

# Psychiatry Commission



Mike Kerr

## Chair

Mike Kerr (UK)

## Members

Rod Duncan (New Zealand)

Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Past-Chair

Kette D. Valente (Brazil), Treasurer

## Management Committee Liaison

Alla Guekht (Russia)

## Aims/Goals of the Commission

The goal of the Psychiatry Commission on is to improve the psychiatric health and well-being of people with epilepsy through delivering guidance and education to clinicians in the field of epilepsy across the breadth of mental ill health.

## Commission Activities and Accomplishments

### Commission meetings:

- The Psychiatry Commission met at The AES annual meeting in Baltimore, December 2019.
- The Task Force on Identification Treatment and Prevention held a one-day meeting in Baltimore in December 2019. This meeting was to work on the protocol and development of a consensus document and clinical practice statements for the treatment of depression in adults with epilepsy.
- The Task Force of Paediatric Psychiatric Issues met at the 33rd International Epilepsy Congress in Bangkok, June 2019.

### Educational events:

- The commission held an education symposium entitled, "Epilepsy and psychiatry throughout life" in Sao Paulo Brazil in October 25-26, 2019. The meeting was organised by Professor Kette Valente and Professor Mike Kerr, and endorsed by the ILAE. Sponsorship was provided by ACHE

laboratories and the ILAE. A combination of national and international speakers delivered interactive lectures.

- There were 212 attendees with a waiting list of 35.

### Future meetings:

- The Psychiatry Commission intends to hold an executive meeting at the AES Seattle, December 2020.
- The commission hopes to hold a one-day educational event in Curitiba, as a follow up to the highly successful meeting in Sao Paulo, in June 2020 in conjunction with the Brazilian League Against Epilepsy.

## Budget

The commission kept within budget for the year 2019-2020.

## Commission Contribution to ILAE Conferences

The Psychiatric Commission has contributed to ILAE Conferences in this term with proposals for sessions and forums, as described below:

1. The Psychiatry Commission and the Psychology Task Force held a forum at the 33rd International Epilepsy Congress (Bangkok June 22-26th, 2019) - The International Epilepsy Curriculum: Common errors and their solutions from a psychiatric/psychological perspective.
2. The Psychiatry Commission held a session on Key Psychiatric Issues in Epilepsy in the 33rd International Epilepsy Congress (Bangkok June 22-26th, 2019).
3. The Psychiatry Commission, represented by the Task Force on Identification, Treatment and Prevention (Prof Marco Mula) and the Psychology Task Force proposed a new session entitled "Screening for and management of suicidal ideation in patients with seizures" for the 14th European

Conference on Epileptology (Geneva July 5-9th, 2020).

4. Professor Kousuke Kanemoto has submitted a proposal on Psychosis.

## Task Force progress

**The Task Force on Identification Treatment and Prevention**, chaired by Marco Mula, is working on the development of clinical practice statements for the treatment of depression in adults with epilepsy. The task force has conducted a systematic review of the literature, which will be updated until the document is finalized, and is working on a systematic appraisal of current guidelines of treatment outside epilepsy, in order to adapt them to the needs of people with epilepsy following the ADAPTE process. The document will be finalized in 2020.

**The Intellectual Disability Task Force**, chaired by Christian Brandt, held a session on epilepsy and ID at the IEC in Bangkok, with around 200 participants, and contributed to a Symposium at IEC with the Psychology Task Force on educational issues. The task force continues to develop a protocol on rescue medication. A new initiative working with the recently formed AAN section on IDD aims at developing joint guidelines on management of people with an intellectual disability. The draft protocol has been submitted to the Guidelines Commission.

**The Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizure Task Force**, chaired by Markus Reuber, has:

- Updated an E-brain Module on “Dissociative (psychogenic nonepileptic) seizures” and contributed to one of the new ILAE e-learning modules focusing primarily on status epilepticus.
- Published a rebuttal to CA Carlson’s paper about PNES published in the Journal of Neurology and Psychiatric Disorders.
- Completed an international survey of the use of suggestion techniques in the diagnosis of patients with PNES (data analysis under way).
- Completed a paper about the aetiology of PNES for the “Seminars” series in Epileptic Disorders

- Completed a draft paper on PNES and driving (with input from the ILAE Task Force on Driving Regulations, submitted to Executive Committee for guidance on publication).
- Successfully applied for an ECE Forum for the upcoming conference in Geneva in 2020 on “Social aspects of PNES”.

Planned activities that are pending:

- Production of a position paper on diagnostic procedures for PNES (taking account of analyses of survey).
- Proposal for a new PNES label and nosology (the PNES Task Force has submitted a funding request for a structured plan for a two-stage international consultation with a qualitative analysis of the findings of the first survey to the Executive Committee for consideration in the 2020 budget planning).

**The Task Force on Paediatric Psychiatric Issues**, Chaired by Kette Valente and Colin Reilly, represents a liaison between the joint task force of the Psychiatry and the Pediatric Commission.

**Work Plans:** The task force has developed proposals on two work plans:

1. A consensus statement on the clinical assessment and treatment of common neuropsychiatric conditions in pediatric epilepsy. This work is ongoing and with the support of the Guidelines Task Force of the ILAE.
2. Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) for the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of psychogenic seizures in children. This work is ongoing with the final status of the methodology being discussed with the Guidelines Task Force of the ILAE.

**ILAE Meetings:** In addition, the Task Force of Paediatric Psychiatric Issues has contributed to the scientific program of the 14th European Conference on Epileptology (Geneva July 5-9th, 2020) with two proposals accepted.

# Psychiatry Commission *(continued)*

The Task Force of Paediatric Psychiatric Issues has also submitted two session proposals to the 34th International Epilepsy Congress (Paris August 28th – September 1st, 2021).

ILAE E-learning: The Task Force of Paediatric Psychiatric Issues contributed in two modules of the ILAE E-learning – Psychosocial Issues in Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy and Psychosocial Issues in Neurocysticercosis.

Shared project with Psychology Task force of Medical Therapies Commission:

We are working with the Psychology Task Force in developing a web page on Medical Health Care resources.

## Summary

The year 2019-2020 has led to:

1. The development of a work plan from the commission focusing on standards and guidelines by the task forces;
2. The establishment of two liaisons with the Pediatric Commission and the Psychological Therapies Task Force;
3. Contribution to the scientific program of the ILAE Congress in Bangkok;
4. A major multinational Latin America-based congress on psychiatry and epilepsy.

## Recommendations for Future Work

Our commission is focused on the completion of ongoing work. In addition to this, we hope that new initiatives such as the guidance on PNES label and nosology will be adopted and funded within the work program.

We seek to strengthen our relationship with other commissions.

Report by Professor Mike Kerr, commission members and task force leads