

School of Health Sciences Seminar

9 November, 1-2pm, Queens Building 01.09 (NEAT)

Dr Holly Robson

Lecturer in Clinical Language Sciences

Stroke Association Senior Research Training Fellow, University of Reading

“Language comprehension impairments after stroke: Why they occur, why they recover and can we do anything about them?”

Seminar Presentation

A reduced capacity to comprehend language is a common consequence of a stroke. Though acquired comprehension impairments are “hidden” disorders, they have severe implications for daily functioning, making everyday interactions difficult and cutting the individual off from their loved ones. As such, acquired comprehension impairments are associated with social isolation and poor mental health.

Holly’s research programme investigates the neuropsychological and neurobiological nature of acquired comprehension impairments in the chronic stage of stroke and during natural recovery. Her team uses a combination of neuroimaging (EEG, fMRI), neuropsychology and psychoacoustics to provide convergent evidence for the causes of acquired comprehension impairments.

This talk will review recent research exploring the relationship between auditory, phonological and semantic processing and language comprehension impairments and evaluate existing, developing and potential therapeutic approaches for this disorder.

Brief Biography

Holly Robson is a speech and language therapist and lecturer in Clinical Language Sciences at the University of Reading. She undertook her clinical training at the University of Manchester where she subsequently completed a PhD investigating Wernicke’s aphasia. Holly has basic and translational research interests in acquired communication impairments following neurological injury. She is interested in applying data-driven and multivariate analysis techniques to neuroimaging data in neurological populations to investigate brain-behaviour mechanisms. Her neuropsychological work focuses particularly on the aspects of auditory and phonological processing. Holly’s recent and on-going research investigates the effectiveness and acceptability of home-based, high-dosage computer rehabilitation approaches for various stroke symptoms.

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Free. All welcome. No need to book. If you are attending from outside the University, please check the seminar is taking place. The venue is on the main university campus