

## Psychiatry Commission

### 2022 Annual Report

#### MEMBERS

Rosa Michaelis (Germany), chair  
 Mike Kerr (UK)  
 Genevieve Rayner (Australia)  
 Alla Guekht (Russia)  
 Khalil Motmaen (Afghanistan)  
 Marco Mula (UK), MC liaison

#### FUNCTIONAL/DISSOCIATIVE SEIZURE (FDS)

##### TASK FORCE

Coraline Hingray (France), chair	Mercedes Sarudiansky (Argentina)
Chrisma Pretorius (South Africa)	Curt LaFrance (USA)
Kasia Kozłowska (Australia)	Dong Zhou (China)
Stoyan Popkirov (Germany)	Ali Akbar Asadi-Pooya (Iran)
Markus Reuber (UK)	Deniz Ertan (France)
Wissam El Hage (USA)	

The Functional/Dissociative Seizure (FDS) Task Force aims at defining and prompting a new diagnostic label and nosology for “Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizures” (PNES). They collect psychoeducational resources for adults and children with FDS in different languages in order to provide them on the ILAE website. In addition, they are developing consensus-based recommendations on acute management of functional/dissociative seizures.

#### INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH CARE PATHWAYS

##### TASK FORCE

Milena Gandy (Australia), co-chair	Venus Tang (Hong Kong)
Heidi Munger Clary (USA), co-chair	Gaston Baslet (USA)
Markus Reuber (UK)	Marie Providence Umuziga (Rwanda)
Sallie Baxendale (UK)	Gerardo Maria de Araujo Filho (Brazil)
Avani Modi (UK)	Sophie Bennett (UK)

The Integrated Mental Health Care Pathways Task Force is about to conclude a report on examples of Integrated Psychological Care Services within epilepsy settings around the world. They aim at conducting a systematic review on integrated mental health care for epilepsy in order to inform a framework and definition of integrated mental health care in the management of epilepsy.

## **INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (ID)**

### TASK FORCE

Christine Linehan (Ireland), chair  
 Danielle Andrade (Canada)  
 Christian Brandt (Germany)  
 Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)  
 Mike Kerr (UK)  
 Vicente Villanueva (Spain)

Laura Ferreira Guilhoto (Brazil)  
 Candan Gurses (Turkey)  
 Rohit Shankar (UK)  
 Francesa Snoeijen-Schouwe (Netherlands)  
 Kirsty Donald (South Africa)  
 Florence Oringe (Kenya)

The Intellectual Disability (ID) Task Force is about to finalize a paper on the use of rescue medication in people with epilepsy and ID. They aim at promoting easy to read materials on epilepsy for individuals with ID on the ILAE website and will liaise with adults with ID in order to understand how consultations with epilepsy consultants can be improved.

## **PEDIATRIC PSYCHIATRIC ISSUES**

### TASK FORCE

Colin Reilly (UK/Sweden), chair  
 Charlotte Tye (UK)  
 Stéphane Auvin (France)  
 Jay Salpekar (USA)  
 Kirsty Donald (South Africa)

Marylou Smith (Canada)  
 Hula Raoof Shereef (Iraq)  
 Nicola Specchio (Italy)  
 Eliza Honybun (Australia)

## **PSYCHOEDUCATION**

### TASK FORCE

Venus Tang (Hong Kong), co-chair  
 Gus Baker (UK), co-chair  
 Janelle Wagner (USA)  
 Prisca Bauer (Germany)

Natela Okujava (Georgia)  
 Siew-Tim Lai (Malaysia)  
 Nuran Aydemir (Turkey)  
 Action Amos (Malawi)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- The “Consensus recommendations for assessment and management of PNES in children” by the Pediatric Psychiatric Issues Task Force was posted on the ILAE website to collect comments.
- The Functional/Dissociative Seizure Task Force successfully pioneered the webinar series on October 19th with a webinar on “Communicating Diagnosis of Functional / Dissociative Seizures”.
- The Integrated Mental Health Care Pathways Task Force submitted the manuscript “Integrated Psychological Care Services within Seizure Settings: Examples from four ILAE regions – report by the ILAE Psychiatry Commission” to *Epilepsia*.

- The IEC session proposal “I’m terrified of my epilepsy: Managing the challenge of anxiety in epilepsy patients” by the Integrated Mental Health Care Pathways Task Force was accepted.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Among my personal highlights are the rewarding face-to-face meeting in Geneva and the pioneering event of the webinar series. Here, both the irreplaceable advantages of personal exchange and the naturalness with which the educational collegial exchange in a worldwide community now succeeds became apparent - also thanks to the great technical support provided by ILAE staff! The lively discussion showed that the Task Force was able to convey clinically relevant topics in a helpful way. I also much appreciated the resolution of a disagreement between two Task Forces. Concerns had arisen and were resolved by determining a goal-oriented joint approach. In this time of escalating conflicts, I find this respectful joint handling of needs/concerns very significant and was therefore very pleased with how the Task Force chairs dealt with this process.

## MEETINGS

We met online on 7 April 2022 and on 14 September 2022. We met in person on 8 June 2022 at the ECE in Geneva.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- The Pediatric Psychiatric Issues Task Force (chaired by Colin Reilly, joint Task Force of Psychiatry and Pediatric Commission) is about to conclude the consensus recommendations for assessment and management of PNES in children and a Clinical Practice Guideline (GCP) for anxiety and depression. As a future project they aim at creating guidelines/recommendations for the use of screening instruments for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in children with epilepsy.
- The Psychoeducation Task Force (co-chaired by Gus Baker and Venus Tang) prepares a systematic review of psychosocial and neurocognitive issues in adults with newly diagnosed epilepsy. The results of the systematic review will inform an online survey to identify needs and gaps of psychoeducation for adults with newly diagnosed epilepsy. The survey will include perspectives from patients and health professionals. The identified needs and gaps will then be addressed in the development and recommendation of psychoeducation materials for adults with newly diagnosed epilepsy.
- Overarching projects of the Commission include a webinar series featuring the work of the individual Task Forces, and the redesign of the Psychiatry Commission webpage to make relevant online resources available to the international professional community. Most of the planned project proposals have been submitted to the Publication Council/ Best Practices Council as well as a balanced budget to facilitate the realization of the planned projects in 2023.

*Report submitted by Rosa Michaelis*