



# **A-ONE**

**The Árnadóttir OT-ADL Neurobehavioral Evaluation  
training course**



*May 11-16, 2012  
Verona, Italy*

**CRRNC**

Centro di Ricerca in Riabilitazione  
Neuromotoria e Cognitiva



## Course Description

Within the field of occupational therapy (OT) there is a growing awareness and need to have therapists evaluate patients with cognitive-perceptual dysfunction in a way that is unique to OT (i.e. a functional emphasis). Traditionally, the evaluation of activities of daily living and mobility occurs separately from the cognitive-perceptual evaluation. This is unfortunate as the “traditional” cognitive-perceptual evaluation includes items not oriented to the discipline of OT; that is they do not focus on how or why such dysfunction interferes with daily activities. With this in mind, Guðrún Árnadóttir, an Icelandic occupational therapist, developed an assessment tool that combines neurobehavioral theory with OT principles. The A-ONE directly links functional performance (basic activities of daily living and mobility) to neurobehavioral deficits including cognitive-perceptual and motor impairments. The A-ONE is appropriate to use for clients over the age of 16 who present with damage to the central nervous system.

When administering the A-ONE standardized observation methods are used to evaluate task performance and the need for assistance in the following daily living tasks: feeding, grooming & hygiene, dressing, transfers and mobility, and functional communication. Subsequently, speculations are made through task analysis regarding the underlying neurobehavioral impairments that limit the performance, impairments, such as: ideational apraxia, motor apraxia, unilateral body neglect, unilateral spatial neglect, spatial relations dysfunction, motor control, and perseveration. The resulting impairment hypotheses are based on observed performance errors combined with operational definitions from the A-ONE conceptual framework, therapists’ professional reasoning skills and neurological knowledge.

The A-ONE is used throughout the international OT community. To use the tool reliably a certification course is required. In the course participants will become familiar with the concepts used in the evaluation and learn to differentiate between them. They will further be able to relate the A-ONE concepts to other classification systems and gain insight to psychometric qualities of the evaluation including measurement potential based on Rasch analysis.

### A-ONE TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULE

	Day-1	Day-2	Day-3	Day-4	Day-5	Day-6
<b>8.30-10.00</b>	Occupational therapy: General perspectives	Discussion of assignments Neuronal processing	Discussion of assignments	Discussion of assignments Videotape: Case assignment	Discussion of assignments Videotape: Case assignment	A-ONE in clinical reasoning Future considerations
<b>10.00-10.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>					
<b>10.30-12.00</b>	A-ONE: Theoretical background	Neurobehavioral dysfunction	Administration and scoring	Videotape: Discussion	Videotape: Discussion	Final assignment: Video
<b>12.00-13.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>					
<b>13.00-15.00</b>	Neurological background	Neurobehavioral dysfunction continued	Videotape: Case assignment and discussion	Research and implications	Videotape: Case assignment	Final assignment: Written.
<b>15.00-15.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>					
<b>15.30-16.30</b>	Neurological background Assignments	Neurobehavioral dysfunction Assignments	Pervasive assignment	Research and interpretation of test scores	Videotape: Discussion	Final assignment: Written.
	Take home assignments	Take home assignments	Take home assignments	Take home assignments		

After each topic/section there will be opportunities for therapists to ask questions, especially regarding clarification of translation. There will be an Italian translator present who will provide a summary translation of main concepts. (Il corso sarà in lingua inglese, ma al termine di ogni sessione ci sarà la possibilità di chiedere chiarimenti in lingua italiana, con un traduttore)

Upon registration each participant will be sent the book “**The Brain and Behavior: Assessing Cortical Dysfunction Through ADL**”. Participants are strongly encouraged to read the book prior to the course for maximum benefits. A pre-course assignment on chapters 1-5 must be handed in on the first day of the course. Note that there are **homework assignments** included in the course, and there is a specific **final assignment** that requires preparation. This is an “open book” assignment.

On successful completion of the course participants will receive an A-ONE certification. Certificates will be posted to participants.

## Instructors

**Dr. Guðrún Árnadóttir**, OT, PhD, is the developer of the A-ONE instrument and author of the book *The Brain and Behavior: Assessing Cortical Dysfunction through Activities of Daily Living*. Guðrún has also published several book chapters and peer reviewed journal articles. Her work in the field of occupational therapy includes clinical practice, A-ONE research and development and coordinating and teaching A-ONE courses internationally. Guðrún worked as an Associate professor at University of Akureyri, Iceland. Presently she has a research and clinical advisory position at the Grensás rehabilitation center of Lanspítali hospital, Iceland. She completed her undergraduate occupational therapy degree in Manitoba Canada, obtained her Masters degree in occupational therapy in Los Angeles, USA and a doctoral degree in occupational therapy from Umeå, Sweden.

**Dr. Esther Steultjens**, OT, PhD, neuropsychologist, has been teaching A-ONE courses since 1999 in the Netherlands. She is an associate professor in neurorehabilitation at the university of applied sciences HAN in Nijmegen the Netherlands. She publishes in international scientific journals on research findings covering occupational therapy. She teaches courses (inter)nationally regarding cognitive rehabilitation in occupational therapy.

**Valerie Harris**, MSc OT, currently practices as chief occupational therapist for Sjálfsbjörg, the Icelandic association of people with physical disabilities. She is also a part time lecturer at the University of Akureyri, teaching in the undergraduate occupational therapy programme. Valerie has also taught in the undergraduate programme at La Trobe University, Victoria, Australia. She completed her undergraduate studies at La Trobe University and a Masters degree from Florida International University, USA. Valerie’s main areas of interest are rehabilitation of adults with neurological problems, support for carers and clinical reasoning.

## Registration Procedure

**Prior to registration and payment please contact the organizational committee to confirm that there are still spaces available**

It is recommended that participants have minimum of one year work experience to register for the course. If an occupational therapist with less than one year's work experience would like to register for the course, please contact the organizational committee via email or phone.

The course will be held Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Piazzale L. A. Scuro 10, 37134, Verona, Italy  
The registration form can be found on: [www.dsnnmm.univr.it](http://www.dsnnmm.univr.it)

The course will be held for a maximum of 30 occupational therapists. Only registration forms with proof of payment will be taken into consideration.

Due date	AITO, SITO, SIRN, members	Non-members
15/3/2012	€ 750,00	€ 850,00
31/4/2012	€ 800,00	€ 900,00

Your registration form and payment must be received by **April 31, 2012**. The payment can be made via bank transfer to:

Department of Neurological, Neuropsychological, Morphological and Movement Sciences  
University of Verona  
Banca Popolare di Verona S.G.S.P.  
Sede di Verona Piazza Nogara, 2  
37121 VERONA  
IBAN IT97-R-05188-11701-000000011074.  
Swift code: VRBPIT2V001

Payment: please include your name and write “registration fee for A-ONE”

## Organizational Committee

Patrizia Ianes  
Rossella Ghensi  
Neuromotor and Cognitive Rehabilitation Research Centre  
Department of Neurological, Neuropsychological, Morphological and Movement Sciences  
University of Verona

### Telephone

Italian speaking participants: 0039 045 812 4573 (from 9-13)

English speaking participants: 0039 347 066 3792

e-mail: [a\\_oneinfo@yahoo.it](mailto:a_oneinfo@yahoo.it)

## Scientific Committee

Patrizia Ianes  
Rossella Ghensi  
Prof. Nicola Smania

## How to arrive

BY PLANE: The nearest airport is Valerio Catullo Villafranca International Airport, which is located approximately 5 kilometers from the city centre. Alternatively, Brescia Montichiari airport is located approximately 65 kilometers from Verona, and Venice Marco Polo airport is located approximately 125 kilometers from Verona. It is possible to travel to Verona by train, to Verona Porta Nuova train station, from both Brescia and Venice; please see [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)

BY CAR: Take the A4 highway Milan-Venice, exit at “Verona Sud”, and follow the signs to "Ospedale Policlinico di Borgo Roma"

BY TRAIN: From Verona Porta Nuova train station take bus 21, 22, or 72, platform D. Get off at Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Borgo Roma

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Buses 21 or 22, and 72 reach the Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Borgo Roma, from various parts of the city.

## Where to stay

Information concerning hotels available in Verona can be found at the end of January 2012 at:  
<http://www.dsnmmm.univr.it>

With the support of:

