

Ellen De Roeck

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EDUCATION

- 2012 Master in Psychology (specialisation: Clinical Psychology, Option: Biological Psychology), Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (V.U.B.)
- 2007 Bachelor in clinical Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (V.U.B.)

CURRENT POSITION

- 2015 - PhD candidate, Faculty of Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, UAntwerp

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 2014 – 2014 Clinical Psychologist, Geriatric Support Team, AZ Nikolaas
- 2014 – 2014 Pedagogue, Dvc Zevenbergen, Ranst
- 2012 – 2013 Research assistant at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (V.U.B.)

KEYWORDS

Dementia – Alzheimer's disease – mild cognitive impairment – cognitive function – memory – cognitive screening instruments – depression

SUMMARY BIOSKETCH

Ellen De Roeck started in January 2015 working as a PhD candidate at the department of Biomedical Sciences of the UAntwerp. She is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sebastiaan Engelborghs and Prof. Dr. Peter De Deyn from the UAntwerp and Prof. Dr. Eva Dierckx from the V.U.B. Her PhD project is a part of the D-Scope project (Detection, Support and Care of Older People in their Environment). The project starts from the observation that frailty in older adults is often not detected on time. Prevention of frailty in older adults would benefit the older person, his environment and be more cost-effective for society. The objective of Ellen's PhD is to develop a valid and reliable neuropsychological instrument for the detection of prodromal Alzheimer's disease (AD). Currently, the Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) is the most used instrument to screen for the presence of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). However, previous research revealed that this screening instrument has some major shortcomings, such as limited sensitivity, ceiling effects and an educational bias. Therefore Ellen will adapt or develop, a valid and reliable screening instrument for the early detection of prodromal AD in cognitive frail older people, based upon the new diagnostic criteria for AD and taking into account biomarker information.