

Annie E. Richard, Ph.D., R.Psych.

Neuropsychologist

NSBEP Registration # R1074

Clinical address

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Languages: English and French

Current positions

Clinical Neuropsychologist Genest MacGillivray Psychologists, Halifax, NS
Since December 2020

I specialize in the neuropsychological assessment of adults with various neurological (e.g., traumatic brain injury, dementia), neurodevelopmental (e.g., autism spectrum disorder), and psychiatric conditions (e.g., depression, anxiety). The majority of my neuropsychological assessments are with individuals who have sustained head injuries. I also conduct adult autism spectrum disorder assessments.

Research Associate with the Pathways in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Study Team
The Autism Research Centre, IWK Health Centre, Halifax, NS
Since May 2020

Previous position

Post-doctoral fellow with the Pathways in ASD Study team 2017 - 2020
The Autism Research Centre, IWK Health Centre, Halifax, NS

Academic qualifications

MPsych/PhD (Clinical Neuropsychology) 2019
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, Australia
Thesis title: Expression of the broader autism phenotype in epilepsy

BSc (First Class Honours) with Distinction in Psychology 2010
Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB, Canada

Professional affiliations and membership

International Society for Autism Research	2018 - 2024
Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology – Psychologist Register	2020 - Present
Canadian Psychological Association – Member	2020 - Present
Association of Psychologists of Nova Scotia	2021 – Present
Réseau National d’Expertise en Trouble du Spectre de l’Autisme	2022 – Present
Association Québécoise des Neuropsychologues, Statut Hors Québec	2024 - Present

Neuropsychology internships

Community Based Rehabilitation, Western Health, Melbourne, Australia Supervisor: Dr. Diana Perre Neuropsychological assessment and involvement in multidisciplinary team-based treatment planning for outpatients with varied neurological and psychiatric conditions	Sep-Dec 2014
Subacute and Aged Care Services, Western Health, Melbourne, Australia Supervisor: Dr. Diana Perre Neuropsychological assessment of geriatric inpatients in subacute care	Jul-Sep, 2014
Psychology Service, The Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne, Australia Supervisor: Ms. Jacquie Wrennall Neuropsychological assessment of pre-surgical children with epilepsy	Jun-Jul, 2014
Neuroscience Department, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Australia Supervisor: Dr. Rubina Alpitsis Neuropsychological assessment of inpatients and outpatients with varied neurological and medical conditions	Sep-Dec, 2013
Cognitive, Dementia and Memory Service, Bundoora Extended Care Clinic, Melbourne, Australia Supervisor: Ms. Margaret Philips Neuropsychological assessment of outpatients with concerns of cognitive decline	Jan-Apr, 2013

Peer reviewed journal publications

- Richard, A. E.**, Hayes, M. G., Duku, E., Vaillancourt, T., Smith, I. M. (*in preparation*). Predicting attrition in a longitudinal study of children with autism spectrum disorder.
- Richard, A. E.**, Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. (2024). Deep phenotyping of the broader autism phenotype in epilepsy: A transdiagnostic marker of epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. *Annals of the Child Neurology Society, In Press*
- Richard, A. E.**, Duku, E., Bennett, T., Szatmari, P., Vaillancourt, T., Zwaigenbaum, L., . . . , Smith, I. M. (2024). Trajectories of attention problems in autistic children and relations to social skills outcomes. *Development and Psychopathology, In Press*
- Bennett, T. A., Jambon, M., Zaidman-Zait, A., Duku, E., Szatmari, P., Georgiades, S., Elsabbagh, M., Smith, I. M., Vaillancourt, T., Zwaigenbaum, L., Kerns, C. M., **Richard, A.**, Bedford, R.,

- Szatmari, P. (2024). Early-Onset Trajectories of Emotional Dysregulation in Autistic Children. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, In Press*
- Ng-Cordell, E., Pickard, H., Bedford, R., **Richard, A.**, Zaidman-Zait, A., Zwaigenbaum, L., . . . , Szatmari, P. (2024). Longitudinal associations between autistic children's anxiety and social communication differences: The moderating role of executive function behaviours. *Autism, In press*
- Chen, Y-J., Frazier, T., Szatmari, P., Duku, E., **Richard, A.**, Zwaigenbaum, L., . . . , Georgiades, S. (*submitted for review*). Sex-differential trajectories of domain-specific associations between autistic traits and co-occurring emotional-behavioural concerns in autistic children.
- Zaidman-Zait, A., Hollocks, M., Kerns, C., Magiati, I., McVey, A., Smith, I., . . . , Szatmari, P. (*submitted for review*). Bridging the gap: Unveiling key links between autism characteristics and anxiety symptoms in autistic children and youth.
- Beauchamp, M. L. H., Blanco Gomez, G., Rezzonico, S., Jeuland, E., Bedford, R., Bennett, T., . . . Elsabbagh, M. (*submitted for review*). Psychometric assessment of the narrative scoring scheme in bilingual and monolingual children on the autism spectrum.
- Chen, Y-J., Duku, E., Szatmari, P., Salt, M., Smith, I., **Richard, A.**, . . . , Georgiades, S. (2024). Trajectories of adaptive functioning from early childhood to adolescence in autism: Identifying turning points and key correlates of chronogeneity. *JCPP Advances*, 4(2), <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcv2.12212>
- Wright, N., Courchesne, B., Pickles, A., Bedford, R., Duku, E., Kerns, C., . . . Elsabbagh, M. (2023) A longitudinal comparison of emotional, behavioral and attention problems in autistic and typically developing children. *Psychological Medicine*, 1-13. doi: 10.1017/S0033291723001599
- Beauchamp, M., Rezzonico, S., Bennett, T., Duku, E., Georgiades, S., Kerns, C., . . . , Elsabbagh, M. (2022). The influence of bilingual language exposure on the narrative, social and pragmatic abilities of school-aged children on the autism spectrum. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. doi: 10.1007/s10803-022-05678-w
- Baribeau, D., Vigod, S., Pullenayegum, E., Kerns, C. M., Vaillancourt, T., Duku, E., . . . , Szatmari, P. (2022). Developmental cascades between insistence on sameness behaviour and anxiety symptoms in autism spectrum disorder. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-022-02049-9>
- Patterson, J. E., Armstrong, V., Duku, E., **Richard, A.**, Franchini, M., Brian, J., Zwaigenbaum, L., Brison, S. E., Sacray, L. R., Roncadin, C., Smith, I. M. (2021). Early trajectories of motor skills in infant siblings of children with autism spectrum disorder. *Autism Research*, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2641>
- Dempsey, E. E., Moore, C., **Richard, A. E.**, Smith I. M. (2020). Moral foundations theory in autism spectrum disorder: A qualitative investigation. *Autism*. doi: 10.1177/1362361320939331
- Richard, A. E.**, Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. (2017). Features of the broader autism phenotype in people with epilepsy support shared mechanisms between epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, 75, 203-233. doi: 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2016.12.036

Azar, R. & **Richard, A.** (2011). Elevated salivary C-reactive protein levels are associated with active and passive smoking in healthy youth: A pilot study. *Journal of Inflammation*, 8:37, doi:10.1186/1476-9255-8-37

Select conference presentations

Platform

Sorenson Duncan, T., **Richard A. E.**, Smith, I. M. for The Pathways in ASD Study Team. Majority-language shift in the bilingual household of children with ASD: A cautionary tale for sustained bilingualism. (12th International Symposium on Bilingualism, 2019, Edmonton, Canada)

Richard, A. E., Smith, I. M., Duku, E., Hayes, M. G., Vaillancourt, T., Waddell, C., . . . , Szatmari, P. for The Pathways in ASD Study Team. Predicting attrition in a longitudinal study of children with autism spectrum disorder. (Nova Scotia Developmental Psychology Conference 2018, Halifax, Canada)

Richard, A. E., Smith, I. M., Duku, E., Hayes, M. G., Vaillancourt, T., Waddell, C., . . . , Szatmari, P. and The Pathways in ASD Study Team. Predicting attrition in a longitudinal study of children with autism spectrum disorder. (INSAR 2018, Rotterdam, NL)

Richard, A. E., Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. Profiling social cognition in people with epilepsy: Evidence for shared mechanisms between epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. (2nd Annual Social Neuroscience Conference, Brisbane, Australia, 2015)

Platform & Poster

Richard, A. E., Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. Is the Broader Autism Phenotype more frequent in people with seizures? (American Epilepsy Society Annual Meeting 2017, Washington DC, USA)

➤ *Awarded the Rebecca Goldberg Kaufman Honor*

Poster

Richard, A. E., Hee, S. L., Yeddala, A., Thomas, M., Roberts, W., Bennett, T., Szatmari, P., Vaillancourt, T., Zwaigenbaum, L., Duku, E., Eslabbagh, M., Georgiades, S., Ungar, W. J., Zaidman-Zait, A., Kerns, C. M., Bedford, R., Smith, I. M. Caregiver-reported risk factors of pregnancy, birth, and infancy in autistic children and their association with outcomes at age 6 years. (INSAR 2024, Melbourne, Australia)

Richard, A. E., Szatmari, P., Vaillancourt, T., Zwaigenbaum, L., Bennett, T., Duku, E., Elsabbagh, M., Georgiades, S., Ungar, W. J., Zaidman-Zait, A., Kerns, C. M., Smith, I. M. Trajectories of attention problems in children with ASD. (INSAR 2023, Stockholm, Sweden)

Patterson, J., Duku, E., Armstrong, V., Smith, I., **Richard, A.**, Franchini, M., Bryson, S., Brian, J., Zwaigenbaum, L., Roncadin, C. Early trajectories of motor skills in infant siblings of children with autism spectrum disorder. (International Congress of Infant Studies 2020, virtual)

Dempsey, E. E., Moore, C., **Richard, A. E.**, Smith, I. M. Moral foundations theory in autism spectrum disorder: A qualitative investigation. (INSAR 2020, virtual)

Richard, A. E., Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. Pragmatic language difficulties in people with epilepsy reflect shared biological mechanisms causing both epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. (Kids Brain Health Network Annual Conference 2019, Ottawa, Canada)

Richard, A. E., Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. Expanding the language profile of people with epilepsy: The predominance of pragmatic language difficulties. (American Epilepsy Society Annual Meeting 2019, Baltimore, USA)

Richard, A. E., Sorenson Duncan, T., Smith, I. M., Bryson, S. E., Fombonne, E., Roberts, W., ... Zaidman-Zait, A. for The Pathways in ASD Study Team. Bilingually exposed children with autism spectrum disorder: Language and socio-communication outcomes. (INSAR 2019, Montreal, Canada)

Richard, A. E., Sorenson Duncan, T., Smith, I. M., Bryson, S. E., Fombonne, E., Roberts, W., ..., Zaidman Zait, A. for The Pathways in ASD Study Team. Bilingually exposed children with autism spectrum disorder: Language and socio-communication outcomes. (Dalhousie University Department of Pediatrics Trainee Research Day, Halifax, Canada, 2019)

Green, C. C., **Richard, A. E.**, Wilson, S. J., Scheffer, I. E. Validation of a broader autism phenotype interview in families of individuals with high-functioning autism spectrum disorder. (INSAR 2018, Rotterdam, ND)

Richard, A. E., Scheffer, I. E., Wilson, S. J. Profiling social cognition in people with epilepsy: Evidence for shared mechanisms between epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. (31st International Epilepsy Congress, Istanbul, 2015)

➤ *Best Poster Award*

Richard, A., Wilson, S. J., Scheffer, I. E. Profiling social cognition in people with epilepsy: Evidence for shared mechanisms between epilepsy and autism spectrum disorder. (28th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Epilepsy Society of Australia, Melbourne, 2014)

Azar, R. & **Richard, A.** Active and passive smokers have increased salivary C-reactive protein levels in comparison to non-smoking healthy youth. (Dr. Don Maclellan Research Day, Moncton, Canada, 2010)

Richard A. & Azar, R. Pilot study: Salivary C-reactive protein as a measure of the effect of tobacco smoke exposure on inflammation (APICS Undergraduate Psychology Conference, Antigonish, Canada, 2010)

Community presentations

Brain Awareness Week presentation to Year 12 Psychology students (Melbourne Girls' College, Melbourne, 2015)

Peer review involvement

Manuscript reviewed for: *BMC Psychiatry*
Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews
Epilepsia
Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
Sleep Medicine

Supervision and mentorship experience

Research supervisor of a undergraduate- and graduate-level students contributing to an ongoing Pathways in ASD project, 2019 - 2023

Research supervisor of undergraduate-level students contributing to an ongoing systematic review, 2017-2021

Co-supervisor of Honours in Psychology student Joanne McMahon, The University of Melbourne, 2015

Thesis title: The broader autism phenotype and social cognition in temporal lobe epilepsy

Committee involvement

Association of Psychologists of Nova Scotia Continuing Education Committee member (2025)

Research trainee representative on the Kids Brain Health Network 2020 conference program committee (May – Nov 2020)

Kids Brain Health Network Trainee Advisory Committee member (2018 - present)

Volunteer work

Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes (2019 - 2021)

Helped to run support groups for individuals with epilepsy and parents of children with epilepsy.

Help to translate documents from English to French.

Honours, Awards and Scholarships

Post-doctoral Fellowship from The Pathways in ASD Study Team, 2017-2020

Kids Brain Health Network Presenter Scholarship, 2019

\$1000 to help defray costs for attending the Kids Brain Health Network Annual Conference

Kids Brain Health Network Spring Conference Travel Scholarship, 2018 & 2019

\$500 to assist my attendance at the INSAR 2018 and INSAR 2019 Annual Meetings

Student/Trainee Award 2018 from INSAR

\$500 to assist my attendance at the INSAR 2018 Annual Meeting

Rebecca Goldberg Kaufman Honor, The American Epilepsy Society, 2017

This honor recognizes the highest-ranking abstract in the comorbidities topic category that advances a better understanding of the psychiatric aspects of epilepsy care and treatment.

The Epilepsy Society of Australia Travel Scholarship, 2015

\$2,500 to assist my attendance and presentation at the 31st International Epilepsy Conference

International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, 2013-2014

Australian Postgraduate Award (International), 2013-2014

CPA (Canadian Psychological Association) Certificate of Academic Excellence, 2010

Awarded to a graduating student for the best undergraduate thesis in Psychology

Dr. Karen Nicholson Psychology Prize, Psychology Department, Mount Allison University, 2010

Awarded to a graduating Psychology student for outstanding achievement in Biopsychology and Human Neuropsychology courses

Dr. L.A. Goodridge Scholarship, Mount Allison University, 2006-2008

Professional development

2024

Participation in Global Autism Interactive Network (GAIN) 2024 – Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-2nd Edition (ADOS-2) Module 4

Online, offered through Weill Cornell Medicine, Psychiatry, April – June, 2024

Conference attendance: *International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2024 Annual Meeting*

Melbourne, Australia, May 15 – 18, 2024

Online workshop: *Integrating Compassion Focused Therapy into Clinical Practice* by Dr. Chris Germer and Shari Geller, March 2024

Offered by Asadis

Webinar Attendance: *Brief Assessment of ADHD in Women* by Dr. Claire Sira, PhD

Offered by Hexagon, January 26, 2024

Course completion: *Course on Research Ethics Based on the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2: CORE 2022)*

Offered by Panel on Research Ethics, January 5, 2024

Webinar attendance: *Responding to concerns about the work of other professionals in forensic practice* by Dr. Randy Otto, PhD

Offered by Concept, Palo Alto University, January 4, 2024

2023

Webinar attendance: *Responding Ethically and Effectively to Clients at Risk for Suicide* by Drs Derek Truscott & Johnathan Dubue, PhD

Offered by Bespoke Mental Health Canada, November 3, 2023

Participation in Global Autism Interactive Network (GAIN) 2023 – Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-2nd Edition (ADOS-2) Module 4

Online, offered through Weill Cornell Medicine, Psychiatry, April – June, 2023

Conference attendance: *INSAR 2023 Annual Meeting*

Stockholm, Sweden, May 3 – 6, 2023

Online training module completion: *201 Indigenous awareness*

Offered by Indigenous Awareness Canada, March 31, 2023

Webinar attendance: *AAFP: The art and science of expert witness testimony*

Presented by Karen Postal, Ph.D., ABPP, February 14, 2023

2022

Workshop completion: *Differential diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder: School age and adolescence.*

Presented by Somer Bishop, Ph.D., November 11, 2022

Conference presentation attendance: *Neurodiversity-affirming practices.*

Presented by Sarah Hart at the Atlantic Provinces Autism Conference 2022, Fredericton, NB, November 7, 2022

Workshop completion: *Creating a culturally safe space in clinical practice.*

Presented by the APNS, Halifax, NS, Oct14, 2022

Webinar attendance: *The Lancet Commission: Implications for autistic Canadians.*

Presented by Dr. Edvokia Anagnostou, MD through Réseau national d'expertise en trouble du spectre de l'autisme (RNETSA), September 8, 2022

Webinar attendance: *Session IV of the INSAR Institute: Autistic people's sleep differences*

Presented by Beth Malow and Zachary Williams, July 21, 2022

Webinar attendance: *Session III of the INSAR Institute: Autism and mental health*

Presented by Ed-Dee Williams, Lauren Bishop, and Scott Allen, July 14, 2022

Webinar attendance: *Session II of the INSAR Institute: Burnouts, meltdowns, and shutdowns*

Presented by Jane Mantzala and Julianne Higgins, July 7, 2022

Webinar attendance: *Session I of the INSAR Institute: Autism diagnostic process for adults*

Presented by Dr. Laurent Mottron and Eya-Mist Rodgaard, June 30, 2022

2021

Workshop completion : *Autism spectrum disorder vs. ADHD*

Presented by Somer Bishop, Ph.D., August 6, 2021