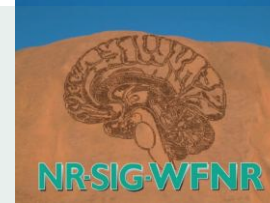


## 2025 Newsletter

# NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL REHABILITATION (NR-SIG)

Welcome to the 2025 Newsletter of the NR-SIG of the WFNR, in which I bring you up-to-date with our recent activities and developments. This year the Researcher Spotlight (see p.3) shines on our new secretary, dr. Marthe Ford. Marthe will follow dr. Michael Perdices who has been a secretary for many years. Thank you, Michael!



This year prof.dr. Tamara Ownsworth hosted our 22nd annual NR-SIG conference in Mooloolaba, Australia. Tamara made it another highly successful meeting. We are already looking forward to next year's 23rd meeting which will be held in Belfast, Ireland with convenors Satu Baylan and Lesley Murphy. Visit <https://www.mersevents.com/nr-sig-wfnr> to stay up-to-date on abstract and registration deadlines, venue and accommodations and our new inspiring program. Visit and follow us on Linked in: [linkedin.com/company/nr-sig-wfnr](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nr-sig-wfnr).

I would like to draw your attention to our host organization WFNR (see also p.2). Don't forget to maintain your registration as a WFNR member in order to stay affiliated to our NR-SIG. I am very proud to announce that our NR-SIG will take the lead in an exciting new WFNR project: we will host an e-book on *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation: Clinical Practice Recommendations*. The e-book will be published by Springer as an open access book available to all. Currently, the author list is complete, and the first chapters are being written.

Other news that you can find in this newsletter concerns our recent Mooloolaba meeting, news from NeuroBITE and some excellent achievements of members of our executive committee.

Enjoy and stay connected. I hope to see you all in Belfast next year in July!  
Prof.dr Caroline van Heugten, chair of the NR-SIG

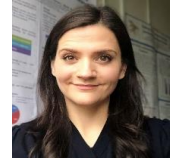
## NR-SIG Committee members



Caroline van Heugten  
Chair



Marthe Ford  
Secretary



Jessica Fish  
Treasurer



Robyn Tate



Michael Perdices



Jonathan Evans



Anna Adlam



Tamara Ownsworth



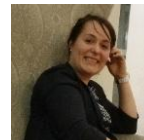
Jennie Ponsford



Kate Gould



Alexandra Rose



Satu Baylan



Margaret Eagers

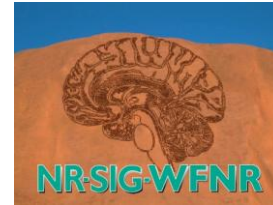


Matt Eagers





Our NR-SIG had a successful hybrid conference in Mooloolaba, Australia in July 2025. Tamara Ownsworth was the convenor for this edition. Some of the topics that were addressed during the conferences were neurorehabilitation perspectives and outcomes, program and professional practice developments and evaluation,, care and support innovations, advances in assessment, interventions and methodology and lived experiences and inclusive research.



### Upcoming conferences:

INS 54th Annual North American Meeting, Febr 4-7, 2026, historic Philadelphia: *Neuropsychology in the age of innovation*.

ASSBI/NZSIGN conference, May 7-9, 2026, Te Pae, Christchurch, New Zealand.

INS Mid Year meeting July 22-24, 2026, Dublin, Ireland.

**NR-SIG 23<sup>rd</sup> conference. July 19-20, 2026, Belfast, Northern Ireland. [Submit Abstract here](#)**

WFNR 14<sup>th</sup> world congress October 14-17, 2026, South Korea.

FESN conference 2027 will be held in Warsaw, Poland.

### World Federation for NeuroRehabilitation

**(WFNR):** Our special interest group is one of the SIGs of the WFNR. For more information on the SIGs visit <https://www.wfnr.co.uk/special-interest-groups/special-interest-groups>

All SIG members are also WFNR member. Have a look at the exciting and interesting activities at <https://www.wfnr.co.uk/>

### News from NeuroBITE director Paul Gertler:

NeuroBITE was established as the PscyBITE database and officially launched in 2004, so we recently celebrated two decades of NeuroBITE. As of July 2025, we have 8,308 listed articles in our database as well as a range of evidence-based practice resources on our website [www.neurorehab-evidence.com](http://www.neurorehab-evidence.com)

We now have a **video walkthrough** of all the functions of the website, we provide **online training** to rate RCTs and SCEDS, and we have a **monthly newsletter**.

If you want to contribute to NeuroBITE, please email me at [paul.gertler@sydney.edu.au](mailto:paul.gertler@sydney.edu.au)



## Researcher Spotlight: Dr. Marthe Ford



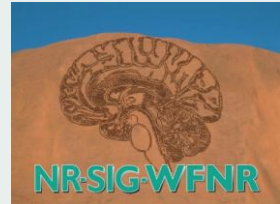
Clinical neuropsychologist/ Assistant professor  
Department of Psychology; Brain & Cognition  
Faculty of Behavioural & Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
[m.e.ford@uva.nl](mailto:m.e.ford@uva.nl)

### Key Research Interests

My research focuses on neuropsychological interventions for individuals with acquired brain injuries, including (mild) traumatic brain injury and stroke. I have a particular interest in eHealth to increase the accessibility and scalability of treatment.



Secretary



### Summary of research

With nearly 20 years of experience as a clinical neuropsychologist and behavioural therapist in a rehabilitation centre, I aim to contribute to translating research findings into clinical practice and to bringing clinical questions back into research. My primary interest lies in developing and evaluating neuropsychological interventions for people with acquired brain injury, across both the acute and chronic phases. I focus particularly on the development of eHealth interventions, which offers a promising approach to addressing the growing challenge of limited therapist availability. Despite progress, there remains a pressing need for more effective, evidence-based eHealth treatment protocols.

Our research group has developed and evaluated an online cognitive behavioural therapy for insomnia (CBT-I) following acquired brain injury. Using both a single-case experimental design (SCED) and RCT, we found that blended CBT-I is a feasible and effective treatment for insomnia following a stroke or traumatic brain injury. We are currently evaluating blended cognitive behavioural therapy for fatigue following brain injury (eCograt), which integrates group-based face-to-face sessions with online modules.

We have recently launched a new line of research focused on persistent symptoms following mild traumatic brain injury. This work investigates the interrelationships between symptoms, the role of coping strategies and illness beliefs in symptom persistence, and the identification of effective interventions tailored to individual patient profiles. Exposure therapy, for instance, has shown promise in addressing fear-avoidance behaviours. Another area of interest involves the relationship between sleep disturbances and agitated behaviour during the acute phase of recovery following moderate to severe traumatic brain injury, with the goal of developing strategies to better support further recovery.

I am enthusiastic about contributing to the key objectives of the WFNR NR-SIG: fostering international communication and supporting clinically relevant research in the field of neuropsychological rehabilitation.

## Did you know?

**Anna Adlam** has been promoted to Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology (personal chair) at the University of Exeter



**Jennie Ponsford** recently won a \$1.4m grant for concussion care



**Caroline van Heugten** received the national Betto Deelman Prize for neuropsychology in the Netherlands

