

Workshop - Nordic Meeting in Neuropsychology 2024

Title of workshop:

“Cognitive rehabilitation for children and adolescents with acquired brain injury: Clinical application of online problem-solving therapy, and individualized and group-based interventions”

Workshop chairs:

- Jan Stubberud, Professor at Dept. of Psychology, University of Oslo and Lovisenberg Hospital, Norway
- Marianne Løvstad, Professor at Dept. of Psychology, University of Oslo and Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, Norway

Presenters:

- Prof. Shari Wade, PhD, Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati; Department of Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine & Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, USA
- Nina Rohrer-Baumgartner, PhD, Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, Nesodden, Norway
- Ingvil Laberg Holthe, Sunnaas Rehabilitation Hospital, Nesodden, Norway
- Ruth Hypher, PhD, Department of Clinical Neurosciences for Children, Oslo University Hospital, Oslo, Norway.
- Torunn Finnanger, PhD, Children’s Clinic, St. Olavs Hospital, Trondheim University Hospital, Norway

Brief description of workshop:

Pediatric acquired brain injury (pABI) is the most common source of acquired morbidity and mortality in children. Among the most disruptive and persistent, even life-long, symptoms following pABI are changes in cognition, and in particular executive functions (EFs). Thus, there is a great need for the identification of effective treatments for rehabilitation of children following pABI. In this workshop, Prof. Wade will introduce teen online problem-solving therapy for adolescents (TOPS) with ABI. TOPS includes training in stress management, problem-solving, self-regulation, communication, and social skills. Here, a review of TOPS content and a demonstration of the problem-solving process will be provided. Rohrer-Baumgartner and Laberg Holthe will present the Child-in-Context-Intervention (CICI) study, where an individualized, goal-oriented approach is combined with a family-centered approach, while also working closely with schools. In CICI, the aim is to tailor the intervention to the needs and problem perception of each child and family. Finally, Hypher and Finnanger will introduce materials and experiences from the COgnitive REhabilitation in pediatric acquired brain injury (CORE) study. In this trial, group-based Goal Management Training (GMT) and a psychoeducational brain health intervention addressing topics such as brain injury and (dys)function, plasticity, memory and learning, EF, fatigue, and lifestyle issues, were employed to improve EFs. The aim of the workshop is to highlight the complexity and clinical utility of different cognitive rehabilitation methods, spanning from online therapy to individualized and group-based intervention.

Learning-goals

- Participants will be able to understand underlying principles of problem-solving therapy, goal-oriented rehabilitation, and goal management training in the pediatric population.
- Participants will be able to consider implementation of these treatment approaches in their clinical work.