Recordings from 23rd April 2021 conference are now available to purchase

Each presentation/recording £10 (4 for £30)

If you would like to purchase any of these recordings please email Irene O’Neill – irene.oneill@glasgow.ac.uk (0141 201 9239)

KEYNOTE - Professor Thomas Bourgeron, Centre for Translational Science, Human Genetics and Cognitive Functions, Institut Pasteur, France. One of world’s most prominent geneticists, talented at explaining genetics to non-geneticists.
Presentation - The Genetics of Autism and ESSENCE from Risk to Resilience

Professor Christopher Gillberg, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist University of Glasgow/Gothenburg, and Professor Helen Minnis, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, University of Glasgow. Talk about their latest research at the interface of genetics and environment
Interview – Nature and Nurture in Child Mental Health

Dr Clare Allely, Reader in Forensic Psychology, University of Salford, Manchester. Talks about her fascinating work on the way Autism can create challenges in the criminal justice system
Presentation - Autism and the Criminal Justice System

Dr Helen Rodwell and Dr Katie Hunt, Consultant Clinical Psychologists, Jigsaw Psychology Ltd, Derby. Authors of “An Introduction to Autism for Adoptive Families”, talk about how neurodevelopmental problems and early trauma can interact in clinical work and family life - and discuss examples of how nature and nurture interact in the real world.
Presentation - Neurodevelopment and Trauma with Practical Tips for Parents and Clinicians

Not available as yet

YOUNG PEOPLE’S DEBATE. This highlights the stresses of parenting a neurodiverse child in a unique and provocative manner. A panel of young people, trained in debating, will discuss the thorny topic of nature versus nurture.
Led by Geraldine Mynors, on behalf of Debating Mental Health - https://www.debating-mh.co.uk/
**Professor Thomas Bourgeron**, Centre for Translational Science, Human Genetics and Cognitive Functions, Institut Pasteur, France. The genetic architecture of autism is complex made of a combination of common and rare variants. Our previous studies pointed at one biological pathway associated with autism related to the synapse. Among the causative genes, synaptic cell adhesion molecules (neuroligins and neurexins) and scaffolding proteins (SHANK) are crucial for synapse formation/maintenance as well as correct balance between inhibitory and excitatory synaptic currents. These findings significantly advanced our knowledge on the possible causes of autism. However, they also contributed to the emergence of a simplistic conception of autism as a binary trait: mutated vs. non-mutated or affected vs. non-affected. This simplification neglects the large phenotypic heterogeneity of autism, whose genetic architecture – like most complex diseases – cannot be reduced to a single gene. In this presentation, I will discuss the importance to adopt the concept of ESSENCE (Early Symptomatic Syndromes Eliciting Neurodevelopmental Clinical Examinations) if we want to understand how genetic variations contribute to specific phenotypes. I will present our recent results coming from human studies in large populations and genetic isolates as well as mouse studies that shed new light on the inheritance of autism and some of the underlying mechanisms. Finally, I will illustrate how we are currently studying Resilience to understand why some carriers of deleterious mutations seem to be protected (The Resilients) while others are severely affected.

**Professor Christopher Gillberg**, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, since the mid-1980s. Since 2010 he has been Head of the Gillberg Neuropsychiatry Centre. He is also a Chief Physician at the Sahlgrenska University Hospital and one of the world’s most experienced, clinically active, child and adolescent psychiatrists, with 45 years of extensive clinical work in treatment of patients and families with complex psychiatric/neurodevelopmental problems.

**Professor Helen Minnis**, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (Mental Health and Wellbeing), University of Glasgow. Helen’s research focus has been on the mental health problems associated with child abuse and neglect including Attachment Disorder: clinical aspects, assessment tools and behavioural genetics. She is now conducting intervention research for maltreated children, including a randomised controlled trial of an infant mental health service for young children in foster care. In 2020, she is launching the first randomised controlled trial of DDP.

Together, Helen and Chris will discuss how ESSENCE and trauma interact.
**Dr Clare Allely**, Reader in Forensic Psychology at the University of Salford in Manchester, England and is an affiliate member of the Gillberg Neuropsychiatry Centre at Gothenburg University, Sweden. Clare is an Honorary Research Fellow in the College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences affiliated to the Institute of Health and Wellbeing at the University of Glasgow. She is also an Associate of the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice (CYCJ) at the University of Strathclyde. Clare also works as an expert witness on criminal cases involving defendants with autism spectrum disorder and she is co-Founder of the ‘Autism and the Criminal Justice System’ (ACJS) centre for excellent at the University of Salford.

**Geraldine Mynors**, Affiliate Researcher in the Academic CAMHS Team, Glasgow University and Co-Founder of the Scottish ADHD Coalition. Geraldine has had a long career in health service general management and consultancy, working on quality improvement and patient involvement in the NHS. As a result of her own family experience, she has been a keen advocate for parents of children with neurodevelopment conditions over the past 15 years, and established ADHD Parent Support West Glasgow, an organisation which now supports around 260 families and delivers training across the city. As part of a Glasgow Masters in Public Health, she investigated the wide disparities in ADHD prescribing between Scottish Health Boards and the link between deprivation, neurodiversity and access to treatment.

**Dr Helen Rodwell**, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Certified Theraplay Practitioner, Trainer & Supervisor and Certified DDP Practitioner who works in independent practice in Derby, England. Previously worked within secure settings, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and a specialist multidisciplinary NHS mental health service for looked after and adopted children.


**Dr Katie Hunt**, Clinical Psychologist and Paediatric Clinical Neuropsychologist working in private practice, specialising in work with children with special needs and neurodevelopmental difficulties. Currently chair of the Division of Clinical Psychology’s Faculty for Children, Young people and their Families (British Psychological Society).

Co-author (with Helen Rodwell) of An Introduction to Autism for Adoptive and Foster Families; and co-author with Julia Faulconbridge and Amanda Laffan of Improving the Psychological Wellbeing of Children and Young People: Effective prevention and early intervention across health, education and social care. Both published by JKP.