

Dr Giulia Bellesi (BSc, MSc, PhD, DclinPsy, SRCN)
Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist
Court of Protection/Office of the Public Guardian Special Medical Visitor

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Summary

I am a Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist, registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). I am a Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society (BPS), a full member of the Division of Clinical Neuropsychology, and listed on the **UK Specialist Register of Clinical Neuropsychologists (SRCN)**, recognised as the gold standard for neuropsychology practice in the UK.

My clinical expertise centres on working with individuals with **traumatic and other forms of acquired brain injury, as well as a wide range of neurological conditions** including epilepsy, brain tumours, multiple sclerosis, encephalitis, and various forms of dementia. I provide specialist neuropsychological assessment using a broad range of psychometric tools, to evaluate the effects of neurological illness on cognitive functioning and emotional wellbeing, support diagnosis, monitor change, and/or inform care planning. Additionally, I provide evidence-based neurorehabilitation and psychotherapeutic interventions, delivered one-on-one or as part of a multidisciplinary team.

I have worked across various inpatient, outpatient, and community neuropsychology services within both the NHS and independent sector. Between 2018 and 2024, I was employed at King's College Hospital London, working across specialist neuropsychology and neurorehabilitation settings. From 2024 to early 2026, I practised as a Consultant at Cleveland Clinic London, where I helped establishing an outpatient neuropsychology clinic providing diagnostic neuropsychological assessments and interventions. Alongside my appointments, since 2019, I have also run an independent practice, working with **both litigating and non-litigating clients** in the community, including undertaking medico-legal neuropsychological assessments and expert witness work. I now practise exclusively on an independent basis.

I have a particular interest in mental capacity, and since 2020, I have been a **Special Medical Visitor to the Office of the Public Guardian and the Court of Protection**, regularly conducting **independent mental capacity assessments** to support them in their roles, and completing 20-30 assessments per year for them. Additionally, since May 2026, I am a member of the **BPS Mental Capacity Advisory Group**.

I maintain regular supervision and ongoing continuing professional development in accordance with HCPC and BPS standards of practice and have completed **Bond Solon training on expert witness report writing**.

Alongside my clinical practice, I regularly lecture on neuropsychology-related topics and have published peer-reviewed articles focusing on brain injury, cognitive impairment, and their impact on behaviour and everyday functioning. I maintain active involvement in research, including for instance current participation in a standardisation and norming study for newly developed neuropsychological assessment measures.

Professional Experience

Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist

Private practice

2019 – current

Special Medical Visitor

Office of Public Guardian and Court of Protection

2020 – current

Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist

Cleveland Clinic London

Part-time

2024 – 2026

Principal Clinical Psychologist in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (Band 8b)*Acute and Hyperacute Stroke units, Princess Royal University Hospital**Part-time*

2021 – 2024

Highly Specialist Clinical Psychologist in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (Band 8a)*Friends' Stroke Unit and Outpatient Stroke Clinical Neuropsychology Clinic, King's College Hospital**Part-time*

2020 – 2021

Highly Specialist Clinical Psychologist in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (Band 8a)*Frank Cooksey Rehabilitation Unit, Orpington Hospital**Full-time*

2018 – 2020

Clinical Psychologist Trainee*Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience, King's College London*

2015-2018

*Clinical placements undertaken during training: Lambeth Talking Therapies (LAPT); Croydon CAMHS; Croydon Memory Service; Clinical Neuropsychology department, Frank Cooksey Rehabilitation Unit, Orpington Hospital; Clinical Neuropsychology department (diagnostics division), King's College Hospital; Tics and Neurodevelopmental Movements (TANDeM) service, Evelina Hospital***Assistant Psychologist***Experience gained at: Kingston CAMHS; Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability; Specialist Tourette's Clinic, St George's Hospital**Part-time*

2011-2012

Research Assistant*Department of Experimental Psychology, University College London**Part-time*

2011-2012

Education**Clinical Neuropsychology MSc***University of Bristol*

2019-2025

Clinical Psychology Doctorate (DClinPsy)*Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience, King's College London*

2015- 2018

PhD*Department of Experimental Psychology, University College London*

2012-2015

*Thesis title: "Everyday Social Functioning in Autism Spectrum Disorder"***BSc Psychology, 1st Class Hons***Department of Experimental Psychology, University College London*

2008-2011

High School Diploma (Diploma di Maturità Scientifica), 100/100*Liceo Scientifico F. Enriques, Livorno, Italy*

2003-2008

Publications

Ford, C.E.L., Thorogood, B., Kontou, E., **Bellesi, G.**, Griffiths, M., & Green, S. (2024). "Emotionally, there is no such thing as a minor stroke". Neuropsychological support after stroke at the UK Stroke Forum 2023. *The Neuropsychologist*, 17, 4-6.

Brown, L., Fish, J., Mograbi, D., **Bellesi, G.**, Ashkan, K., Morris, R. (2021). Awareness of deficit following traumatic brain injury: a systematic review of current methods of assessment. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation*, 31, 154-188.

Bellesi, G., Jeraj, S., Manley, J., Tekes, S., Basit, H., & McNulty, N. (2020). Why do Black Caribbean women benefit less from talking therapies? A pilot study in an inner London IAPT service. *Clinical Psychology Forum*, 326, 24-29.

Jameel, L., Vyas, K., **Bellesi, G.**, Crawford, S., & Channon, S. (2019). Thinking about other's mistakes:

contrasting patterns of performance in groups high or low in autistic or psychopathic traits. *Cognitive Neuropsychiatry*, 24, 369-385.

Bellesi, G., Barker, E., Brown, L., & Valmaggia, L. (2019). Paediatric traumatic brain injury and antisocial behaviour: are they linked? A systematic review. *Brain Injury*, 33, 1272-1292.

Bellesi, G. & Morris, R. (2018). Using smartphone apps for neuropsychological rehabilitation and the creation of an 'apps' hub. *The Neuropsychologist*, 6, 31-38.

Bellesi, G., Vyas, K., Jameel, L., & Channon, S. (2018). Moral Reasoning in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorder*, 52, 1-11.

Vyas, K., Jameel, L., **Bellesi, G.**, Crawford, S., & Channon, S. (2017). Derailing the trolley: everyday utilitarian judgments in groups high versus low in psychopathic traits or autistic traits. *Psychiatry Research*, 250, 84-91.

Bellesi, G., Jameel, L., Vyas, K., Crawford, S., & Channon, S. (2016). Using and reasoning about social strategies in autism spectrum disorder in everyday situations. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorder*, 25, 112-121.

Jameel, L., Vyas, K., **Bellesi, G.**, Channon, S. (2015). Great expectations: the role of rules in guiding pro-social behaviour in groups with high versus low autistic traits. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 45, 2111-2322.

Jameel, L., Vyas, K., **Bellesi, G.**, Roberts, V., & Channon, S. (2014). Going 'Above and Beyond': are those high in autistic traits less pro-social? *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 44, 1846-1858.

Professional Memberships

- BPS Mental Capacity Advisory Group
- BPS Specialist Register of Clinical Neuropsychologists (SRCN)
- British Psychological Society (chartered status) and Division of Neuropsychology
- Expert Witness Institute ('Affiliate' member)
- HCPC registered (PYL36297)

Training

- 'Excellence in Report Writing' training day, delivered by Bond Solon 2025
- Attendance of the annual Court of Protection Special Visitors conference/training day 2020-ongoing
- Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy Programme for IoPPN DCLinPsy trainees 2017
- 13th Annual Course in Neuroradiology and Functional Neuroanatomy (UCL) 2013

Additional Information

- I am currently collaborating on a freelance basis with the Pearson UK research team on validation and norming studies for two novel neuropsychological assessment batteries
- I am bilingual (Italian and English) and have experience working with interpreters
- Enhanced DBS clearance
- Clean driver's license