

Abstracts:

**Lillian Döllinger/Stephan Hau** (presentation): TRAINING EMOTION RECOGNITION – A FMRI STUDY OF TRAINING PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

How are psychotherapists affected by emotions presented by their patients? In an experimental study training psychotherapists were investigated in the fmri-scanner. Would it be possible to improve their capacity to recognize emotional expressions by a specific training programme and which brain changes could be observed? The presentation focuses on the training method, the stimulus material, brain changes and clinical implications.

**WORKSHOP: VISITING THE LAB: STOCKHOLM BRAIN IMAGING CENTRE (SUBIC)**

The workshop will be divided into two parts: In the first part we will visit SUBIC, Stockholm Brain Imaging Centre, and have a look into the lab with the newest Siemens Prisma 3 Tesla whole-body MRI Scanner. In the second part we will discuss the advantages and limitations of laboratory research for clinicians.

**Tamara Fischmann** (presentation): CHANGES IN DREAMS DURING PSYCHOANALYSIS - PSYCHOANALYTIC AND NEUROBIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Many psychoanalysts consider dreams as a central source of knowledge of the unconscious. The dialog with the neurosciences, devoted to the testing of hypotheses on human behaviour and neurophysiology with objective methods, has added to psychoanalytic conceptualisations on emotion, memory, sleep and dreams, conflict and trauma. To psychoanalysts as well as neuroscientists, the neurological basis of psychic functioning, particularly concerning trauma, is of special interest. Bridging the gap between psychoanalytic and neuroscientific findings especially on trauma is a major challenge, but may be tackled by merging both approaches in one experimental design devoted to the investigation of the neurophysiological changes (fMRI) associated as a result of psychoanalytic treatment. What the findings of such a venture imply will be reported.

**WORKSHOP: CHANGES IN DREAMS AS AN INDICATOR OF THERAPEUTIC SUCCESS - MANIFEST DREAM CONTENTS OF TRAUMATISED PATIENTS IN PSYCHOANALYSES**

Are dreams valid indicators of change in therapies? If so how can they be assessed? How do neuroscientific findings enrich psychoanalytic conceptualisations of dreams, especially of nightmares? These questions will be discussed and worked through by looking at dreams of traumatised patients.

**Mark Solms** (presentation): THE CONSCIOUS ID AND THE UNCONSCIOUS EGO

Recent developments in neuroscience have made it possible to correlate some basic psychoanalytic mechanisms with their neurological substrata. This has provided valuable support for our basic concepts. However, when it came to the correlation of Freud's 'ego' and 'id' concepts with their neurological equivalents, it was revealed that the part of the brain which serves id functions is the fount of consciousness. This suggests that id functions are conscious, which seems absurd – but only at first sight. This paper discusses the implications for psychoanalytic theory if the id is conscious. In particular: if the id is conscious, then what is the unconscious, and where is it located in the brain?

**WORKSHOP ON THE CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSCIOUS ID**

This workshop considers the implications of the conscious id for the 'talking cure'. Simply put, if the id is conscious, then how can we sustain the claim that the aim of psychoanalytic treatment is to render the unconscious conscious? This workshop will suggest that the mechanisms of therapeutic action in psychoanalysis are quite different from what we classically considered them to be. This reconsideration brings greater clarity to our theory of technique, reduces the gap between theory and clinical practice, and integrates psychoanalytic therapy with recent neuroscientific conceptualisations of memory and affect.