

Re:Cognition
Health
Brain and
Mind Experts

Presents

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The TBI Iceberg

- A silent killer

**4th
October
2024**

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26th July 2024
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Standard Rate
£245 + VAT

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The TBI Iceberg

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The program for this 5th Re:Cognition Health Brain Injury Conference addresses the continued rapid scientific progress underpinning the development of new and increasingly sophisticated biomarkers for the diagnosis of traumatic brain injury. Discussion includes the elucidation of emerging characteristic neurological and neuro-psychiatric symptoms and syndromes and how these clinical features correlate with new biomarkers.

An understanding of the sequelae of a single traumatic brain injury events versus the consequences of repetitive brain injury is presented. The latter includes presentation of the aetiology and pathology of progressive neurodegenerative diseases, emerging as a life changing complication of recurrent TBI. This section of the conference will address repetitive brain injury due to contact sports, PTSD and chronic traumatic encephalopathy leading to dementia.

Diagnostic techniques explored in detail include MRI imaging with diffusor tensor imaging (DTI) and other functional imaging techniques, PET amyloid and tau imaging, genotyping and Magnetoencephalography (MEG), plus new plasma and CSF analyses. These techniques provide objective evidence of microscopic axonal and microvascular brain injury, not detected on conventional imaging or laboratory testing.

The utility of genetic and chemical biomarkers to predict risk of longer term brain injury in certain individuals is explored.

Discussion of the implications of providing objective evidence of microscopic traumatic brain injury is reviewed, in the context of emerging clinical applications and therapeutic interventions.

As we discover the increasing utility of these objective imaging, blood and CSF biomarkers the role of clinical neuropsychology testing is reviewed for its diagnostic accuracy and its role in guiding and monitoring treatment.

New treatments and therapies including Spike-timing-dependent plasticity and the potential and rational for new disease modifying medications for progressive neurodegenerative diseases resulting from repetitive brain injury.

(STDP), aimed at specific and accurate confirmed diagnosis of brain injury and their evidence will be explored.

The conference concludes with insights into the implications for medicolegal interrogation of brain injury cases in court, in the context of these rapidly accepted scientific and clinical advances. The medical implications for effective treatments, is discussed, especially when these treatments can be delivered, much earlier and when results of intervention can be monitored with objective evidence from new biomarkers.



Draft Programme

- 08:55 – 09:20** Registration, networking, tea/coffee & exhibition stands
- 09:20 – 09:25** Sponsor's Welcome
Stuart Brazington, Partner, RWK Goodman
- 09:25 – 09:30** Welcome and introduction from the conference Chair
Marcus Grant, Barrister, Temple Garden Chambers
- 09:30 – 10:15** Introductory overview: Exponential progress in understanding of mTBI for single and repetitive brain injury.
Dr Emer MacSweeney, Founder & CEO Re:Cognition Health & Consultant Neuroradiologist
- 10:15 – 11:00** Update on mTBI: a new paradigm from single event to progressive brain disease.
Dr Steve Allder, Consultant Neurologist, Director of Neurological Services, Re:Cognition Health
- 11:00 – 11:30** Tea/Coffee, networking & exhibition stands
- 11:30 – 12:15** Neuropsychiatric interpretations of mTBI
Dr Julius Bourke, MBBS, MRCPsych, MD(Res), Hon.Senior Lecturer Neurophysiology and Clinical Psychiatry, (QM University of London) & Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Re:Cognition Health
- 12:15 – 13:00** Functional Neurological Disorder (FND) and Somatic Symptoms Disorders explained
Dr Niruj Agrawal, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, St George's Hospital, London

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Draft Programme

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch, networking & exhibition stands

14:00 – 14:45

Neuroimaging and Brain Injury: Changes in structure and function

The use of brain imaging techniques to investigate the structure of an individual's brain and its activity will be reviewed. In particular, the use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Diffusion Weighted Imaging and Magnetoencephalography will be described and case studies will be presented to show their use following Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). These imaging findings will be related to the physical events that occur at the time of the injury as well as the subsequent pathophysiology that is generated. The use of these techniques for investigation of the effects of a TBI in single individuals will be discussed.

Gary Green, Director, Innovision-IP Ltd; Emeritus Professor, University of York

14:45 – 15:15

Tea/coffee, networking & exhibition stands

15:15 – 16:00

Emerging long term complications of TBI.

Professor David Sharp, Professor of Neurology, Imperial College, London.

16:00 – 16:45

Dementia after TBI – where the law of compensation is going with this, and what the courts can do...

A review of the court's approach to proving causation of dementia in cases of traumatic brain injury, whether single incident or cumulative, and the types and basis of claim open to the court to compensate the injured person where breach of duty can be established.

Theo Huckle KC, Barrister, Benchers of Lincoln's Inn, VProf KCL Dickson Poon School of Law, Counsel General for Wales 2011-16

16:45 – 16:50

Conference close

16:50 onwards

**Drinks reception kindly sponsored by
Re:Cognition Health**

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Biographies



Marcus Grant

Barister, Temple Garden Chambers

Marcus Grant is ranked as a 'Star Individual' Personal Injury Junior by Chambers & Partners (London) 2024, as he has been over the last 8 years. He won the Chambers & Partners Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Junior of the Year award in 2016 and was shortlisted for the 2022 Personal Injury Junior of the Year award.

He has litigated 13 diffuse axonal injury ["DAI"] claims to trial over the last 15 years, 9 to judgment, from *Van Wees v Kharkour* [2007] EWHC 165 to *Palmer v Mantas & Liverpool Victoria Insurance Company* [2022] EWHC 90.

He has litigated cases where the use of covert and overt recordings of expert appointments proved to be critical to the outcome of cases, addressed in the judgments in *Mustard v. Flower* [2019] EWHC 2623 and *MacDonald v. Burton* [2020] EWHC 906.

"He is the best person in the country for subtle brain injury cases and has an excellent command of the medicine. His client skills are also very good ... is truly fourth-dimensional, with a second-to-none work ethic" *Chambers & Partners*

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Biographies



Dr Emer MacSweeney BSc (Hons), MBBS, MRCP, FRCR

Co-Founder & CEO of Re:Cognition Health's Brain and Mind Clinics, UK & USA

Dr MacSweeney, a Consultant Interventional Neuro-Radiologist, co-founded Re:Cognition Health in 2011 to provide a specialist service for accurate diagnosis and access to the latest treatments for progressive neurodegenerative & neurodevelopmental conditions and traumatic brain injury. Today, Re:Cognition Health has 10 Centres in the UK & USA, where individuals can also benefit from the opportunity to enter global clinical trials for new diagnostic biomarkers and emerging medications.

The focus that Dr MacSweeney and her team of Brain and Mind Experts are deploying on Alzheimer's Disease (now a global pandemic) and CTE (the most feared risk for contact sports) is having a profound difference in two of the most unacceptable medical conditions of the decade.

Dr MacSweeney was invited to speak on CTE in a TEDx Talk "CTE: The Silent Killer in Contact Sports" which has already received over 1.5M views: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXn-okL2rfsto>

Re:Cognition Health's world-leading clinics, provide access to new generation treatments for a variety of neurological conditions. Through the company's delivery of international clinical trials, Dr MacSweeney has demonstrated her commitment to changing the future of brain and mind health, by helping to find a cure for a variety of diseases.

Through Re:Cognition Health's clinics, Dr MacSweeney has supported the running of TauRx clinical trials for many years.

Dr MacSweeney and Re:Cognition Health's expertise has been recognised with over 30 prestigious and international accolades including:

- Leaders in Law, Global Awards Winner, Dr Emer MacSweeney, Re:Cognition Health
- Global Awards 2x Multi award winner 2022-2023 Mental Health Service of the Year Re:Cognition Health
- Global 100 2023 Best Health Research Company of the Year UK 2023
- Personal Injury Awards, Medicolegal Provider of the Year 2022
- EY Entrepreneur of the Year Winner- Societal Impact 2019 (London and South England)
- Growing Business Awards- Positive Impact Winner 2019
- KPMG Entrepreneur of the Year Winner 2016

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Dr Steven Alder

Consultant Neurologist and Clinical Director for Neurological Services at Re:Cognition Health

Dr Alder is a Consultant Neurologist. He offers both clinical and medicolegal neurological services. He is also the local Primary Investigator on several global Phase 3 studies relating to Parkinson's Disease and Clinical Director for neurological services at Re:Cognition Health.

Dr Alder's main clinical focus is traumatic brain injury (TBI), and functional neurological disorders (FND). With respect to TBI, Dr Alder provides a clinical and medicolegal services for the assessment of patients with TBI across the whole spectrum of injury severity i.e moderate - severe to mild; and across diverse aetiologies of TBI i.e. civilian, sport's and military.

Recognition Health, under Dr Alder's clinical leadership, are completing a 4 years collaboration with the Aston Brain Centre looking at the clinical utility of Magnetoencephalography (MEG) in TBI, especially mTBI where MRI including DTI is normal. This has been a successful collaboration which will lead to the development of several improved diagnostic tools for mild TBI. The collaboration has also led to further projects across a wide spectrum of TBI aetiologies, engaging new partnerships with Nottingham University, Toronto Sick kids, and several commercial organisations.

Since 2020, Dr Alder and Recognition Health have developed a new primary academic collaboration with King's College Hospital. This joint work is exploring two complementary areas. Firstly, the utility of more sophisticated MRI sequences to further enhance diagnostic and pathophysiological insights into mild TBI, especially sports related TBI. Secondly, we are exploring how deployment of state-of-the-art neuro-computational techniques can reveal the mechanisms underlying how structural injury from TBI creates the clinical profiles seen in these conditions. It is hoped this will lead to improved treatment strategies.

With respect to Functional Neurological Disorder Dr Alder has long standing interest and is a founding member of the FND Society. Dr Alder offers a clinical and medicolegal service for the assessment of patients with suspected FND. Dr Alder has a long-standing collaboration with Dr Leo Russell and Prof Allan Abbass, who are leading practitioners and researchers in a treatment modality for FND termed Intensive short-term dynamic psychotherapy (ISTDP). ISTDP is modality with a strong neuroscience rationale and empirical evidence base supporting its effectiveness. Dr Russell has recently joined Recognition Health and is working with Dr Alder to enhance our clinical offering for this patient group and extend research into the mechanisms by which this treatment modality creates improvements for patients.

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Dr Julius Bourke MBBS MRCPsych MD(Res)

*Hon. Senior Lecturer Neurophysiology and Clinical Psychiatry,
(QM University of London) & Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Re:Cognition Health*

Dr Julius Bourke is a consultant neuropsychiatrist and liaison psychiatrist and has a special interest in the assessment and management of neuropsychiatric disorders such as Parkinson's disease, brain injury and "concussion", and the treatment of depression, anxiety, PTSD, OCD and stress-related conditions, particularly those that appear treatment-resistant. He is an expert in the diagnosis and management of functional somatic and functional neurological disorders, including chronic fatigue and chronic pain syndromes, which lie at the interface between general medicine, surgery, neurology and psychiatry. He has frequently instructed in the provision of expert medico-legal opinions on psychiatric disorders, head injury and mTBI. Dr Bourke is an Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer in Neurophysiology and Clinical Psychiatry at Queen Mary University London. His specialist research interests are in the neurophysiology of chronic pain, somatic syndromes and stress-related disorders, for which he has been awarded a post-graduate doctoral degree in medicine by the University of London. He has given numerous talks and presentations on both a national and an international basis and has been widely published on an array of field-related topics. He has co-authored a textbook on psychiatry and has contributed chapters to numerous others, including world-leading textbooks on internal medicine and vestibular disorders, in addition to others on chronic pain, fatigue and neuropsychiatric disorders.

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Biographies



Dr Niruj Agrawal

Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, St George's Hospital, London

Niruj Agrawal is a Consultant Neuropsychiatrist at Atkinson Morley Regional Neurosciences Centre, St George's Hospital, London and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at St George's University of London. He was the lead clinician for the Regional Neuropsychiatry service for 18 years. He has particular interest in the neuropsychiatric consequences of traumatic brain injuries, neuropsychiatric disorders associated with neurological illnesses and functional neurological disorders.

He is a fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (FRCPsych) and is ex vice chair of the Faculty of Neuropsychiatry (FoN) at the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He is a member of the Examinations Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists involved in setting and monitoring of theory and clinical postgraduate exams in Psychiatry (MRCPsych) in the UK. He is on the executive committee of the FoN and is the lead for International Engagement. He is the Secretary General of the International Neuropsychiatry Association.

His research interests include depression in neurological disorders, neuropsychiatric conditions in neurological settings, brain injury, functional neurological disorders and neuropsychiatric service provision. He has published over 90 international peer reviewed papers and book chapters.

He is on the editorial boards of BJpsych Open and BJPsych Bulletin. He is the lead co-editor the Oxford Textbook of Neuropsychiatry. He is currently co-editing Cambridge Handbook of Neurosciences for Psychiatrists and the new Oxford Textbook of TBI.

He regularly works as a court appointed neuropsychiatry medico-legal expert in civil cases in the areas of personal injury and medical negligence. He receives instructions from the claimant and defendants.



Gary Green

Director, Innovision-IP Ltd; Emeritus Professor, University of York

Gary Green is currently a Director of Innovision-IP Ltd. He was the founding Director of the York Neuroimaging Centre, the York Diagnostic Imaging Centre and Co-Director of the Centre for Hyperpolarisation in MRI. He is now an emeritus Professor of the University of York. He holds the degrees of MA DPhil BM BCh from the University of Oxford.

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Theo Huckle KC

**Barrister, Benchers of Lincoln's Inn, VProf KCL Dickson Poon School of Law,
Counsel General for Wales 2011-16**

For many years Theo has been at the forefront of developments in the law of complex and technical medico-legal claims. Appointed QC (now KC) in 2011, Theo specialises in complex injury cases. For further details of his background and practice see theohucklekc.com.

Theo acted for celebrated Canadian-Haitian conceptual artist Mr Mathieu in the leading case of *Mathieu v Aviva*, concerning the issue of the causative link between TBI and subsequent onset of dementia. He is currently acting for the psychiatrically injured police officer claimants in the Grenfell Tower Litigation.

He has appeared 5 times in the Supreme Court (4 as a leader, including leading 2 current Justices of the Court of Appeal). He led on quantum issues in the Hip Prosthesis group litigation, and advising on appeals to challenge current orthodoxy in cases as different as *Williams v Birmingham University* (asbestos low exposure liability), *Lowe v Guise* (care claims in respect of care of claimant's disabled partner), and *Chell v Tarmac* (vicarious liability for 'horseplay' in the workplace). In 2018-19 he successfully obtained, and then defended the appeal by the Royal Opera House against, the judge's award for serious noise injury to Christopher Goldscheider, former world class viola player: *ROH v Goldscheider* (2019).

Theo served as general editor of the Butterworths' Personal Injury Litigation Service 2015-20, updating and refocusing the work to make it accessible and comprehensive, and most of all practical, in a fast-changing environment for legal practitioners. He understands very well the business aspects of injury litigation, and was invited by Jackson LJ to speak at one of the fixed costs consultation seminars ahead of the major costs review in 2012, and to represent the Bar Council at the NIHL costs fixing mediation meetings. He is a visiting professor of Law at King's College, London, former head of the Clin Neg, PI & Product Liability team at Doughty Street Chambers and executive member of the Personal Injury Bar Association.

From 2015 Theo was heavily involved in a series of severe disability claims against the MOD for service personnel who contracted Q Fever as a result of exposure to *Coxiella burnetii* whilst serving in Afghanistan in the period 2010-14, and who suffered the well-recognised sequelum of severe CFS. The cases gave rise to interesting decisions on disclosure, PII, transfer and application of the UK regulatory obligations and risk assessment duties of employer: *Eaglesham v MOD* [2016] EWHC 3011 (QB); *Bass & Taylor v MOD* [2018] EWHC 1297 (QB).

Despite his sustained criticisms of the technical aspects of the Wales NHS Redress Scheme introduced in 2011, Theo was that same year and just after taking silk, invited by the First Minister to become a member of the Welsh Government, serving as Counsel General for Wales, its Law Officer, during 2011-6. After leaving that role he joined the Boards of Justice (2016-22, now Council Member), Welsh Rowing (Chairman 2019-23) and Advocate (the Bar's ProBono charity, 2016-).

Theo has particular knowledge of complex quantum issues, dating back to the first of his many Court of Appeal cases in *Herring v MOD* (2003) (loss of chance of a potential career as a police officer) and having written Butterworths' 2007 introductory practice manual on periodical payments: "Future Loss in Practice: Lump Sums and Periodical Payments". He prefers to work without paper in and out of court, and has pioneered effective systems for digital and automated working as an advocate.

His hobbies include Iyengar yoga; sculling; walking; singing, playing and listening to music of (nearly) all kinds; delivering/collecting his children to/from their various social events and - despite his own techy inclinations - persuading them not to read solely from electronic screens.

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Changing the goalposts for brain injury detection

Re:Cognition Health, UK's leading provider of neuro-imaging for detecting and diagnosing brain injury, is changing the goalposts for PTSD, mTBI and CTE through advanced neuroimaging, other CNS biomarkers and expert clinical evaluation.