

Promoting the health and growth of human beings through the support of quality research, evidence-based practice and compassionate, well-informed clinicians.

Two \$25,000 Research Grants Awarded!

We are delighted to announce that two \$25,000 research grants have been awarded by the EMDR Research Foundation. It is through the generosity of you, our donors, that these awards are made possible. These grants provide for the advancement of knowledge regarding the efficacy of EMDR Therapy and its applications.

We are continuing to receive numerous applications for grants and hope that both the numbers of applications and our ability to fund quality research continue to increase.

The Winners in this Grant Cycle are:

Marco Pagani, MD PhD

Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, CNR Rome & Padua, Italy Project title: *Neurobiological features and response to EMDR treatment of PTSD in breast cancer patients*

Abstract:

Stress and or trauma-related symptoms among cancer patients have been recently investigated and associated to disease diagnosis and to the the potential life-threatening situation. Assuming that brain regions involved in PTSD in cancer patients are the same showing changes in different psychological traumas, is possible to deduce that therapies effective to treat PTSD in populations would do the same in cancer-related psychological treatment. To date no neuroimaging studies have evaluate the neurobiological effect of successful psychotherapeutic treatment for post-traumatic symptoms in cancer patients. The aim of the present study is: i) to treat by EMDR a cohort of breast cancer patients with PTSD; ii) to identify by Electroencephalography (EEG) the regions activated upon bilateral stimulation in both the initial symptomatic and the final asymptomatic phases; iii) to correlate the neurophysiological changes to the neuropsychological and clinical status.

Dr. Luca Ostacoli and Dr. Arne Hofmann

St. Luigi Hospital, Turin, Italy Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences, University of Turin Facharzt für Psychosomatische und Innere Medizin, EMDR Institut Deutschland Project Title: Role of Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) versus Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) in reducing depressive symptoms in patients with Current Depressive Episode and Recurrent Depression: A multicenter randomized controlled clinical trial.

Abstract:

The current multicenter randomized study is organized from the EDEN network (European Depression EMDR Network) of EMDR Europe. The aim is to study if patients with current Depressive Episode and Recurrent Depressive Disorders benefit from a psychotherapeutic intervention (by using CBT or EMDR) in addition to standard clinical management. The study started in 2010 (randomization started at 1.1.2012). Two controlled pilot studies were done earlier in Germany from 2018-2012 in an outpatient and inpatient setting to check the effectiveness of adjunctive EMDR in depressive patients. Both studies yielded promising results. The first study is published by the JEMDR this august. The second is submitted to another peer reviewed journal. Both studies had no external funding and were done with volunteer work alone. The current study involves three Centers in three European Countries (Italy, Spain, Germany). Each Center randomizes patients with Current Depressive Episode and Recurrent Depressive Disorder in two treatment conditions (TAU+EMDR, or TAU+CBT). The data from all centers are collected in a web- database and will be analyzed by the Psychosomatic and Clinical Psychology Service, A.O.U. "San Luigi Gonzaga Hospital" (Italy) at the end of the intervention and at the follow-up phases (6 months, 1 year, 2 years), as described with more details in the "research design and methods" section. The centers of this study are financially independent and do most of the study on a volunteer basis like the pilot studies did. The minimum number of patients recruited by each center should be 30 patients. For the two University based centers we plan for 60 patients (Turin, Italy and Ulm, Germany). The structure of the study is such that it can succeed even if one or two centers cant fulfill their numbers of patients randomized. However, the volunteer structure that has worked well in our pilot studies slows down patient intake in our multicenter trial. That is why the time for intake of the study was recently extended to June 2015. The number of patients needed for a good consistency of the study would be 120.

Plus: One \$1,000 Research Consultation Grant has been awarded to:

April Wise, MFT LPCC

California Southern University

Project Title: The Effect of Two Protocols of Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing on Persons with Co-occurring PTSD and Addictive disorders.

Abstract: The incidence of co-occurring trauma and addictive disorders in the population is known to be high. This combination also presents treatment challenges; which symptoms to treat first and how to stabilize an individual to safely address PTSD and promote on-going sobriety. The EMDR Therapy standard protocol has now been used successfully for the treatment of trauma. Several EMDR addiction-specific protocols; DeTur (Popky, 2005), CravEx (Hase, 2009), FSAP (Miller, 2012) have been utilized for the reduction of substance abuse and behavioral addictive symptoms. The purpose of this study is to acquire new knowledge of how the use of the standard protocol and an

addiction protocol in treatment of persons with co-occurring disorders of trauma and addiction affects recovery. The research implements a qualitative methodology to investigate lived experiences of participants who experienced EMDR in treatment, either in private practice settings or as part of a treatment program. It is anticipated that the perspectives gained from participants' experiences will better allow clinicians to more skillfully and safely conduct case conceptualization in the integrated use of standard and addiction-specialized protocols in treatment.

REMINDER:

Research Grant Applications for our next cycle are due July 1, 2015. Consultation and Research Dissemination awards are available throughout the year.

It is your contributions that have made these awards possible; with your help we can continue the momentum and fund more research on EMDR therapy.

Consider becoming a <u>Visionary Alliance</u> member and demonstrate your support on a monthly basis or <u>Donate</u> now to the <u>EMDR Research Foundation</u> and be part of the future of EMDR Therapy.

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