**Editorial**

**Welcome to the 14th European Congress of Mental Health in Intellectual Disability**

This year, the 14th EAMHID Congress will occur from 21st to 23rd September 2023 in Helsinki, Finland. 1993). I would like to welcome you on behalf of the association’s current President Brian Barrett and conference organiser Oili Sauna-Aho. The theme of this year’s congress is Best Practices – Better Life. The Congress will contribute to improving mental health in people with an intellectual disability by showcasing evidence-based treatment and highlighting innovation in support of this highly vulnerable group.

This special edition features a series of six papers, abstracts for the conference and a tribute to Professor Anton Došen who was one of the EAMHID founders (JIDR: VOLUME 65 PART 8 pp 689–690 AUGUST 2021) and one of the pioneers of mental health and intellectual disability. The papers featured include *Family-systems interventions for families of people with an intellectual disability or who are autistic: A systematic review*. Family-systems interventions are a way of supporting families of people with an intellectual disability and/or autistic. Still an emerging area of research there is optimism given the reports of positive effects and experiences from the interventions on the family. The next paper *Predictors and moderators of the response of adults with intellectual disabilities and depression to behavioural activation and guided self-help therapies.* This study examines predictors and moderators of outcome of psychological therapies for depression experienced by adults with intellectual disabilities. Although more research is required, this is encouraging that baseline variables may be useful predictors of outcomes of psychological therapies. Following this are two related four articles on the *Brief report comparing the Scale of Emotional Development Short (SED-S*). This brief report compares the Scale of Emotional Development-Short (SED-S) with other Emotional Development scales, and the *Scale of Emotional Development – Short: Reliability and Validity in Adults with Intellectual Disability* which was developed to assess the level of ED and to adapt treatment and care accordingly. The authors suggest from early use that the SED-S is psychometrically sound and can be used to assess the level of ED in adults with ID. The next paper *Hey Google! Intelligent Personal Assistants and Wellbeing in the Context of Disability during COVID-19* examines Intelligent Personal Assistants (IPA), such as Google Home (GH), and examines benefits for individuals with impairments and/or limitations in achieving greater autonomy and wellbeing and how these devices can be used to their full potential in supporting this group. The final paper *Cognitive Dysfunction and Psychopathology: A cohort study of adults with Intellectual Development Disorder (IDD)* examines the association between specific cognitive dysfunctions and specific psychiatric symptoms and syndromes in people with IDD. Early indications in this emerging area suggest a need for further research into understanding how cognitive assessment can best be utilised to support the diagnosis and treatment of psychopathological co-occurrences in persons with IDD.

Despite the Association’s achievements, there is still more that needs to be done, to improve our understanding of mental health in intellectual disability. I would like to thank all EAMHD members and allies for their support. Finally a special thank you to Oili Sauna-Aho, Tea Kairi, the Board of the Association and the Local Organising Committee in Finland for setting up and hosting this the 14th EAMHID Congress.

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