

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 acquired brain injury (ABI). The study is actively recruiting participants from East Anglia and the South West of England.

Study updates

- We have ethical approval to recruit children (aged 8 - 16 years) who have survived an **acquired brain injury** including: traumatic brain injury, stroke, brain tumour, herpes encephalitis, and other causes of injury. If you would like more information about our study inclusion criteria, then please email d.dunning@uea.ac.uk.
- We have a poster advertising our study. If you would like a poster for your waiting room, please contact d.dunning@uea.ac.uk.
- We welcome new staff members to our research team: Emma Harris, Meghan McHugh, and Kerrie Bundock have joined Alex Payne, Jade Claxton, and Dr Darren Dunning in East Anglia; Helen Ryland and Louise Matthews have joined Stephanie Burton, Dr Felice van't Wout, and Dr Anna Adlam in the South West.
- We have also said farewell to three research team members, and we wish them all the best with their future endeavours (and hope to one day welcome them back!): Briony Westgate (returned to University of Loughborough to complete the final year of her undergraduate degree in Psychology), Emily Drake (started her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of East Anglia), and Ania Piasecka.
- Dr Darren Dunning (postdoctoral researcher) recently presented his research and our working memory training trial at the **Eastern Children's Head Injury Network**. If you would like more information about Darren's presentation, then please email d.dunning@uea.ac.uk.
- We continue to add research group updates to our Facebook page. To keep up-to-date with this study and our other projects, see www.facebook.com/neuroUeaExeter

Study aims

An ABI 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 an ABI. 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 paediatric acquired brain injury
- Medically stable
- at least 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

Contact details

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

Children and families can sign up directly to our research participant volunteer panel via

www.uea.ac.uk/med/neuro/get-involved

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