Purpose:
To introduce to health professionals standardized and detailed methods for the assessment of the functional integrity of the central nervous system.

Workshop summary:
Participants will learn to assess neuromotor behaviour by means of:
1. The Touwen neurological assessment (Touwen, 1979). This standardized and age-specific neurological assessment allows for the assessment of minor neurological dysfunction.
2. Luria’s Flat-Fist-Edge (1966) test: a test which aims at evaluating some aspects of frontal lobe function (complex and anticipatory motor behaviour).

Participants will learn to assess specific cognitive functions:
1. Three domains of the NEPSY battery (Korkman 1997):
   - Executive functions (Tower test).
   - Memory (for Faces, Memory for Names, Narrative Memory).
   - Language (Phonological processing, Speeded naming, Comprehension of instructions)
2. Additional Verbal paired associate task (with immediate and delayed recall) in order to increase sensitivity of memory/learning testing. For the same reason, a delayed recall condition will be used with the NEPSY Recall of Story subtest.
3. Attention: Test of Everyday Attention for Children (TEA-Ch; e.g. Manly et al. 2001)
4. Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence (WASI) in order to get an estimate of Verbal, Performance and Full Scale IQ scores.

Learner-based course objectives:
1. Knowledge on the Touwen assessment technique and significance of findings
2. Knowledge on the Luria test and significance of findings
3. Knowledge on the specific cognitive function tests: technique and significance of findings

Obligatory reading (will be provided)


Programme

Monday October 3rd 2005
9.00 – 10.00 Introductory lecture on the Touwen assessment (MHA)
10.00 – 10.30 Coffee break
10.30 - 11.45 Demonstration Touwen assessment – discussion of technique and findings (MHA)
11.45 - 12.00 Coffee
12.00 – 13.00 Assessment of a video of a Touwen assessment (MHA)
13.00 – 14.00 Lunch
14.00 - 15.30 Introduction into cognitive testing (EI)
15.30 – 16.00 Tea break
16.00 – 17.15 Cognitive testing, continued (EI)

Tuesday October 4th 2005
9.00 – 10.15 Cognitive testing, continued (EI)
10.15 - 10.45 Coffee break
10.45 – 12.00 Cognitive testing, continued (EI)
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
14.00 - 15.15 Assessment of video’s of Touwen assessment (MHA)
15.15 – 15.45 Tea break
15.45 - 16.15 Luria’s test (MHA)
16.15 - 17.15 Cognitive testing, continued (EI)
Wednesday October 5th 2005

9.00 – 10.15 Demonstration Touwen assessment – further discussion of technique and findings (MHA)

10.15 - 10.45 Coffee break

10.45 – 12.00 Assessment of video’s of Touwen assessment (MHA)

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.15 Assessment of video’s of Touwen assessment (MHA)

15.15 – 15.45 Tea break

15.45 - 17.00 Assessment of video’s of Touwen assessment (MHA)

17.00 - 17.15 Fine-tuning of recording techniques; appointments about feedback in order to achieve reliable results.