

## Newsletter August 2013

# Working memory training in children with brain injury

Thank you for supporting our Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) evaluating working memory training in children (aged 8 - 16 years) with brain injury.

### Study updates

- We will soon be recruiting children and their families in the South-West. We would like to welcome Stephanie Burton and Felice van't Wout, who have recently joined the team to facilitate recruitment in the South-West.
- We have now submitted an ethics amendment to include a slightly reduced assessment battery, in response to feedback from families. In addition to this we have decided to include all children with acquired brain injuries (ABI), except from ABI caused by pre-term birth, epilepsy or hypoxic ischemia.

**If you would you would like to inform children who have survived a brain injury and their families about our research, then please direct them to our website: [www.uea.ac.uk/med/neuro](http://www.uea.ac.uk/med/neuro). Children and families can sign up directly to our research participant volunteer panel via [www.uea.ac.uk/medicine/neuropsychology/get-involved](http://www.uea.ac.uk/medicine/neuropsychology/get-involved).**

### Study aims

An acquired brain injury in childhood can lead to problems with working memory; this can cause further difficulties with learning, academic achievement, behaviour, and social functioning. The current study is evaluating a computerised working memory training programme with young people who have survived a brain injury. We are interested in finding out what young people and their families think about the computerised training programme and whether the training programme helps with memory, attention, numeracy, and literacy.

### Who is eligible?

#### Study Inclusion Criteria:

- Survivors of acquired brain injury
- Medically stable
- 6-months post-injury
- 8 yrs – 16 yrs: 11months
- Proficient English fluency

- Access to Internet

Study Exclusion Criteria:

- Evidence of visual/motor impairment preventing use of computer
- Medication affecting memory
- Premorbid diagnosis of learning disability
- Previous direct, repeated practice, working memory training
- Lack capacity to assent/consent
- Acquired brain injury caused by pre-term birth, epilepsy or hypoxic ischemia

**Contact details**

If you have any questions related to this study, or experience any problems, please do not hesitate to contact us via, Anna Adlam ([a.adlam@uea.ac.uk](mailto:a.adlam@uea.ac.uk) or [a.r.adlam@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:a.r.adlam@exeter.ac.uk) ) or Darren Dunning ([d.dunning@uea.ac.uk](mailto:d.dunning@uea.ac.uk)). We can also be contacted via our research team telephone number: 01603 59 1507.