

The University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology

Departmental Seminar

*The case for neuropsychological profiling –
A cognitive screen for stroke patients*

Date: January 14, 2013 (Monday)
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Venue: Room 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus,
HKU
Speaker: Professor M. Jane Riddoch
Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford University,
Oxford, UK

In general screens of the acute stroke population (even up to 3 months post stroke), cognitive deficits have been documented in at least 50% of the patients. There is evidence that neuropsychological factors are more important determinants of functional outcomes after stroke than physical disability. Commonly used screening tests tend to be language-laden, and are not designed for stroke patients (with high prevalence of aphasia, neglect). Typically there is no assessment of limb praxis. I will present results from recent attempts in our lab to develop clinically-applicable cognitive screens that are designed to maximise data collection from stroke patients and can be used to predict outcome. The screens provide measures of attentional and executive deficits and their co-occurrence with other impairments, highlighting the importance of measuring the cognitive profile of patients. The screens can also be used scientifically (allowing the extraction of incidental deficits, lesion analyses etc.), with scientific analyses also benefitting from cognitive profiling. Examples will be presented in several domains of cognition.