



The WPA Neuropsychiatry Special Interest Group (NSIG) was established by the WPA General Assembly at the Vienna Congress in 2023, reflecting the growing importance of neuroscience in contemporary psychiatric practice. Its membership is growing steadily.

The Group aims to promote neuropsychiatry as a bridge between psychiatry, neurology, neuropsychology and related disciplines. Its focus includes complex conditions that require both psychiatric and neurological expertise, including neurocognitive disorders, autoimmune encephalitis, functional neurological symptom disorders, movement disorders, epilepsy-related psychiatric conditions, brain injury, neurodevelopmental disorders and psychotropic medication-related neurological syndromes.

A central objective is to strengthen the neuropsychiatric approach across mainstream psychiatry. This approach integrates biological, psychological and social-environmental factors in the assessment and management of patients, while recognising the increasing relevance of cognitive, neurological and developmental complexity in everyday psychiatric practice.

The Group is developing educational and training initiatives to support both specialist neuropsychiatrists and general psychiatrists. A major project is the creation of an interactive, regularly updated International e-Handbook of Neuropsychiatry, being developed in collaboration with the International Neuropsychiatric Association. The Group also plans teaching programmes and greater representation of neuropsychiatric themes at WPA conferences.

The NSIG will further contribute to discussion and education concerning advances in neuropsychiatric treatment, including brain stimulation therapies, novel treatments for neurocognitive disorders and tardive dyskinesia, and emerging therapeutics informed by genetics, stem cell biology and immunology. Proposals are being sought for topics on which international position statements and guidelines are necessary, along with volunteers to lead such statements. An initial proposal is to develop guidelines for the management of covert cerebral small vessel disease.

Through education, collaboration and clinical curiosity, the WPA NSIG seeks to make neuropsychiatry more visible and practically relevant, enriching psychiatric care and contributing to a shared international vision for the future of brain health. We invite members of the WPA with an interest in neuropsychiatry or neuroscience to become active members of the NSIG.