

FROM THE GUEST EDITOR

It is now the twenty-third year since *Acta Neuropsychologica* has appeared as a periodical devoted to publishing articles – original research, reviews, and case studies – in the fields of neuropsychology, psychiatry, neurology, neurosurgery, and rehabilitation. From the very beginning, Prof. Maria Pąchalska has served as Editor-in-Chief, consistently upholding the highest scientific standards for the journal. To achieve this goal, she has secured the cooperation of distinguished specialists from both Poland and abroad, representing various branches of the neurosciences.

We are proud to present the **second volume of this year**, continuing our mission to disseminate rigorous and innovative research. Our four thematic editors – honorary members of the Polish Neuropsychological Society – represent *Acta Neuropsychologica* across the globe:

- In North America – Prof. Jason W. Brown
- In Africa – Prof. Łukasz Krzywoszański
- In Europe – Prof. Jolanta Góral-Półrola
- In the Asia-Pacific region – Prof. Bożydar L.J. Kaczmarek

The Language Editor is Prof. Guy Russell Thorr, and the Statistical Editor is Dr. Agnieszka Tomaszewska. The Editorial Board includes experts from numerous countries and disciplines – not only psychology, neuropsychology, and neurolinguistics, but also medicine – whose role is to ensure that every article published meets the journal's high scientific standards.

This special issue, *Neurosciences in Honor of Doctor Bartosz Błaszczak*, Honorary Member of the Polish Neuropsychological Society, is a tribute of the highest regard for his scientific achievements and enduring impact on the development of psychology. Doctor Błaszczak is not only a scientist, but above all, an outstanding manager and visionary leader, capable of uniting the academic community of distinguished researchers and experienced clinicians around him. His sensitivity to human beings, openness, and dedication ensure that he consistently and meaningfully contributes to the advancement of the sciences of humanity, including psychology (neuropsychology) and management. The issue contains five research articles, one case study, and two review articles.

The first research article written by Dominik Kupczyk and Wilk-Frańczuk Magdalena is entitled: **An evaluation of the level of impulsiveness, risk-taking behaviors and empathy in persons with tattoos**. The study explores psychological traits – impulsivity, risk-taking, and empathy – among tattooed individuals. Tattoos, once stigmatized, are now widely accepted forms of self-expression, prompting a reevaluation of related stereotypes. An online survey of 2,293 tattooed participants (mostly women) assessed these traits using the Eysenck IVE questionnaire. Results showed that tattooed men were more prone to risk-taking, while women exhibited higher empathy. Impulsivity was

more common among those with tattoos done outside professional studios and among individuals with lower education levels. Participants with multiple tattoos tended to be more impulsive and less empathetic. The findings suggest that impulsivity does not consistently predict risk-taking, and gender differences are evident. The Microgenetic Theory of the Self-System offers a framework for interpreting these results.

The second research article written by Mouhssine Chriqui, Zakaria Abidli, Sara Alouane, El Mahjoub Aouane and Maria Pačalska is entitled: **Study on the impact of early maladaptive schemas on professional burnout among dentists in the Rabat-Sale-Kenitra Region: microgenetic approach**. This study examined the link between early maladaptive schemas and professional burnout among 61 dentists in Morocco. Most participants were young, single, and worked in the private sector. Using the SPI and MBI scales, the authors found significant correlations between burnout and schemas such as Vulnerability to Harm, Entitlement, Dependency, Insufficient Self-Control, Mistrust, and High Standards. These results highlight the need for targeted mental health interventions to reduce burnout and improve the quality of dental care.

The third research article written by Heni Gerda Pesau, Margaretha Sih Setija Utami, Phie Chyan, Augustina Sulastri, Angela Suryani, Ridwan Sanjaya, Indra Yohanes Kiling, Yeni Damayanti is entitled: **Comparison of Traditional and Tele-neuropsychological Testing**. This study evaluated the equivalence between face-to-face and tele-neuropsychological testing in assessing cognitive functions. Fifty-four participants completed four standardized tests covering language, memory, and executive functions. Results showed no significant differences between methods, confirming tele-neuropsychology as a valid alternative. The authors highlight its benefits – cost efficiency, accessibility, and convenience – while noting the need for further research to refine its use in Indonesia.

The fourth research article written by Mongia Hajri, Zakaria Abidli, Younes RAMI, Rajaa Rabhi, Mustapha Oudhriri, Joumana El Turk, Khabbache Hicham, Khadija Ouadi, Kamil Krupa is entitled: **Neurocognitive profile of patients with Alzheimer's disease: A study in the Moroccan context**. This study examined cognitive patterns in 30 Moroccan patients with Alzheimer's disease, using MMSE-MA, Rey Figure, and Raven's Matrices. Most participants showed slight to moderate impairments. Significant correlations were found among cognitive domains, and age was negatively associated with MMSE scores. Men outperformed women in cognitive tests. The findings underscore the need for culturally tailored diagnostic and care strategies in Alzheimer's treatment.

The fifth research article written by Rafał Morga, Sebastian Podlewski, Jolanta Góral-Pórola is entitled: **Comparison of neurosurgical treatment outcomes for unruptured intracranial aneurysms using clipping and embolization in terms of quality of life**. This study compared quality of life outcomes in 59 patients treated for unruptured intracranial aneurysms via

embolization or clipping. Both methods proved safe, with no deaths or reoperations. However, embolization was associated with fewer complications, less discomfort, and significantly better cosmetic results. Patients who underwent clipping reported more complaints overall. The findings suggest embolization, when performed by experienced neuroradiologists, may offer superior post-treatment quality of life.

We also continue with a case study, written by Beata Smela, Stephen May, Anna Ostrowska, Wiesław Tomaszewski and entitled: **Physical Therapy Intervention using Directional Preference for a Senior Patient with Chronic Idiopathic Trigeminal Neuralgia with 8-year Follow-up**. This case study presents a 72-year-old male with chronic idiopathic trigeminal neuralgia successfully managed through Directional Preference (DP) exercises, including cervical retraction and posture adjustments. Over eight years, the patient consistently applied self-management strategies, resulting in significant pain reduction and improved quality of life. Long-term follow-up confirmed sustained benefits. The findings suggest DP may be a promising approach for managing TN in older adults, warranting further research.

The first review article written by Aneta Wojciechowska is entitled: **Functional Asymmetry of Cerebral Hemispheres and Autism Spectrum Disorders**. This review explores how cerebral hemisphere specialization differs in individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), focusing on speech and social functioning. Literature suggests atypical processing of linguistic and social stimuli in some individuals with ASD. Understanding these asymmetries may support early diagnosis through brain imaging and guide targeted therapies to improve communication and social skills.

The second review article written by Bartosz Bagrowski is entitled: **Bilateral Integration Therapy by Sheila Dobie OBE – the Importance of Movement for the Neurorehabilitation of Cognitive Functions**. This review presents Bilateral Integration Therapy, a method designed to coordinate cerebral hemispheres through targeted motor exercises. Grounded in neurophysiology and developmental science, it supports both motor and cognitive functions in children and adults, including those with neurological disorders. Widely used in schools and clinical settings, the therapy has shown effectiveness in improving somatognosia and academic skills. The author highlights its potential as a holistic tool in pediatric neurorehabilitation and education.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Professor Maria Pąchalska, the Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Neuropsychologica*, for granting me the honor of editing this special issue of the journal, *Neurosciences in Honor of Doctor Bartosz Błaszczak*, Honorary Member of the Polish Neuropsychological Society. This opportunity allows me not only to express my heartfelt appreciation but also to pay tribute to a remarkable scholar whose contributions to neuroscience have left an indelible mark on the field.

Professor Pąchalska's unwavering dedication to scientific excellence and her visionary leadership have shaped *Acta Neuropsychologica* into a respected platform for interdisciplinary dialogue and innovation. Her trust and support in allowing me to curate this commemorative volume are deeply meaningful, and I am truly honored to contribute to the legacy she has so carefully cultivated over the years.

Artur Ziółkowski, Guest Editor
University College of Professional Education,
Wrocław, Poland