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Crossing the Interface to Explore New Possibilities
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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
 univerzitetni klinični center ljubljana
 University Medical Centre Ljubljana

Centre for multiple sclerosis, Department of Neurology and Neurorehabilitation unit, Division of Neurology, UMCL

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Short description of your PhD project and trajectory (max 200 words):

Project 1:

The project consists mainly of 2 RCT's conducted within one study investigating the non-inferiority of blended cognitive behavioural therapy (MS Fit) compared to evidence-based face-to-face CBT for MS-related fatigue, and the efficacy of booster sessions (MS Stay Fit) on the long-term outcome of fatigue compared to receiving no booster sessions. This will be a multicentre study in which 166 severely fatigued MS-patients will be treated in 12 participating rehabilitation centers with either blended or face-to-face CBT and half of each group will receive booster sessions. Analyses of mediating and moderating factors will be done to gain more insight in underlying working mechanisms of these interventions.

Project 2:

Goal of this study is to determine if severely fatigued MS-patients show an attentional bias towards illness-related stimuli, and away from movement-related stimuli, and an interpretative bias towards illness specific information, which might play a role in perpetuating fatigue. We developed a visual probe task, and interpretive bias task based on earlier studies in chronically fatigued patients. We will assess these tasks in fatigued MS-patients and non-fatigued MS-patients as well as in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome and healthy controls. In addition, we assess these tasks in fatigued MS-patients before and after CBT to determine if these biases change during treatment of fatigue, and possibly play a role in relapse after successful treatment of fatigue.

I want to give a (mark with X):

Presentation (8-10 min. presentation + 5-10 min. feedback from expert panel)