

Abstract for symposium at Nordic Meeting in Neuropsychology 2024

Title of the symposium: Neuropsychological monitoring of patients undergoing brain surgery

Chair: Annette Holth Skogan, Head of psychology and neuropsychology at the National center for epilepsy, Oslo University Hospital and Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology, University of Oslo, Norway

Presenters:

- Sallie Baxendale, Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology at the University College of London
- Jugo Ivanovic, PhD and Neurosurgeon at Oslo University Hospital, Norway
- Signe Delin Molderup, Clinical neuropsychologist at Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Guro Minken, Clinical neuropsychologist and PhD candidate at Oslo University Hospital, Norway

Brief description of the symposium:

Brain surgery is the best treatment option for some patients with brain tumor or difficult-to-treat epilepsy. When operating on parts of the brain that are critical for language or other cognitive functions, it is crucial to reduce the risk of side effects that can result in permanent dysfunction and reduced quality of life. In her presentation on preoperative neuropsychological assessment, Professor Sallie Baxendale will introduce us to the construct of prehabilitation and discuss the impact of psychology in ensuring informed consent. Neurosurgeon Jugo Ivanovic will present a case study with a 12-year old patient undergoing awake brain surgery with neuropsychological monitoring during the awake phase. Neuropsychologist Signe Delin Molderup at Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, will present methodological issues related to monitoring cognitive functions in patients undergoing brain surgery, and finally neuropsychologist Guro Minken will present a newly developed assessment protocol for use with pediatric patients before, under and after surgery.