

## Postdoctoral Fellowship

As part of a research project entitled **PD-TIPS.AI: Co-Designing AI-Driven Bilingual Self-Care Technology Delivering Tailored Care Tips and Resources for Parkinson's Disease**, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for the period 2025–2029, we are seeking a highly qualified candidate to undertake a one-year postdoctoral fellowship (may be renewed).

The postdoctoral fellow will be affiliated with the [Com&Tech Innovations Lab \(CTI-Lab\)](#) and the International Francophonie Research Chair on Digital Health Technologies and will be based in Ottawa at the University of Ottawa (Canada).

### Research Project Description

The PD-TIPS.AI project aims to co-design a bilingual (French/English) AI-powered self-care technology to support people living with Parkinson's disease in the day-to-day management of their health. The project seeks to develop an AI-driven conversational recommender system capable of delivering personalized, reliable, and accessible care tips and resources, while accounting for the evolving medical, psychosocial, and contextual needs of patients.

The research is grounded in a participatory design approach, involving patients, informal caregivers, and healthcare professionals throughout all stages of the project. It combines qualitative methods (co-design workshops, focus groups, observations, qualitative interviews) and quantitative methods (usability, user experience, and Quality-of-Life measures). The project integrates advanced AI techniques, including large language models, supported by a clinically validated knowledge base. The postdoctoral researcher will play an active role in the project coordination, co-design of the system, data collection and qualitative analysis, and the dissemination of research findings through peer-reviewed publications and knowledge mobilization activities.

### Candidate Profile

We are seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral researcher with a strong interest in human-centered, participatory, and interdisciplinary research at the intersection of AI, health, and design.

### Essential qualifications

- PhD (completed) in a relevant field, such as Human–Computer Interaction (HCI), CSCW, Computer Science, Science & Technology Studies (STS), or a related field of research.
- Strong expertise in participatory design, or Human-Centered AI (HCAI) approaches, preferably applied to health or care contexts.

- Demonstrated experience in user-centered research, including study design, data collection, and analysis using qualitative and/or quantitative methods.
- Excellent scientific communication skills, with the ability to publish in peer-reviewed international journals and conferences.
- Proven ability to work effectively in interdisciplinary research teams.

#### **Desired Assets (based on the candidate's profile):**

- Experience with Large Language Models (LLMs), RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) architectures, or conversational recommender systems.
- Experience with graph databases (e.g., Neo4j) or the development of medical ontologies.
- Strong experience in co-design projects involving patient partners and family caregivers.
- Understanding of the ethical and technical challenges of applying NLP to the medical field (e.g., source reliability, clinical validation, and bias).
- Ability to bridge the gap between qualitative methods (design workshops) and the iterative development of technological prototypes.

#### **Language skills**

Proficiency in English or French, spoken and written, is required.  
Proficiency in both languages is a strong advantage.

**Start date:** September 2026

**Duration:** 12 months

**Location:** Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

#### **Application process**

Interested candidates should submit a complete application as a single document, preferably in PDF format, including the following materials:

- A cover letter describing your interest in the postdoctoral position, how your skills and experience align with the required profile, and a research question or research direction you would like to develop in connection with the *PD-TIPS.AI* project.
- Two letters of recommendation.
- A curriculum vitae, including a list of awards, fundings, publications and conference presentations.
- A writing sample of your choice (e.g., a published article, a thesis chapter, or a conference paper).

**Applications should be sent** to Prof. Sylvie Grosjean at [sylvie.grosjean\[at\]utottawa.ca](mailto:sylvie.grosjean[at]utottawa.ca)  
**by April, 1 2026.**

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.