Curriculum vitae

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Andreina Giustiniani

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CURRENT POSITION

14/10/2019–Present

Clinical trial

Fondazione Istituto G. Giglio di Cefalù, Cefalù (Italy)

Administration of a two-week cognitive training in stroke patients. The training includes prismatic adaptation procedure and cognitive tasks, implemented in a tablet ("serious games").

01/01/2018–31/12/2019

Postdoc fellow

NEUROFARBA Department - Airalzh, associazione italiana ricerca Alzheimer onlus, University of Florence, Florence (Italy)

Main research topics:

- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) and Transcranial Alternating Current Stimulation (tACS) to treat cognitive deficits in patients with Alzheimer Disease (AD);

- Perceived stress levels in AD caregivers.

The project focuses on entraining specific brain oscillations (i.e., gamma frequency band) to recover memory impairment in patients with AD. Changes of patients' cognitive functioning and caregivers' perceived stress levels are assessed and monitored throughout the whole treatment period. In particular, two studies are conducted:

1) rTMS- based treatment to improve recognition memory in AD patients;

2) A single tACS session to enhance gamma oscillations and improve episodic memory in AD patients.

EDUCATION

01/01/2015–31/12/2017

Doctoral degree

Ph.D. in Scienze economiche, statistiche, psicologiche e sociali (Curriculum Neuropsychology), University of Palermo, Palermo (Italy)

Thesis: "Brain oscillations: discovering their role in memory using transcranial alternating current stimulation". Supervisor prof. M. Oliveri.

The thesis aimed at investigating the effects of modulating brain rhythms to improve memory in healthy subjects.

01/09/2012–10/10/2014

Master's degree

Master's degree in Clinical Psychology (Curriculum Neuropsychology), University of Palermo, Palermo (Italy)

Thesis: "Dal mild cognitive impairment alla demenza: uno studio sul valore predittivo del Free and Cues Selective Remanding Test (FCSRT)". Supervisor prof. M. Oliveri.

The thesis aimed at investigating the relationship between early memory impairment as tested with the FCSRT and the progression of symptoms in a sample of 13 AD patients.

110/110 cum laude

AG

01/09/2007–01/03/2011

Bachelor's degree

Bachelor's degree in Scienze e tecniche psicologiche della personalità e delle relazioni d'aiuto, University of Palermo, Palermo (Italy)

110/110 cum laude

01/09/2001–06/06/2006

Graduation

Liceo classico Vittorio Emanuele II, Palermo (Italy)

Classical studies

80/100

03/2017

Professional qualification

University of Palermo, Palermo (Italy)

Public graduation as Clinical Psychologist.

TRAINING

01/12/2013–01/12/2014

Traineeship

Azienda Ospedaliera "Ospedali riuniti Villa Sofia Cervello", Palermo (Italy)

Assistance to neuropsychological assessment of patients with dementia or stroke and monitoring during pharmacological therapies. Expertise in

- Neuropsychological assessment by means of multiple tests;
- Dementia screening and early diagnosis of dementia;
- Monitoring of dementia symptoms;
- Research on memory tests.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

05/08/2018–08/08/2018

Analyzing neural time series data

Summer school held by M.X. Cohen, Nijmegen (Netherlands)

02/10/2017–10/10/2017

Analisi del Segnale EEG e Ricostruzione delle Sorgenti Tramite il Software Brainstorm

Held by Giorgio Arcara, Padova (Italy)

Corso Avanzato per la Ricerca Scientifica (CARS).

28/08/2017–01/09/2017

Neuroimaging tool kit

Summer school, Nijmegen (Netherlands)

Main topics: EEG; fMRI; MEG; tDCS; TMS for clinical and research applications.

14/08/2017–18/08/2017

The role of neural oscillations in human cognition

Summer school, Göttingen (Germany)

Brain oscillations in healthy subjects and patients.

05/06/2017–09/06/2017 **EGI system toolkit for research application**

Course, Göttingen (Germany)

Application of EEG and EGI system in healthy subjects, children and patients.

20/02/2017–22/02/2017 **Transcranial magnetic and electric stimulation: methodological course**

Course, Göttingen (Germany)

Transcranial magnetic (TMS) and electric stimulations (tES) clinical and research application

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

01/01/2017–01/10/2017 **PhD visiting student**

George August University, Department of Neurophysiology, Göttingen (Germany)

Clinical neurophysiology.

Research in Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation Techniques (NIBS) and Electroencephalography (EEG).

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Italian

Foreign language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	B1	B1	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Digital skills: Self-assessment

Proficient User

Microsoft office; E-prime; Psychopy

Independent user

BrainVision; PsyScope; SPSS; Statistica

Basic user

Matlab; Python; EEGLAB; EGI system, Fieldtrip; Simnibs

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conferences: Alzheimer fest.

Levico Terme, 12-14 Sep 2018.

Data presentation about experimental studies conducted on AD patients

Conferences: Annual Meeting "International organization of psychophysiology" (IOP).

Lucca, 04-08 Sep 2018.

Poster presentation: "Alpha-tACS effects in working memory performance depend on both the number of relevant and not relevant items".

Conferences

Annual meeting: "Società italiana di Neuropsicologia" (SINP).

Palermo, 24-25 Nov 2017.

Poster presentation: "Starting from the end: investigating the role of the occipital cortex in visuospatial working memory using tACS".

Conferences

Annual meeting "donne in neuroscienze"

Palermo, 24-26 Sep 2015

Talk: "Deficit cognitivi e IADL: principali differenze di genere nella demenza"

List of publications

Giustiniani A , Tarantino V., Bonaventura R.E., Smirni D., Turriziani P., Oliveri M. Effects of low-gamma tACS on primary motor cortex in implicit motor learning. Behav Brain Res (2019), 376:112170. doi: 10.1016/j.bbr.2019.112170.

Turriziani P., Smirni D., Mangano GR., Zappalà G., Giustiniani A., Cipolotti L., Oliveri M. Low-Frequency Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation of the Right Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex Enhances Recognition Memory in Alzheimer's Disease (2019). Doi: 10.3233/JAD-190888.

Bonaventura RE., Giustino V., Chiaramonte G., Giustiniani A., Smirni D., Battaglia G., Messina G., Oliveri M. Investigating Prismatic adaptation effects in handgrip strength and in plantar pressure in healthy subjects (2019). *Under review on Gait and Posture.*

13/01/2020

Andrea Giustiniani