

# DR KIRSTEN VERITY

## Consultant Paediatric Neuropsychologist & Clinical Psychologist

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Principal Lead and Specialist Paediatric Neuropsychologist with extensive experience in clinical neuropsychology, education, and research. Currently leads the neuropsychology service at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh. I specialise in acquired brain injuries, epilepsy, mental well-being in neurological populations, ADHD and neurobehavioural presentations within family and educational systems. I sit on the committees of the Faculty of Paediatric Neuropsychology and the Division of Neuropsychology Scotland (both British Psychological Society) and is an honorary lecturer for several postgraduate psychology courses at University of Edinburgh. I have published in peer reviewed, scientific journals and, currently, provides neuropsychology consultation to several multicentre research projects.

### EXPERIENCE

- 04/2004 - Current ***Clinical Neuropsychologist (Paediatric) (0.7WTE), Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, United Kingdom***
- Leading, managing and developing the neuropsychology service for South East of Scotland's NHS neuropsychology provision for children and adolescents with neurological problems (including acquired brain injury (ABI), epilepsy, metabolic disorders, oncology and haematology and other complex neurodevelopmental presentations), and their families
  - Providing paediatric neuropsychology input to the Scottish Epilepsy Surgery Programme
  - Neuropsychologist for Looked After Children in Lothian CAMHS
  - Providing consultation and training to Lothian and surrounding CAMHS re neuropsychological aspects of CAMHS presentations
- 04/2003 - 03/2004 ***Clinical Neuropsychologist - Service Pilot (12 month temporary post), Renfrewshire Primary Care Trust, Paisley, United Kingdom***
- Leading in the development, implementation and audit of a locality adult neuropsychology service, where there had been no service previously
- 10/2000 - 07/2002 ***Lecturer in Clinical Neuropsychology / Clinical Neuropsychologist, University of Glasgow / Central Scotland Brain Injury Rehabilitation Centre, By Wishaw, United Kingdom***
- Teaching clinical neuropsychology on the University of Glasgow D.ClinPsy Course
  - Supervising and advising trainee clinical psychologists – research and clinical work
  - Providing the clinical psychology/ neuropsychology component in adult in-patient rehabilitation unit
- 10/1998 - 09/2000 ***Clinical Psychologist, Community Learning Disabilities Team, Renfrewshire Primary Care Trust, United Kingdom***
- Providing clinical psychology service for people with Learning Disability and their families/ carers

## EDUCATION

- 01/1998      **Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Neuropsychology and General Medicine**  
**University of Glasgow**  
Thesis: Activity, Fatigue and Mood in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
- 01/1993      **Bachelor of Science, Joint Hons: Psychology & Physiology (2:1)**  
**University of Glasgow**  
Joint Honours Thesis: Physiological Measurement of Work Stress in Mechanised and Non-mechanised Sorting Office Employees

## SKILLS

- Acquired Brain Injuries
- Epilepsy
- Mental Health
- Neurobehavioural Needs
- Paediatric Neuropsychology

## TEACHING & TRAINING

- Supervisor for University of Edinburgh PhD entitled 'NEUROPROFILES: Neurodevelopment in Preschool Children of Fife and Lothian Epilepsy Study' 2013-2017
- Supervised D.ClinPsy 2nd and 3rd year trainee clinical psychologists in clinical placements for last 20 years (intermittently)
- Provided input to the development, and subsequent delivery, of the BPS course, 'Cognitive Assessment for CAMHS Clinicians' (2015)
- Provide paediatric neuropsychology teaching for University of Edinburgh (D.Clin.Psy, MSc in Human Cognitive Neuropsychology, MSc in Applied Psychology for CYP)
- Have delivered teaching on Paediatric Neuropsychology themes for University of Dundee and University of Strathclyde, Educational Psychology courses.
- Developed and deliver the workshop series on cognitive assessment in CAMHS for qualified CAMHS staff in Lothian, Fife and the Borders and D.Clin.Psy trainees – (10.5 hours per series, run biannually) as part of University of Edinburgh D.Clin.Psy Advance Practice Seminars
- Provide teaching on neuropsychology (assessment, LAC presentations, ADHD etc) to CAMHS, educational, medical and nursing professionals
- Delivered remote, post graduate (DClinPsy and MSc HCN) teaching using 'Collaborate'

## PROJECTS AND GRANTS

### **PAV: Psychology Adding Value workstreams (PAVES and PAV-TP) Projects & Grant Income (PI/ award holder and manager)**

- "PAVES: Psychology Adding Value: Epilepsy Screening" project. Awarded by Scottish Government Realistic Medicine: Value Improvement Fund, (2018). Award **£59,582** (Principal Applicant).
- "PAVES: Psychology Adding Value: Epilepsy Screening" project. Awarded by Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity and Scottish Government: Health and Wellbeing fund, (2018). Award **£15,000** (Principal Applicant).
- "Improving Quality of Life for Children and Young People with Epilepsy". Awarded by Sick Kids Friends Foundation, (2016). Award **£67,306** (Co-applicant).
- Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity, further grant for 8c psychology sessions: £48,000 (2019)
- "PAV-TP: Psychology Adding Value – Through Partnership" funding of 0.5 WTE psychology assistant to work jointly across NHS and SBHS (Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Scotland)

### **Recognition – PAVES work**

- British Psychological Society, Faculty of Children, Young People and Families: Innovation in Practice Award, 2018
- British Psychological Society, Division of Neuropsychology: Practitioner of the Year award (January 2019)

- British Psychological Society, Division of Neuropsychology poster prize (Jan 2019)
- International Child Neurology Congress (ICNC) Mumbai, November 2018: Platform Presentation prize.
- International League against Epilepsy (ILAE) Annual Meeting Birmingham October 2018: Poster prize

## PUBLICATIONS

- Gandy, Milena & Michaelis, Rosa & Acraman, Jayne & Donald, Kirsten & Fitzpatrick, Michael & LaFrance Jr, W Curt & Margolis, Seth & Modi, Avani & Reuber, Markus & Tang, Venus & Thayer, Zoe & Verity, Kirsten & Wagner, Janelle & Wilmshurst, Jo & Whittaker, Sarah & Munger Clary, Heidi. (2023). Integrated psychological care services within seizure settings: Key components and implementation factors among example services in four ILAE regions: A report by the ILAE Psychiatry Commission. *Epilepsia*. 64. 1-19. 10.1111/epi.17647.
- Incidence of early onset epilepsy: a prospective population-based study, Hunter MB et al., *Seizure*, 2020, 75, 49 – 54, fourth author
- Neurobehavioural problems in children with early onset epilepsy: a population-based study, Hunter MB, et al., *Epilepsy Behaviour*, 2019, 93, 87 – 93, fourth author
- PAVES: Psychology Adding Value – Epilepsy Screening, Methodology Paper (in preparation, for submission to Epilepsy), George C, Verity K, et al.

## PRESENTATIONS

### International Platform Presentations

- Accepted for presentation at the European Paediatric Psychology Conference (EPPC) September 2020 - now 2021, Stockholm) "PAVES: Development of a mental health pathway for young people with epilepsy"
- 63rd annual meeting Society for Research into Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida, La Laguna, June 2019, "Psychology Adding Value Through Partnership (PAVTP): Hydrocephalus screening - a mental health screening and intervention pathway for children and young people with hydrocephalus (CYPwH)"
- International Child Neurology Congress (ICNC), November 2019 (Mumbai) "Screening for mental health problems in children and young people with epilepsy and early Management in the clinic setting"
- European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS), September 2019 (Athens) "PAVES (Psychology Adding Value Epilepsy Screening); identifying and addressing mental health problems in epilepsy clinic setting"

### National Platform Presentations (recent)

#### PAVES (epilepsy)

- RCPCH, RCPsych and SPS joint event: Learning from Each Other – March 2019 (Glasgow)
- NHS Scotland Event - Spotlight Presentation: May 2019 (Glasgow)
- Realistic Medicine Conference: October 2019 (Glasgow)
- British Psychological Society: Division of Neuropsychology 2018 and 2019 conferences (London)
- British Psychological Society: Faculty of Children, Young People and Families conference: 2018 (Liverpool)
- Epilepsy 12/OPEN UK (Organisation of Paediatric Epilepsy Networks UK) June 2018 (London)

#### PAV-TP (spina bifida/ hydrocephalus)

- "Screening for Mental Health in Children and Young People with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus: Pilot results" National Paediatric Neurosurgery Meeting, Edinburgh February 2018 Paediatric Neuropsychology
- "Neuropsychology in Practice", Scottish Division of Educational Psychologists Annual Conference, 10.2019

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPA), registration number: PYL22210
- Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society (BPS; CPsychol), registration number: 78905
- Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society (AFBPS).
- BPS Register of Applied Psychology Practice Supervisors (RAPPs) - certified for supervising QICN or other neuropsychology post-doctoral qualifications.

## REFERENCES - available on request