

IPA2025@Kanazawa, 24th September

Educational program of “Young-onset Dementias”

Target audience

Early-career physicians and medical staff working in the field of dementia

Objective of the educational program

This program aims to provide basic knowledge and practical strategies for the management and care of individuals with rare dementias, particularly posterior cortical atrophy (PCA) and frontotemporal dementia (FTD). These neurodegenerative conditions are characterized by prominent impairments in visuospatial functions, language, and behavior, rather than memory deficits, which are more typical of Alzheimer’s disease (AD). As most patients with PCA and FTD are young-onset, conventional dementia support systems are often insufficient. There is thus a critical need for individualized, symptom-focused support systems that address the unique challenges faced by these patients and their families.

Program goals

1. To acquire basic understanding of the clinical presentations and neuroimaging profiles of PCA and FTD
2. To learn practical approaches to the management of and care for patients with PCA and FTD, as well as their families, in real-world settings

Course details

Format: In-person, paid course

Duration: Approximately 4 hours (including discussion)

Organizers: Maki Suzuki (The University of Osaka, Japan) and Sebastian Crutch (University College London, UK)

Number of participants: Approximately 50

Session Structure: Interactive feedback and evaluation will be collected throughout the sessions to explore changes in audience knowledge and attitudes, and gather ideas regarding the development of dementia support services

Lectures

1. Posterior cortical atrophy (PCA)
 - 1) Clinical Introduction: Sebastian Crutch (University College London, UK)
 - 2) Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies: Maki Suzuki (The University of Osaka, Japan)
 - Clinical Introduction: 40 minutes lecture+10 minutes Q&A
 - Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies: 30 minutes lecture+10 minutes Q&A
2. Frontotemporal dementia (FTD)
 - 1) Clinical Introduction: Manabu Ikeda (The University of Osaka, Japan)
 - 2) Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies: Eneida Mioshi (University of East Anglia, UK)
 - Clinical Introduction: 40 minutes lecture+10 minutes Q&A
 - Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies: 30 minutes lecture+10 minutes Q&A
3. Patient and family support systems
 - 1) Nikki Zimmermann (Rare Dementia Support, UK)
 - Introduce 2 representative cases and discuss the cases with all speakers involved
 - 30 minutes lecture+10 minutes Q&A

Speakers (in presentation order)

Title: 'Clinical Introduction to Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA)'

Professor Sebastian Crutch

Professor of Neuropsychology, Dementia Research Centre, University College London, UK



Seb Crutch is a Professor of Neuropsychology and clinical psychologist at UCL, and has been the clinical lead for RDS since its inception in 2016, leading the expansion from large support groups to more intimate small group and one-to-one services. Like his clinical and support work practice, much of Seb's research – especially into visual forms of dementia – has been inspired by the voices of those living with these conditions, including the Created Out of Mind dementia, science and arts residency he directed at Wellcome Collection, and the current five-year ESRC-NIHR-funded research programme evaluating the impact of support groups that bring together peer and professional experience.

Title: 'Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies for Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA)'

Dr. Maki Suzuki

Associate professor of Department of Behavioral Neurology and Neuropsychiatry, The University of Osaka United Graduate School of Child Development, Japan

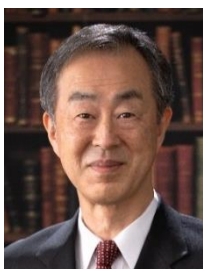


Maki Suzuki is an Associate Professor of Department of Behavioral Neurology and Neuropsychiatry and a neuropsychologist at the University of Osaka. She serves as a councilor of the Neuropsychology Association of Japan and the Japanese Society of Geriatric Psychiatry. Her research employs neuropsychological assessments and neuroimaging techniques to investigate the cognitive underpinnings of human behavior in both healthy adults and individuals with neurodegenerative diseases, with a particular focus on posterior cortical atrophy and frontotemporal dementia.

Title: 'Clinical Introduction to Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)'

Professor Manabu Ikeda

Professor of Department of Psychiatry, The University of Osaka Graduate School of Medicine, Japan



Manabu Ikeda is a Chairman and Professor of Department of Psychiatry at the University of Osaka. He serves on the boards of numerous academic societies, including the Neuropsychology Association of Japan, the Japanese Society of Dementia Research, the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology, the Asian Society Against Dementia, and the International Psychogeriatric Association. With a background in neuropsychiatry, neuropsychology, and old age psychiatry, his research encompasses a broad range of topics within clinical neuropsychiatry.

Title: 'Care Approaches and Environmental Strategies for Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)'

Professor Eneida Mioshi

Professor of Dementia Care Research, University of East Anglia, UK



Eneida Mioshi is a Professor of Dementia Care Research at the School of Health Sciences, UEA. Eneida's research programme investigates the impact of behavioural and cognitive changes in daily life and care management for those affected by frontotemporal dementia, motor neuron disease, or both. She focuses on the development of clinical assessments and non-pharmacological interventions to support families affected by FTD and MND. Eneida is also passionate about supporting the development of health and care professionals in using evidence-based tools in their clinical practice, and developing their own clinical research careers.

Title: 'Support Systems for Patients and Families Living with Rare Dementias'

Nikki Zimmermann

Head of Support Services, Rare Dementia Support, UK



Nikki Zimmermann is the Head of Support Services for RDS and manages the direct support team of support workers and advisers. With over ten years' experience working in cognitive neurology clinics and memory services, Nikki is an expert in service development and delivery within a variety of health and social care and community settings. Nikki specializes in pre-diagnosis navigation and post-diagnostic support, and is passionate about the role the new centre can play in enhancing the knowledge and understanding of health and social care professionals to enable them to better support people living with rare dementia and their families.