

# Psychiatry Commission

## Members

### Chair

Mike Kerr (UK)

### Core Members

Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan), Past Chair

Rod Duncan (New Zealand),

Kette D. Valente (Brazil), Treasurer



Mike Kerr

### Management Committee Liaison

Alla Guekht (Russia)

## Commission Aims/Goals

The goal of the Commission on Psychiatry 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 accomplishment

### Commission meetings

As a result of COVID-19 no formal commission meeting were held. Meetings were instead held online by individual task forces and for the development of our educational activities.

## Task Force Activities

### Task Force on Identification, Treatment, and Prevention of Psychiatric Disorders

#### Members

Marco Mula (UK)

Hadeel Alkhamees (Saudi Arabia)

Bertrand De Toffol (France)

Hrvoje Hecimovic (Croatia)

Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)

Andres M Kanner (USA)

Antonio Teixeira (Brazil)

Sarah Wilson (Australia)

Focused on the development of the first ever Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) for the treatment of psychiatric disorders in epilepsy. The Task Force focused on CPG for the treatment of unipolar depression in adults with epilepsy. CPG are at very advanced stage of production. They have been already reviewed and

approved by all relevant ILAE committees and it has been already advertised on the ILAE website for feedback. The CPG will be submitted for publication this year.

The Task Force in conjunction with the Commission on Psychology will run a session on suicide during the next ILAE International Congress in Paris 2021.

## Intellectual Disability Task Force

### Members

Christian Brandt (Germany)  
Danielle Andrade (Canada)  
Laura Guilhoto (Brazil)  
Candan Gurses (Turkey)  
Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)

Mike Kerr (UK)  
Christine Linehan (Ireland)  
Francis (In Y.) Tan (Netherlands)  
Vicente Villanueva (Spain)

The TF has contributed to the ILAE guidance document on COVID-19. Among the many aspects of this disease, persons with epilepsy and intellectual disability face special challenges. They and their families and caregivers need advice on morbidity and mortality issues, vulnerability of persons with specific syndromes (e.g., Dravet), medication (everolimus), and they have special needs in case of a lock-down. The TF contributed to the commission's FAQ style document.

The TF chair (CB) is liaising with the Education Council and contributed to the ILAE Academy by reviewing and writing with regard to neuropsychiatric aspects. The ID-TF has contributed to many meetings (scientific and educational) during ILAE congresses and regional conferences. TF members have contributed to the guidance on COVID-19 and have liaised with the Education Council (IALE academy), the Psychology TF (joint scientific meeting during the Bangkok conference), Access to treatment TF (during the ongoing writing of a document on rescue medication), the guidelines TF, and people from AAN/ AES (guideline work).

## Psychiatric Issues in Pediatric Epilepsy Task Force

(Joint TF with Pediatric Commission, Stéphane Auvin, chair)

### Members

Kette de Valente, (Brazil), **co-chair**  
Colin Reilly, (Sweden), **co-chair**  
Stéphane Auvin, (France)  
Mike Kerr, (UK)  
Marco Mula, (UK)

Guilherme Polanczyk, (Brazil)  
Mary Lou Smith, (Canada)  
Elaine Wirrell, (USA)  
Symon Kariuki, (Kenya)  
Choong Yi Fong, (Malaysia)

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.

### Projects

In the term of 2019-2020, the Task Force has worked in two main projects:

1. Clinical Practical Guidelines (CPG) for Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizures in Children and Adolescents.
2. Clinical Practical Guidelines (CPG) for Anxiety and Depression in Pediatric Epilepsy.

The projects have been registered in PROSPERO (CRD42020202702; CRD42020202682) and the search has been conducted by two librarians with expertise in the field, under the supervision of the Guidelines Task Force (Drs. Nathalie Jetté and Francesco Brigo). The co-chairs selected titles and abstracts and the first analysis of the text was done. At the moment, the Task Force and Working Groups are analyzing the texts to extract main data.

## Educational Activities and Conferences

The Task Force has taken part in other activities of the ILAE:

- Applied successfully for three ECE Forum for the upcoming conference in Paris (2021)
- Contributed to three of the new ILAE e-learning modules (level 1 and 2) focusing on psychosocial aspects [Neurocysticercosis (Maria) Rolandic Epilepsy (Justin); Focal Cortical Dysplasia (Jason)]
- Contributed with Lectures and Case Discussion to the 2nd International Educational Symposium of the Psychiatry Commission (Chair: Mike P. Kerr) – Pediatric Aspects
- Contributed with the ILAE webpage – Mental Health in Persons with Epilepsy during the COVID-19 Pandemic

## Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizure Task Force

### Members

Markus Reuber (UK)

Ali Akbar Asadi-Pooya (Iran)

Rod Duncan (New Zealand)

David Gigineishvili (Georgia)

Coraline Hingray (France)

Kousuke Kanemoto (Japan)

Lady Ladino Malagon (Colombia)

W. Curt Lafrance (USA)

Chrisma Pretorius (South Africa)

Dong Zhou (China)

Contributed to the completion of an ILAE Academy module entitled “Patient Case Maya (PNES)” (launched in January 2021)

Completed the data analysis and write-up of an international survey of the use of suggestion techniques in the diagnosis of patients with PNES (currently going through the ILAE review process, awaiting advice on target journal from Executive Committee).

Contributed to two webinars entitled “What’s in a name” in December 2020 to launch the process of negotiation about a better name for PNES (one hosted by the FNDS, one hosted by the AES during their annual meeting).

Published a paper in *Epilepsia Open* providing guidance on PNES and driving.

### Planned activities that are pending:

The proposal for the negotiation of a new PNES label and nosology submitted to the Executive Committee for the 2020 budget planning round was approved, but then revoked because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our plan could therefore not be carried out. However, we have resubmitted our proposal for funding in 2021 and are hoping to be able to carry out a slightly simplified plan this year. Our proposal relates to a structured plan

for a two-stage international consultation with a qualitative analysis of the findings and ultimate “vote” after the initial fact-finding exercise.

The PNES Task Force proposal for a Symposium at the IEC 2021 in Paris was accepted. The session will be entitled: “Looking into the causes of Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizures: the contribution of imaging studies”.

#### **Planned activities that were cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic:**

Proposal for the negotiation of a new PNES label and nosology submitted to the Executive Committee for the 2020 budget planning round (see above).

The planned Forum ECE 2020 in Geneva on “Social aspects of PNES” could not be delivered due to the cancellation of this meeting.

### **Other Commission Work**

- Contribution to ILAE COVID-19 webpage with detailed documentation on the psychiatric impact of the pandemic for professionals and carers/families
- 2nd Educational Symposium of the Psychiatry Commission: The Management of Core Psychiatric Issues in Epilepsy. 24 October 2020
- The commission delivered a major educational on-line symposium in conjunction with the Brazilian league against epilepsy. This important symposium was delivered on-line and as a follow up to the highly successful first symposia held in 2019. Experts from the local region and international experts were able to pre record and support in real time lectures and interactive case discussions. The meeting was organized by Kette Valente and co-chaired by Mike Kerr. The meetings learning objectives were that participants would be able to:
  - Understand the key criteria in the identification and management of psychiatric or behavioral disorders in children and adolescents with epilepsy.
  - Discuss the key criteria in the identification and management of psychiatric or behavioral disorders in adults with epilepsy.
- In association with the 54th JES annual meeting, we plan to hold two symposia related to psychiatric issues.
- How do Asian colleagues cope with psychosocial issues in patients with epilepsy?
- Psychiatric issues in Patients with Epilepsy: How to bridge neurology and psychiatry?

### **Recommendations for future work.**

#### **Education**

- The commission proposes a third educational symposium of the psychiatry commission. In addition to this the commission wishes to explore an extension of these symposia to an online platform to enable standardized education and attainment in psychiatric aspects of epilepsy for health professionals globally.

#### **The Task Force on Identification Treatment and Prevention**

- In terms of future objectives, the framework of the task force is to develop CPGs rather than expert opinions on all categories (i.e., anxiety disorders, psychoses etc.).

## **Intellectual Disability Taskforce**

- Continue collaboration with AAN and AES with the aim of establishing guidelines for the diagnostics and treatment in epilepsy and ID.

## **Task Force— Paediatric Psychiatric Issues**

- The chairs aim to provide a systematic review and CPG for autism and pediatric epilepsy regarding prevalence, most frequent epileptic syndromes, particular findings, diagnosis (validated and non-validated scales), and treatment of behavioral aspects (the safety of psychoactive drugs for children with autism and epilepsy)
- The Task Force intends to continue contributing to the International League Conferences with lectures and possible forums and, International Educational Symposium of the Psychiatry Commission and ILAE Educational Activities (when requested).
- Updating of the ADHD in epilepsy guidelines in collaboration with the pediatric task force.

## **The Psychogenic Nonepileptic Seizure Task Force**

- 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 have submitted 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).

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