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Advancing science, building hope

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Cognitive and Behaviour Change in Motor Neurone Disease (MND)

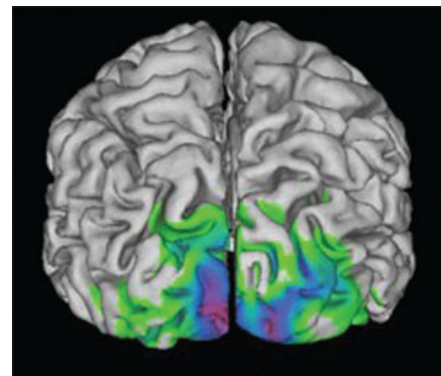
[Dr Sharon Abrahams \(/sharon-abrahams.html\)](/sharon-abrahams.html)



Some people with MND experience changes in their thinking, emotion, language and behaviour together with their motor

symptoms. I aim to understand the brain abnormalities that underlies these changes and investigate the impact they have on daily life. My work focuses on understanding problems with higher-order thinking, including decision-making, word generation, understanding social situations and behaviour.

[The Voice Bank Initiative](#)



(<http://www.euanmacdonaldcentre.com/voicebank.html>): Collaboration with Edinburgh Informatics to generate bespoke synthesised voices for patients who have voice difficulties ([Shuna Colville \(/shuna-colville.html\)](/shuna-colville.html)).

Cognition in MS: studying language and visual function in patients with multiple sclerosis ([Mara Sittampalam \(/mara-sittampalam.html\)](/mara-sittampalam.html)).

SMART-MND (<http://www.smart-mnd.org/>): To monitor and improve care and outcomes for motor neurone disease patients ([Shuna Colville \(/shuna-colville.html\)](/shuna-colville.html)).

Edinburgh Cognitive ALS screen: Battery of psychological tests to measure cognitive changes in motor neurone disease patients ([Sharon Abrahams \(/sharon-abrahams.html\)](/sharon-abrahams.html)) and [Thomas Bak \(/thomas-bak.html\)](/thomas-bak.html)).

Read our Latest Publications
[\(/highlighted_publication.html\)](/highlighted_publication.html)

Laboratory Research

Many of our laboratory-based studies are focused on stem cells (</what-are-stem-cells.html>), a particularly strong research area at the University of Edinburgh, the birthplace of Dolly the sheep. Current projects include:

Interaction between glia and neurons in



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interaction between glia and neurons in health and disease ([Siddharthan Chandran \(/siddharthan-chandran.html\)](/siddharthan-chandran.html)).

Pathogenic mechanisms of disease proteins such as alpha-synuclein ([Tilo Kunath \(/tilo-kunath.html\)](/tilo-kunath.html)).

Remyelination and repair in multiple sclerosis ([Charles ffrench-Constant \(/charles-ffrench-constant.html\)](/charles-ffrench-constant.html), [Siddharthan Chandran \(/siddharthan-chandran.html\)](/siddharthan-chandran.html) and [Anna Williams \(/anna-williams.html\)](/anna-williams.html)).



Please see our [featured publications \(/highlighted_publication.html\)](/highlighted_publication.html) and visit the web pages of the [Anne Rowling Clinic staff \(/staff.html\)](/staff.html) for details of their individual research interests.

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