

Contents

Upcoming Events – About TReND – Connect With Us – Publications – Latest News

Upcoming Events

16th July 2026 12:00 – 14:00 CET	TReND online lecture with Dr. Galit Yogev-Seligman (University of Haifa) (Zoom-Link: https://unibe-ch.zoom.us/j/6447676603)
6th August 2026	TReND online lecture #7 (watch out for updates on our website and LinkedIn) (Zoom-Link: https://unibe-ch.zoom.us/j/6447676603)
19th November 2026	TReND online lecture #8 (watch out for updates on our website and LinkedIn) (Zoom-Link: https://unibe-ch.zoom.us/j/6447676603)

About TReND

We are a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Doctoral Network (MSCA-DN).

Translational Research Network in Motor Disorder Rehabilitation: Advancing understanding of variability in motor control and learning, to enhance clinical practice

The theoretical understanding of human motor control and learning has a strong impact on the diagnosis and treatment of motor disorders, and vice versa. Recent progress has been made in the understanding of motor control and learning, particularly with respect to understanding the functional role of neurobehavioural variability that is inherent to sensorimotor control. However, this progress has not yet been transferred appropriately into clinical therapy approaches. The goal of TReND is thus, to create a translational research network in the rehabilitation of motor disorders. The network is highly interdisciplinary with doctoral and senior researchers from fundamental research areas (movement science, neuroscience, computer science), clinical practitioners (physical therapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitation sciences, etc.) and partners from related industries. The overall aim is to systematically translate recent theoretical and methodological advances in motor control and learning research into clinical practice to enhance clinical diagnosis and motor rehabilitation. More specifically, we will investigate the functional role of variability in the sensorimotor coordination dynamics at the behavioural and neurophysiological levels in motor and mental disorders such as stroke, Parkinson’s or Alzheimer’s disease.

Our research objectives


- To investigate how different disorders affect the sensorimotor systems’ capability to exploit functional variability for stable and adaptive motor control
- To investigate how novel therapy concepts can enhance the capacity to exploit functional variability and treat motor disorders across different patient populations
- To develop novel approaches to translate the knowledge gain from our fundamental research into clinical practice.

Our innovation objectives

- To develop and evaluate clinical tools for the assessment and diagnosis of functional movement variability
- To compose guidelines and recommendations for restoring functional variability


Connect With Us



 <https://www.uni-muenster.de/TReND-EU/>

 <https://bsky.app/profile/msca-trend.bsky.social>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/msca-dn-trend>

 trend@uni-muenster.de

Network Coordinator:



Publications

First TReND Findings: Mapping Knowledge Translation in Pediatric Motor Rehabilitation

Today we're delighted to give you an in-depth look at the first results from the TReND project. Working alongside her supervisors, our fellow **Léa Obrecht** presents fresh insights into how knowledge translation unfolds in motor rehabilitation for children with cerebral palsy and developmental coordination disorder:

“We often think of scientific progress in motor rehabilitation as a straightforward path. Researchers generate evidence, clinicians apply it, and patients benefit. In reality, the journey from discovery to everyday healthcare is rarely that simple. Translating research findings into clinical practice is a complex and iterative process called Knowledge Translation (KT) that requires resources, systematic planning, and collaboration between many different people.

Our review focused on this process in paediatric motor rehabilitation for children and young people with cerebral palsy and developmental coordination disorder. Early motor rehabilitation can improve participation, daily functioning, and quality of life, yet evidence-based approaches are not always consistently applied in clinical practice. We therefore examined how KT initiatives around the world have attempted to bridge the gap between what research tells us and what happens in rehabilitation settings.

Across 17 studies, we found a rich variety of approaches to KT. Many teams used established theories or frameworks to guide their work, although they were often applied only partially. The sequence and framing of activities differed from study to study with limited explanation for these choices, and few studies examined whether changes were sustained over time. As a result, it remains difficult to replicate successful initiatives and to determine which approaches are most effective for lasting change. This could be strengthened by more systematic use of KT theory, clearer reporting, and greater attention to the long-term sustainability of change.

Another important finding was that clinicians and caregivers were usually engaged as respondents, providing feedback through surveys and interviews throughout the process. While these perspectives are valuable, greater collaboration at the decision-making level may help ensure that translating research evidence in practice is feasible and responsive to the needs of those most closely involved in children's care.

For the field of paediatric motor rehabilitation, and more broadly for TReND, these findings highlight that scientific impact is not only about disseminating results. Whether moving from basic science to clinical studies or from clinical evidence to routine practice, transparent and theory-informed KT, sustained evaluation, and high-level stakeholder engagement may strengthen the pathway from discovery to impact.”

You can read the published article in BMC Health Services Research:

Obrecht et al. *BMC Health Services Research* (2026) 26:725
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-026-14488-0> BMC Health Services Research

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW **Open Access**

Check for updates

Advancing knowledge translation processes in motor rehabilitation for children with cerebral palsy and developmental coordination disorder: insights from a scoping review

Léa Obrecht^{1*} , Femke van Abswoude¹ , Katrijn Klingels^{2,3}  and Bert Steenbergen¹ 

Obrecht, L., van Abswoude, F., Klingels, K., & Steenbergen, B. (2026). Advancing knowledge translation processes in motor rehabilitation for children with cerebral palsy and developmental coordination disorder: insights from a scoping review. *BMC health services research*, 26(1), 725. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-026-14488-0>

Latest News

Research in Europe Day at the University of Münster

10th June 2026

A few weeks ago, our fellows [Dilşah](#) and [Sofia](#) shared their experiences during the Research in Europe Day at the University of Münster, offering insights into doctoral research, international collaboration, and career opportunities in academia.

👉 Read on about their [experience](#).



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Research and Innovation SERI


We are thrilled to share that TReND took the stage at the 2026 EGRAPA Conference

3rd June 2026

The symposium “Movement Variability as a Systemic Biomarker of Resilience and Adaptability in Aging” was co-chaired by one of our supervisors, Rita Sleimen-Malkoun. The session featured three of our fellows delivering insightful talks:

 **Force control variability as a macroscopic marker of aging and adaptability: challenges and opportunities** (Victoria Trifonova)


 **Dual-Tasking Effects on Gait Variability: A Systematic Review of Complexity-Based Outcomes** (Sofía Avila Pérez)

 **How does attention shape behavioural variability and adaptability in older adults? Insights from bimanual coordination** (Julia Jakubowska)

Fellows’ Progress Takes Center Stage at the 2026 TReND Summer School

28th May 2026


From 26th to 28th May 2026 the second TReND Summer School took place at Radboud University in Nijmegen, marking the official start of the second half of the TReND project. In just three intensive days the Summer School sharpened the focus on knowledge translation across the consortium and provided valuable learning opportunities to the fellows, laying the groundwork for a productive second half of the project.


 More information [here](#).

Louise at Society for the Neural Control of Movement Conference in Japan

13th May 2026

Congratulations to our fellow Louise on presenting her exciting research in two posters at the Society for the Neural Control of Movement Conference in Japan. We’re proud to see her contributing valuable insights into bimanual motor control and cerebral palsy research on such an international stage!


 **Neurological Determinants of Bimanual Motor Control in Children with Unilateral Cerebral Palsy** with co-authors Louise Hocke, Alexandra Kalkantzi, Lize Kleeren, Melina Hehl, Els Ortibus, Lisa Mailleux, Katrijn Klingels, Hilde Feys.

 **Corpus Callosum Morphometry as a Determinant of Bimanual Motor Control in Children with Unilateral Cerebral Palsy** with co-authors Louise Hocke, Alexandra Kalkantzi, Lize Kleeren, Els Ortibus, Lisa Mailleux, Katrijn Klingels, Hilde Feys

Building Bridges in Research: Young Researchers Driving International Collaboration

6th May 2026

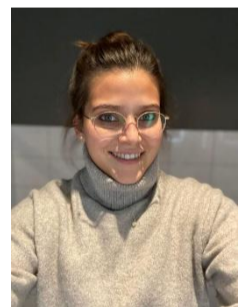
The Marseille-TReND team Rita Sleimen-Malkoun, Julia Jakubowska, Victoria Trifonova, and Jean-Jacques Temprado recently welcomed Dr. Marie-Léa Rousseau and Pierre-Jérôme Adjedj to the Institut des Sciences du Mouvement on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the PHC/PPP program. This visit was a great opportunity to reflect on past achievements and future perspectives in collaborative research!


 More information [here](#).

New TReND Doctoral Candidate: Cristina Orozco Jauregui (DC09)

1st May 2026

We are very happy to welcome Cristina to TReND and are excited to support her throughout this new journey! We wish Cristina a successful start and look forward to the valuable contributions she will bring to the project. Her research at Radboud University Nijmegen, is about the relationship between cognition and gait variability in aging and FND patients project



 Get to know [Cristina](#).

Girls’ Day Event at the Institute of Sports and Exercise Science in Münster

23rd April 2026


As part of the Girls’ Day event at the Institute of Sports and Exercise Science in Münster, two of our TReND PhDs, Dilşah Gençaslan and Sofía Avila Pérez, opened the doors of the Neuromotor Behavior and Exercise Lab to a group of 16 schoolgirls (aged 13 – 16), giving them a hands-on glimpse of scientific research in sports science. The Girls’ Day is a nationwide initiative in Germany that introduces young women to careers and study fields where women still represent less than 40 % of the workforce, such as IT, natural sciences and engineering.

 More information [here](#).

Don't Miss TReND Researcher on German TV Show

15th April 2026

Catch Prof. Dr. Claudia Voelcker-Rehage on a recent episode of "Quarks", a German TV series that brings science to the general public. The show explores the crucial role that hands play in our ability to interact with the world, from grasping and manipulating objects to communicating with others. During the first section about fine motor control, Prof. Voelcker-Rehage shares her expertise on hand function, cognition, and aging. This topic is also relevant for the TReND doctoral candidates at the University of Münster. DC01 Dilşah is currently conducting a study where participants are asked to finely manipulate their pincher grip force and DC02 Sofia is also conducting a study in which participants walk on a treadmill while holding a virtual cup of water - a scenario even featured in the TV show.

 Watch the full episode [here](#).

Research in Progress: Dual-Tasking and Gait Variability in Older Adults

9th April 2026


We're excited to share an update from our fellow Sofía Avila Pérez, who is currently working on a systematic review to examine how dual-tasking influences gait variability in younger and older adults. We're looking forward to the completion of the systematic review and its contributions to advance the understanding of variability in motor control and learning. We will provide updates on her results and key findings, so stay tuned for more information on this exciting project.

 Read on about Sofía's [research project](#).

Collaboration in Action: TReND Fellows at KCL

26th March 2026


In March, three of our fellows had the opportunity to collaborate at King's College London (KCL). Aleksandra, from Tel Aviv University, and Louise, from KU Leuven and UHasselt, completed their secondment at Marco Davare's lab at KCL, where Ilaria is currently completing her PhD.

 Learn more about the fellow's [secondments](#).

Seventh Secondment Successfully Completed

18th March

Our seventh fellow, Julia Jakubowska, has recently completed her secondment at Radboud University, where she was co-hosted by the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour and the Behavioural Science Institute.

 Read on about her [experience](#).

If you would like to share information or announcements via the newsletter or have any further questions, please get in touch with us: trend@uni-muenster.de

With the newsletter, we would like to keep you posted about news and events concerning the TReND Project. If you do not wish to receive it any longer, please send us an e-mail or unsubscribe from the mailing list using this [link](#).

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