharma P, **Kamhawy A**, Arnold K, Sarker S, Shedden J. McMaster University Annual Undergraduate Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour Thesis Symposium. Poster presented: *The Relationship Between GPS Dependency and Self-Reported Spatial Abilities*.

Hamilton, ON, Canada; 04/2022.

Navigation and Spatial Memory

Kamhawy A, Sharma P, Arnold K, Sarker S, Shedden J. McMaster University Annual Undergraduate Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour Thesis Symposium. Poster presented: *Impact of Landmark Information in Navigation Instructions on Spatial Memory*.

Hamilton, ON, Canada; 04/2022.

First Author, Navigation and Spatial Memory

Proficient Languages

- English
- Arabic