Keynote speakers



Bernet Elzinga

Bernet Elzinga is Professor at the section Clinical Psychology at Leiden University and the Leiden Institute of Brain and Cognition (LIBC), the Netherlands. Her major areas of research have focused on the impact of (early life) stress and trauma on the brain, neuroendocrinology, and cognitive/emotional functioning in patients with various stress-related disorders. For her research, she received various grants (i.e., VENI, VIDI and VICI). Besides her research activities, she is trained as psychotherapist in Cognitive Behavior Therapy and is advisor for the Landelijke Expertisecentrum Bijzondere Zedenzaken. In 2007, she was elected as a member of 'De Jonge Academie' (DJA) of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences (KNAW).



Christine Heim

Prof. Heim uses a multidisciplinary psychobiological approach to study the neurobiological consequences of childhood trauma and their relationship to depression, anxiety and functional somatic disorders. Her results were among the first evidence in humans to suggest that early life trauma is associated with lifelong neurobiological "scars" that increase the risk for developing a range of disorders in adulthood. Prof. Heim is the recipient of more than 10 honors and awards, including the Chaim Danieli Young Professional Award for outstanding contributions to traumatic stress studies and the prestigious Curt P. Richter Award for outstanding contributions to psychoneuroendocrinology. She is also the recipient of a NIMH Career Development Award. In 2008 Prof. Heim was elected into the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. She serves on multiple international review committees regarding the evaluation of work on early-life trauma.



Mark Jordans

Prof. Dr. Mark Jordans is child psychologist and works as Director of Research & Development for the NGO War Child in the Netherlands. He is professor in Child and Adolescent Global Mental Health at the University of Amsterdam, and Reader, Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Humanitarian Settings, at the Center for Global Mental Health, King's College London. His work focuses on the development, implementation and evaluation of psychosocial and mental health care systems in low and middle income countries, especially for children in adversities and in fragile states. Mark Jordans is the founder and Senior Technical Advisor of TPO Nepal.

Gerhard Andersson

Professor Gerhard Andersson is full professor of Clinical Psychology at Linköping University (appointed 2003), in the Department of Behavioural Sciences and Learning. He also has a position as affiliated researcher at Karolinska Institutet in the Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Psychiatry, where he is linked to the Centre for Psychiatry Research (Competence Centre for Psychotherapy Research). Dr Andersson is trained as a CBT therapist and has a license and graduate diploma as a psychotherapist (2005). He has also completed teaching and supervision training in cognitive and behavioural psychotherapy (2016). Andersson has a parttime position as clinical psychologist at the Department of Audiology, Linköping University Hospital, as a member of the Tinnitus team. One of his main research interests involve the application of the internet and modern information technology in psychological research, in particular guided psychological treatment via the internet.

