



Workshop Invitation:

The Assisting Hand Assessment – Unilateral UPper-limb difference with or without a Prosthesis

AHA-UP

- a new assessment to evaluating functional aspects of bimanual performance in children and adults with upper limb difference

The Assisting Hand Assessment-UP (AHA-UP) is a new test of hand function in individuals with upper limb differences. It is based on the concept of the now well-established and frequently used evaluative tool Assisting Hand Assessment which measure how effectively individuals with unilateral Cerebral Palsy or Brachial Plexus palsy use their involved hand collaboratively with their well-functioning hand to perform bimanual tasks.

In the AHA-UP different test sessions are used appropriate for different ages. From these test sessions observation and scoring of the actions performed with the affected hand/arm is used regarding frequency and quality when performing bimanual tasks. For the child the AHA is an enjoyable 10 to 15 minutes semi-structured play session using a test-kit of selected toys requiring bimanual use. For older children a specially made board game is utilized and for teenagers and adults a board game, or two other bimanual activities can be used. The AHA-UP measurement contains 19 items scored on a three-point rating scale. The outcome is an evaluative interval level measure, which together with the

individual's response profile, can guide intervention. AHA-UP is a standardized test intended for children from 18 months of age to older adults.

Validity and reliability of the AHA-UP scores are documented by the

“Development of the Assisting Hand Assessment for individuals with unilateral Upper-limb difference with or without a Prosthesis (AHA-UP); Evidence of internal scale validity by Rasch measurement model analyses (Krumlinde-Sundholm L, Stockselius A, Ragnö C, Lermon S, Hermansson L (submitted 2023) and two master thesis evaluating rater reliability; Stockselius A. 2021 and test-retest reliability (Lermon S. 2023).

The course teaches the AHA-UP and is conducted in two steps. A 2½-day training course and a 4 hour webinar three months later. The course includes information about the test construct, testing procedure and scoring practice on a range of children and adults from videos. A manual with detailed scoring criteria and a computer-based scoring form is provided. To achieve certification, the participant is to complete

six additional cases and get satisfactory results. Four of these from videos provided on a web-based e-learning platform, and two self-produced AHA play sessions. (these latter two videos shall not be sent in) Individual feedback of these cases is provided. The AHA test kit for children between 18 months and 12 years, and/or the new board game for teenagers can be ordered from Handfast AB, at the course or later during the certification procedure at a cost of SEK 4.900, (approximately €420) and/or SEK 1.450 (€ 128) respectively (dependent of the current currency) +shipping costs.

COURSE DATES

September 18th– 20th, at Aktiv Ortopedteknik, and a mandatory follow-up webinar December 18th on Zoom. Location: Barks väg 7, 170 73 Solna (close to the red line subway station “Bergshamra”, about 15 minutes from the central parts of Stockholm).

COURSE TUTORS

Liselotte Hermansson Reg OT, Professor at Örebro University

Lena Krumlinde-Sundholm Reg OT, Assoc. Professor at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm

Stina Lermon Reg OT, MSc, Aktiv Ortopedteknik, Solna

Anita Stocksélius, Reg OT, MSc, emerita, Aktiv Ortopedteknik, Solna

DATES AND FEES

The course takes place September 18-20 at a cost of 4.800 SEK per person.

The fee includes a copy of the AHA manual and unlimited number of score forms as paper copies and an electronic version.

Register at <https://handfast-webshop.myshopify.com/products/aha-18-18-course-datum>

before Aug 28, 2023!

Enquiries: lena.krumlinde.sundholm@ki.se

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

Demonstrate the set up, conduct and video record an Assisting Hand Assessment-UP 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.

