



**FNDS AHP Special Interest Group  
First Meeting – 19 November 2024, 17:00 GMT**

**Committee**

Julie Maggio (PT)  
 Nicola Mault (PT)  
 Glenn Nielsen (PT)  
 Clare Nicholson (OT)  
 Julie MacLean (OT)  
 Jessica Ranford (OT)  
 Jennifer Freeburn (SP/SLT)  
 Lorna Dixon (SP/SLT)

**Rotating Chair:** Glenn Nielsen  
**Rotating Minute Taker:** Clare Nicholson

<b>Date &amp; time:</b>	19.11.2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Zoom	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Introduction of committee members	Current committee introduced. Invitation extended for further committee members.  LD and JF gave apologies.	
2. Who is on the call: Which regions and professions are represented?	Members online introduced themselves: From London, Connecticut Massachusetts, Montreal, Madrid, Prague, Illinois, Chile, Nottingham, Los Angeles, Alberta.  Kelly Anderson - PT  Allison Reid - SLP  Kaitlin Kelly - OT  Rachel Morris – PT  Lori Solo – lecturer /PT  Renee Dagostine – SLP	

	<p>Delphine Belanger – OT</p> <p>Ally Frickman – PT</p> <p>Lucy Fraser – PT</p> <p>Chelsea Richardson – PT</p> <p>Philip Kinsella – CBT</p> <p>Martin Jirasek – PT</p> <p>Marcela Leon – PT</p> <p>Esther – PT</p> <p>Pilar Rada – PT</p> <p>Debbie Mason – SLT</p> <p>Lauren Cosgrove – OT</p> <p>61% PT</p> <p>28% OT</p> <p>9% SALT</p> <p>2% CBT</p>	
<p>3. What is our mission statement / objective / goal? What would you like from these meetings? What standard agenda items would you like to see?</p>	<p>Over time we hope to form a mission statement or goal of the SIG. Ideas for how we should use the SIG included:</p> <p>Share educational resources and strategies to disseminate evidence and best practice for FND treatment.</p> <p>Guest speakers on FND related topics.</p> <p>Case studies / complex case discussions. Discussed having a person present a complex case. We discussed that clinical support, and mentorship was being considered as part of a separate FNDS initiative and that this might not be the most appropriate place to come for guidance on specific clinical cases. It was noted that cognitive behavioural therapists often use case studies to support learning.</p> <p>A united voice that can inform FNDS decisions, conference planning, etc.</p> <p>Sharing useful resources that we use clinically. We discussed that it might be important to recognise that any</p>	

	<p>resources that are shared are not necessarily endorsed by the FNDS.</p> <p>Discuss and highlight the different challenges and circumstances faced in the geographically diverse regions that the FNDS membership come from and the challenges of different healthcare systems. Encourage geographical diversity in the SIG participation.</p> <p>Discuss service difficulties, complexities of service provision, setting up a service, convincing managers/commissioners/insurers of the need to provide a service for FND.</p> <p>Break-out sessions among PTs, OTs, SLPs for specific assessment and treatment discussions.</p> <p>Discussions to support interprofessional education.</p> <p>Having interprofessional education sessions to learn from each other.</p> <p>Journal club with a rehabilitation focus.</p> <p>Discuss treatment plans, frequency and duration of treatment.</p> <p>Defining what we do as professional groups.</p> <p>Aspirational goal with support of the education committee – develop a consensus on learning objectives for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Undergraduate students</li> <li>- Clinicians not specialised in FND</li> <li>- Clinicians specialised in FND</li> </ul> <p>Perspectives and evidence – volunteers to present a 15-minute overview of a topic related to rehab / therapy and FND.</p> <p>Members can put in a call for help which can be discussed at meetings.</p>	
<p>4. Frequency and timing of meetings</p>	<p>Quarterly was suggested in terms of frequency.</p> <p>Timing of meetings will need to be alternated to accommodate our members in Asia Pacific regions.</p>	

	Apologies to our members in the Asia Pacific regions that this meeting was not suitable for them.	
5. AOB	<p>We discussed that the FNDS does not keep a register of FND services as this may be seen as a conflict of interest. Additionally, such a database would need to be regularly updated. Alternatively, the charity FND Hope keeps a database of FND providers and members can ask to be added to this database.</p> <p>Putting on an education day/seminars/study days are good ways to connect with other professions and develop a multidisciplinary team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 'Lunch and learns' – FND specific education sessions provided over lunch breaks to educate fellow team members re: FND.</li> <li>- Frequent referrers – teams have provided education sessions in a bid to improve knowledge and give others confidence to take on FND referrals.</li> <li>- FND education sessions for non-specialist FND services e.g. spinal unit. Breakdown of sessions into education modules / bit size chunks e.g. neurology, psychological therapies, physical therapies. This has increased interest and engagement in FND at one hospital in London.</li> </ul> <p>The FNDS AHP SIG has a shared email address: <a href="mailto:ahpfnds@gmail.com">ahpfnds@gmail.com</a> members can get in touch with committee members via this email. <u>Communication can also go through the FNDS administration team (Robert and Megan, who intermittently email the membership).</u></p> <p>It was suggested that it might be helpful to have an email distribution list or a message board so that people can reach out and network.</p> <p>Share research ideas and start international collaborations.</p> <p>Paper shared by Chelsea Richardson, with thanks: <a href="#">Clinic-Based Assessment and Treatment Strategies for Functional Neurologic Disorders - Practical Neurology</a></p>	
6. Next meeting	Plans for our next meeting	

	<p>Topic 1: Jessica Ranford (OT)– to provide a presentation on interoception, followed by a discussion of potential clinical implications for OT/PT/SP.</p> <p>Topic 2: Zoom into a different region and local issues: Martin Jirasek (PT) to discuss the local challenges of starting FMD treatment in Prague. Followed by discussions / questions.</p> <p>Topic 3: as time allows, ongoing discussion on the theme: How do we define what we do as AHPs working in FND and what skills and training do we draw on?</p> <p>Members are also encouraged to please get in touch with other suggestions.</p> <p><b>Additionally, we are keen to hear from members from geographically and culturally diverse places to volunteer to talk for 10-15 minutes about the challenges and opportunities they face when working with people with FND. Please get in touch.</b></p> <p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Development of a AHP SIG Mission Statement:</p> <p>To support AHP’s to provide evidence-based, best-practice treatment to improve the outcomes and quality of life for people with FND.</p> <p>This remains a work in progress. Members, please email your suggestions for the mission statement to: <a href="mailto:ahpfnds@gmail.com">ahpfnds@gmail.com</a></p>	
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**Dates of Future confirmed FNDS AHP SIG Meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Deadline for proposed agenda items</b>	<b>Next chair / minute taker</b>
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	1pm Vancouver 4pm Boston 9pm London 8am Melbourne	Zoom  Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85354983993">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85354983993</a>  Meeting ID: 853 5498 3993	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> of February 2025	Chair: Jennifer Freeburn  Minutes: Julie Maggio

	10am Auckland			
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