De Assisting Hand Assessment

The AHA is an instrument that measures and describes the effectiveness of the use of the assisting hand in bimanual activities in children with unilateral impairments.

For the child the AHA is an enjoyable 10 to 15 minute semi-structured play session using selected toys requiring bimanual use. The play session is recorded on video and scored from the video. The AHA measurement contains twenty items scored on a four-point rating scale.

The AHA is a standardized test intended for children with unilateral Cerebral Palsy or Brachial Plexus Palsy between the ages of 18 months and 12 years.

Validity, reliability and responsiveness to change of the AHA scores are well documented in several studies. The AHA has been widely used in several studies. Visit the web site for more information. www.ahanetwork.se

Who should apply?

Occupational therapists and physical therapists working with children

The workshop:

The course teaches the Assisting Hand Assessment in two steps.

First, a 2½-day training course is given including information about the test construct, testing procedure and scoring practice on a range of children from videos. A manual (version 5.0) with detailed scoring criteria and a computer based scoring form is provided.

Step 2 is the certification procedure: the participant is to complete six additional cases and get satisfactory results. Some of these from videos provided on a web based e-learning platform, and some self-produced AHA play sessions. Individual feedback of these cases is provided.
**Course objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate the setup, conduct and video record an Assisting Hand Assessment session and produce reliable scores according to the criteria in the manual.
- Verbalize the concept and construct of the test and its psychometric properties.
- Interpret and communicate the outcome of the test.

**Course tutors:**

- Lena Krumlinde-Sundholm, Reg OT, PhD, Associate Professor is a senior Occupational Therapist and a researcher at the Neuropediatric unit, Department of Woman’s and Children’s Health, Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm.
- Karin Boeschoten, works as an occupational therapist at the VU University Medical Centre in Amsterdam, with children with different diagnosis and introduced the AHA to The Netherlands in 2005.
- Annoek Louwers, occupational therapist, MSc, at Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam. Developed and researches the ad-AHA.

**Language:**

The course will be given in English.

**Course dates 2017:**

January 19-20: 9am – 5pm
January 21: 9am - 1pm

**Place of the course:**

De Federatie
Werfkade 8, 1033 RA Amsterdam
[www.defederatie.nl](http://www.defederatie.nl)

**Costs of the course:**

€ 775, including coffee, tea, lunch, manual, scoreform and guidance during certification procedure.

**How to apply:**

Fill out the registration form on [www.ahanetwork.se](http://www.ahanetwork.se) or ask for the registration form by sending an email to assisting.hand.assessment@gmail.com

**AHA test kit**

The AHA test kit for children between 18 months and 12 years with specific toys can be ordered from Handfast Inc. Costs are SEK 3.900 (dependent of the current currency, ask Handfast for exact price) + shipping costs. Costs for the ad-AHA game ‘Go with the flow’ for 12-18 year is 1.200 SEK + shipping costs.

**More information?**

Please mail Karin Boeschoten: assisting.hand.assessment@gmail.com