

Center for Applied Neuroscience



University of Cyprus
Center for Applied
Neuroscience

CAN

8th Annual Scientific Conference

ADVANCES IN GERIATRIC NEUROSCIENCE

October 26, 2018
University of Cyprus



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Conference Program

09:00-09:20	Welcome: Prof. Irene-Anna Diakidoy, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs and Research, University of Cyprus Prof. Savvas Katsikides, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Education, University of Cyprus Prof. Fofi Constantinidou, Professor of Psychology & Director, Center for Applied Neuroscience, University of Cyprus
09:20-10:00	Slowing progression in Alzheimer disease: A reality at last? Prof. Iracema Leroi, Professor of Psychiatry in Ageing and Dementia, Honorary Consultant in Psychiatry, University of Manchester
10:00-10:40	Studying interventions with qualitative methods - Designing better interventions with and for older adults. Prof. Dr. Ines Himmelsbach, Professor of Social Gerontology, Catholic University of Applied Sciences, Freiburg
10:40-11:10	Coffee Break & Poster Viewing (Foyer, Building 07)
11:10-11:50	Hearing and Vision impairment in relationship with cognitive and mental well-being in older age: A neurobiological perspective Dr. Piers Dawes, Senior Lecturer in Audiology, University of Manchester
11:50-12:30	The contribution of longitudinal analyses and structural equation modeling in the epidemiology of sensory impairment and mental well-being in older age Dr. Maharani Asri, Research Assistant, University of Manchester
12:30-12:50	Coffee Break & Poster Viewing (Foyer, Building 07)
12:50-13:50	Datablitz of accepted posters
14:00-15:00	Poster Viewing



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Professor Iracema Leroi

Title:

Slowing progression in Alzheimer disease: A reality at last?

Abstract:

Currently about 50 million people worldwide live with dementia, & this may reach > 82 million by 2030. In the past 20 years, over 99% of clinical trials for the most common form of dementia, Alzheimer disease (AD) have failed. Currently, licensed treatments are 'symptomatic' only, have limited therapeutic effect and are not 'disease modifying' (i.e. slowing neurodegeneration). Importantly, current efforts to find potential disease modifying treatments are targeted at the very earliest stage (i.e. the 'prodromal' or even 'preclinical' stage) of the disease, since once the 'dementia' stage it is likely too far advanced for these therapies to have an effect. This leaves the vast majority of people already living with AD in the dementia stage without an effective drug treatment to slow the progression of neuronal loss. Recently, there have been some attempts in AD trials to re-purpose medications already licensed for other indications. This presentation will start with a brief outline of the current state of potential AD disease modifying treatments (DMTs) and then describe new approaches with re-purposed off patent medications as potential low cost, readily available alternatives for AD. Aspects of prevent will also be introduced.

Iracema Leroi is Professor of Psychiatry in Ageing and Dementia at the University of Manchester (Division of Neuroscience and Experimental Psychology) and Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist with Greater Manchester Mental Health and Social Care NHS Trust. She is the Dementia Lead for the NIHR Greater Manchester Clinical Research network, as well as clinical dementia lead for the Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre (MAHSC). She is associate Director (mental health) at the Manchester Clinical Research Facility. She has a particular interest in clinical trials in dementia and the application of new technology in dementia diagnosis and care. She trained in Canada and in the US, in the neuropsychiatry programme at Johns Hopkins University. Since 2001 she has been principal investigator on several dementia related research grants including being the lead of the EU-wide H2020 SENSE0Cog programme (www.sense-cog.eu). IL is sub-editor of the 'International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry' as well as an associate editor of the 'Ageing and Mental Health' and 'International Psychogeriatrics'.



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Professor Dr. Ines Himmelsbach

Title:

Studying interventions with qualitative methods - Designing better interventions with and for older adults.

Abstract:

Due to the concept of plasticity Gerontologists and Geriatrics are very optimistic regarding interventions for older adults improving or buffering age-specific losses. In relation to methods applying the gold standard means measuring interventions in pre-post-designs, optimally in randomized controlled trials. Those approaches are very encouraging related to measuring outcome changes, but they have a weakness related to the intervention itself: the intervention remains a black box. Usually the work and performance of the intervention itself isn't measured with the outcomes meaning that little is known of the performance of the intervention, the interaction in the intervention and where weaknesses and qualities lie within the intervention. For grasping this information qualitative approaches are a helpful tool. At different stages in intervention research, e.g. the development of interventions, the performance of the intervention or the evaluation of interventions different qualitative approaches can be helpful. This talk gives examples on methodological options at those different stages and uses examples from the SENSE-Cog Project and earlier intervention projects to show relevant results for better intervention studies.

Prof. Dr. Ines Himmelsbach is Professor for Social Gerontology at Catholic University Freiburg. She studied at the Universities of Frankfurt and Heidelberg in Germany and did a post doc work at Lund University, Sweden. Prior to the current affiliation she has worked at Goethe University Frankfurt at the Department of Interdisciplinary Ageing Research and the German Centre for Ageing Research at the University of Heidelberg. Her Research interests are ageing and education, ageing with sensory impairment and the design of interventions for older adults. Regarding methodology her expertise lies within qualitative research methods.



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Dr. Piers Dawes

Title:

Hearing and Vision impairment in relationship with cognitive and mental well-being in older age: A neurobiological perspective.

Abstract:

Age-related hearing loss is a marker of risk of cognitive decline and dementia. This presentation will outline possible links between hearing impairment and cognition, including hearing loss as a biomarker for cognitive well-being, the impact of cognitive declines on 'listening' and hearing impairment as a causal contributor to cognitive decline and poor quality of life in older age.

The presentation will integrate research from the Sense-Cog project modelling associations between hearing impairment and cognition as well as the impact of hearing interventions on cognition. Evidence will be provided to support the notion that effective prevention, identification and management of hearing problems represents an important opportunity to optimise well-being and quality of life in older age.

Dr. Piers Dawes is Senior Lecturer in audiology at the University of Manchester. He studied speech and hearing science at Curtin University in Western Australia before moving to the UK to study for a doctorate in experimental psychology at Oxford University. Dr Dawes's research concerns the impact of hearing impairment on development in childhood and old age, and improving quality of life for adults and children with hearing impairments.

Dr Dawes was a recipient of a US-UK Fulbright award and was awarded the British Society of Audiology's TS Littler prize for services to audiology. Dr Dawes was the founding chair of the British Society of Audiology's special interest group for cognition in hearing, which promotes research and raising awareness of new developments on cognitive issues in hearing science, assessment and intervention. Dr Dawes is joint PI for "Ears, Eyes and Mind: The "SENSE-Cog Project" to improve mental well-being for elderly Europeans with sensory impairment", a €6.2 million EU Horizon 2020 project. Dr Dawes is a lead investigator for the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Unit in Hearing. He also heads a consortium of international researchers (including Nottingham Biomedical Research Unit in Hearing, Leeds University, Wisconsin University, University College London and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Centre) in analyzing hearing and tinnitus data from the UK Biobank resource (N=500,000 UK adults).



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Dr. Maharani Asri

Title:

The contribution of longitudinal analyses and structural equation modeling in the epidemiology of sensory impairment and mental well-being in older age.

Abstract:

This presentation will provide evidence on the contribution of longitudinal analyses and structural equation modeling in the study of adult cognition. Specifically the presentation will include findings from two national surveys of ageing to test the hypotheses underlying the relationships between sensory (hearing and visual) impairment and cognitive function. The first analysis examined whether the limited inputs on sensory function will affect cognitive function in later life. In this analysis, propensity score matching and spline methods were used to compare the cognitive trajectories before and after an intervention (i.e. cataract surgery) between intervention and control groups. The second analysis tested the cognitive load on perception hypothesis by performing latent class analysis with distal outcome on English Longitudinal Study of Ageing Waves 1-7. Finally, structural equation models were used to test the common cause hypothesis and model the relationships between common age-related change factors (allostatic load), sensory function, and cognition.

Dr. Asri Maharani is a research associate at the Division of Neuroscience and Experimental Psychology, School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health at the University of Manchester. She obtained a medical degree and a master degree from University of Brawijaya and holds a PhD from University of Manchester, UK in the field of Social Research. She has published her research in various scientific journals. Her research focuses on dementia, age-related hearing and vision impairment.



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Scientific Posters

#	Authors	Title
1	Stella Charalampous & Anthi Loutsiou	Αξιολόγηση εμπειρικής αποφυγής σε ένα δείγμα ελληνόφωνων γονέων με παιδιά με εξωτερικευμένα προβλήματα
2*	Marianna Pagkratidou, Adamantini Hatzipanayioti & Marios Avraamides	Spatial memory reasoning at familiar vs. unfamiliar environments
3*	Magali Payne, Renaud David, Auriane Gros.	Creation of an Olfactory Test (OT) for Alzheimer Disease(AD)
4	Nikolaos I. Angelakis	Ποιοτική Διερεύνηση του Βιώματος των Έμφυλων Ρόλων σε Άνδρες Φοιτητές Θεωρητικών Επιστημών και Γυναίκες Φοιτήτριες Θετικών Επιστημών
5	Andrea Demetriou, Chrysanthi Leonidou, & Georgia Panayiotou	Medical information seeking and avoidance tendencies among young adults: Emotional reactions during exposure to illness imagery
6	Natalie Kkeli & Michalis Michaelides	The Differences between Self-Reported and Measured Height and Weight among Older Adults
7	Chara A. Demetriou	Are children with “Limited Prosocial Emotions” emotionally blind? Emotional processing and facial emotional expressions in response to three intervention programs
8	Chrystalla Koutsogiorgi & Michalis P. Michaelides	The association of individual characteristics with method effects due to wording in self-relevant and non-self-relevant scales.
9*	Theodorou Christiana and Panayiotou Georgia	Pilot Program for the Enhancement of Emotion Regulation in Children and Adolescents
10	Maria I. Diplarou, Klavdia Neofytou & Georgia Panayiotou	Η Σχέση Κοινωνικού Άγχους και Εμπειρικής Αποφυγής
11*	Pettemeridou E. & Constantinidou F.	Gray and White Matter Volume and Coping in Chronic Moderate-Severe TBI
12	Nikolaou F., Pettemeridou E., Theodorides, T., & Constantinidou F.	Intelligent Patient Assessment & Monitoring System: Developing a Facial Recognition Algorithm



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13*	Eleftherios S. Papathanasiou, Flora Nicolaou, Savvas S. Papa-	Ocular Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potentials (oVEMPs) Recording Positoin and the Effect of Age
14	Christodoula Gabriel, Kleanthis Neokleous & Marios Avraamides	Updating egocentric relations in Virtual Reality: physical movement vs. Teleporting
15	Juliana Prokopiou	The Contribution of Occupation, Leisure Activities and Coping Strategies in Cognitive Performance across the Lifespan: a latent Model Approach to Cognitive Reserve in Greek Cypriot Adults
16	Kyriakos Antoniou & George Spanoudis	Inside the bi-dialectal mind and brain: An electrophysiological study on executive functions
17	Melina Ioannou & Irene-Anna Diakidou	Reading comprehension in mild cognitive impairment (MCI): the role of text genre.
18*	Christos S. Michaelides and Marios N. Avraamides	Constructing and updating spatial representations: A developmental approach
19	Maria Zinonos, Antreas Chadjikypianou & Fofi Constan-	NeuroCognitive Study of Aging (NEUROAGE): Ten Year Update
20*	B.C. Oosterloo, N.C. Homans, R.J. Baatenburg de Jong, M.A. Ikram, A.P. Nagtegaal, A. Goedegebure	Identification of Hearing Loss through a single question
21*	Philippou E., Michaelides M. & Constantinidou F.	The role of metabolic syndrome factors on cognition using latent variable modeling: The neurocognitive study on aging.
22	Stella Angeli, Ioanna Kousiappa, Kleopas A. Kleopa and Savvas S. Papacostas	Investigation of Glial Cells and Gap Junction Connexins in the Brain of 5Xfad Mouse Model of Alzheimer's Disease
23	Souroulla Kay, F. & Stavrinidis, S.	Integrating Theories of Sexual Violence: Incorporating the Clinical Symptoms of the Pathway Model into the Confluence Model.

* Datablitz Presentation



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