

Jessica Podda, PhD

Researcher

Personal Information

Date (dd/mm/yyyy) and place of birth: 04/07/1990, Genoa (Italy)

Nationality: Italian

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Work experience

05/11/2018 - currently enrolled. Researcher at the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Scientific Research Area (Via Operai, 40, 16149, Genoa, Italy). PI: Dr. Giampaolo Brichetto

02/2021 - currently enrolled. Neuropsychologist at AISM Rehabilitation Center (Via Operai 30, 16149, Genoa, Italy).

Education

01/11/2015 - 31/10/2018. PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics (curriculum: Cognitive Robotics, Interaction and Rehabilitation Technologies) at the Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia in the Cognition, Motor and Neuroscience Unit (Via Enrico Melen, 87, 16152, Genoa, Italy). Project: I.Move.U (Intention From Movement Understanding) funded by the ERC (European Research Council), ERC-St-2012. PI: Prof. Cristina Becchio

14/02/2017. Registration in the 'Albo degli Psicologi della Liguria', n° 2694

2012 – 2014. Master's Degree in Psychology at University of Turin, Italy; Vote: 110/110 cum laude; Title: "Agency, ownership and sensory predictions: a neuropsychological evidence." Supervisors: Prof. Lorenzo Pia and Dr. Francesca Garbarini

2009 – 2012. Bachelor's Degree in Psychological Sciences and Techniques at University of Genoa, Italy; Vote: 110/110 cum laude; Title: "The aesthetic brain: art as an instrument to understand human functioning." Supervisor: Prof. Sergio Morra

Internship and/or Research Experiences

01/06/2015 - 31/10/2015. Internship at the Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Robotics, Brain & Cognitive Sciences department), Genoa, Italy

02/2014 - 02/2015. Internship at the Fondazione Opera San Camillo Hospital, Turin, Italy.

Teaching

- November 2021. “Neuropsychological Rehabilitation” (Cod. 106614, CFU: 1, 10 hours) for bachelor degree in Physiotherapy (University of Genoa)
- Since 2019: Assistant teaching for “Rehabilitation Engineering” (course held by Maura Casadio; University of Genoa) in Biomedical Engineering

Teaching and Responsibilities

- October 2021. Invited Speaker for Festival della Scienza 2021. Roundtable “Mappare i Movimenti in Gioco. Sclerosi Multipla ed Exergame Design a Scuola”, Genoa, Italy
- May 2021. Invited Speaker for “Medicina digitale e teleriabilitazione durante ed oltre l’emergenza sanitaria: focus su patologie neurologiche” organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (digital edition)
- March 2021. Invited Speaker for “Le abilità in gioco” organized by Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Dr. Carlo Canali) and ITIS Delpozzo (digital edition).
- April 2019. Invited Speaker for “La riabilitazione in équipe della sclerosi multipla: aspetti teorici” organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Naples, Italy.
- March 2019. Invited Speaker for “Recenti acquisizioni nella sclerosi multipla: le tecnologie ambulatoriali e domiciliari per il trattamento riabilitativo della sclerosi multipla” organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.
- February 2019. Invited Speaker for “Misure di outcome per la SM: aggiornamento della letteratura e training di somministrazione” organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.

Other activities

- From June 2021. Member of Special Interest Group (SIG) of Psychology and Neuropsychology of the Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (RIMS) European Network
- From March 2021. Coordinator of Psychogeriatrics/Neuropsychology Working group in Ordine degli Psicologi della Liguria (Piazza della Vittoria 11, 16121, Genoa)
- From March 2021. Review Editor on the Editorial Board of Performance Science (specialty section of Frontiers in Psychology)
- Co-tutoring activity for a master’s degree thesis in Psychology, Biomedical Engineering and

Rehabilitation Science in Healthcare Professions (University of Turin and University of Genoa)

- Tutoring activity valid for the enrolment in State Exam for Psychologist (University of Florence and Unicusano)

Publication

International Journals (With Peer-Reviewed)

- **Podda, J.**, Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2022, ahead of print). Mind Wandering in people with Multiple Sclerosis: a psychometric study, *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2022.103521
- **Podda, J.**, Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratin, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (2021). Predominant cognitive phenotypes in multiple sclerosis: Insights from patient-centered outcomes. *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*, 51:102919. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2021.102919.
- **Podda, J.**, Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Piccardo, E., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Bove, M., Tacchino, A. (2020). Spatial constraints and cognitive fatigue affect motor imagery of walking in people with Multiple Sclerosis. *Scientific Reports*, 10, 21938. doi: 10.1038/s41598-020-79095-3
- Pedullà, L., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.**, Monti Bragadin, M., Bonzano, L., Battaglia, M. A., Bove, M., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2020). The patients' perspective on the perceived difficulties of dual-tasking: development and validation of the Dual-task Impact on Daily-living Activities Questionnaire (DIDA-Q). *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*, 46, 102601. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102601
- **Podda, J.**, Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., (2020). Focus on neglected features of cognitive rehabilitation in MS: setting and mode of the treatment. *Multiple Sclerosis Journal*, 1–11. doi: 10.1177/1352458520966300
- **Podda, J.**, Ponzio, M., Messmer Uccelli, M., Pedullà, L., Bozzoli, F., Molinari, F., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratin, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (2020). Predictors of clinically significant anxiety in people with multiple sclerosis: a one-year follow-up study. *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102417
- Monti Bragadin, M., Motta, R., Messmer Uccelli, M., Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., **Podda, J.**, Konrad, G., Rinaldi, S., Cava, M. D., Battaglia, M. A., Brichetto, G. (2020). Lower urinary tract dysfunction in patients with multiple sclerosis: A post-void residual analysis of 501 cases. *Multiple sclerosis and related disorders*, 45, 102378. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102378
- Prada, V., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.**, Pedullà, L., Konrad, G., Battaglia, M. A., & Brichetto, G.

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(2020). Mam36 and Abilhand as outcome measures of multiple sclerosis hand disability: an observational study. *European journal of physical and rehabilitation medicine*.

- Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., **Podda, J.**, Monti Bragadin, M., Pedrazzoli, E., Konrad, G., Battaglia, M.A., Mokkink, L. Brichetto, G. (2020). Italian validation of the Arm Function in Multiple Sclerosis Questionnaire (AMSQ). *Neurological sciences*. doi: 10.1007/s10072-020-04363-z.
- Brichetto, G., Pedullà, L., **Podda, J.**, Tacchino, A. (2019). Beyond center-based testing: Understanding and improving functioning with wearable technology in MS. *Multiple Sclerosis Journal*, 1–10. doi: 10.1177/1352458519857075
- Cavallo, A., Romeo, L., Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.**, Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Pontil, M., Becchio, C., (2018). Prospective motor control obeys to idiosyncratic strategies in autism. *Scientific Reports*, 8: 13717. doi: 10.1038/s41598-018-31479-2.
- Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.**, Battaglia, F. M., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (2018). One hand, two hands, two people: Prospective sensorimotor control in children with autism. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 29, 86-96. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2017.02.009.
- **Podda, J.**, Ansuini, C., Vastano, R., Cavallo, A., Becchio, C. (2017). The heaviness of invisible objects: Predictive weight judgments from observed real and pantomimed grasps. *Cognition*, 168, 140-145. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2017.06.023.

Published abstracts

- Becchio, C., Montobbio, N., Ansuini, C., Battaglia, F., **Podda, J.**, Cavallo, A., Nobili, L. & Panzeri, S. Seeing others' intentions in autism. *Journal of Vision* 2021;21(9):2550. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.21.9.2550>.
- **Podda, J.**, Maggiora, A., Pedulla, L., Bragadin, M. M., Battaglia, M. A., Brichetto, G., ... & Tacchino, A. (2020, December). Do PwMS plan ahead? A Kinematic Study of Upper-Limb Motor Planning in MS. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 26, No. 2_ SUPPL, pp. 47-48). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Tacchino, A., Pedulla, L., Bonzano, L., **Podda, J.**, Bragadin, M. M., Battaglia, M. A., ... & Brichetto, G. (2020, December). Adaptive WM training in MS. Why is it effective? Working memory rehabilitation in MS. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 26, No. 2_ SUPPL, pp. 44-44). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.

- **Podda, J.**, Tacchino, A., Pedulla, L., Bragadin, M. M., Rogina, G., Vitiello, A., ... & Brichetto, G. (2020, December). Using a novel robotic platform for balance assessment in pwMS: data from traditional clinical tests and Hunova. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 26, No. 2_ SUPPL, pp. 46-47). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Bragadin, M. M., Prada, V., **Podda, J.**, Pedulla, L., Tacchino, A., Konrad, G., ... & Brichetto, G. (2020, December). Mam-36 and abilhand questionnaire as outcome measures of multiple sclerosis hand functional disability: an observational study. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 26, No. 2_ SUPPL, pp. 45-45). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Pedulla, L., Rinaldi, S., Addeo, S., Cooper, J., Chiossi, M., Bellosta, A., ... & Konrad, G. (2020, December). Aerobic training in multiple sclerosis: a pilot study on the effects of group treatment with mini-trampolines. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 26, No. 2_ SUPPL, pp. 54-54). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., **Podda, J.**, Pedulla, L., Crivelli, D., Battaglia, M. A., ... & Balconi, M. (2019, September). Fatigue and motivation in secondary progressive multiple sclerosis. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, pp. 635-635). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Pedulla, L., Bonzano, L., Bisio, A., Job, M., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.**, ... & Bove, M. (2019, September). Neural correlates of cognitive-motor dual tasks in multiple sclerosis: an fNIRS study. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, pp. 823-823). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- **Podda, J.**, Bozzo, L., Ponzio, M., Bragadin, M. M., Konrad, G., Bergamaschi, V., ... & Tacchino, A. (2019, June). Computerized balance assessment and PRO in MS. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, No. 7, pp. 1058-1059). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- **Podda, J.**, Bergamaschi, V., Konrad, G., Tacchino, A., Battaglia, M. A., Brichetto, G., & Bragadin, M. M. (2019, June). Same form diverse outcome: role of PT on SPMS. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, No. 7, pp. 1057-1057). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Tacchino, A., Tauro, V., Tonti, S., **Podda, J.**, Bragadin, M. M., Pedulla, L., ... & Brichetto, G. (2019, June). Physical, cognitive and social monitoring towards self-management delivery in patients with multiple sclerosis. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, No.

7, pp. 1059-1059). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.

- Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.**, Bragadin, M. M., Konrad, G., Kolaczowski, L., ... & McBurney, R. (2019, June). The Hidden Information in Patient Reported Outcomes: Multiple Sclerosis as a proof of concept of a machine learning approach. In *MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS JOURNAL* (Vol. 25, No. 7, pp. 1062-1062). 1 OLIVERS YARD, 55 CITY ROAD, LONDON EC1Y 1SP, ENGLAND: SAGE PUBLICATIONS LTD.
- Zunino, A., Morerio, P., Cavallo, A., Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.**, Battaglia, F., Becchio, C. & Murino, V. (2018, August). Video Gesture Analysis for Autism Spectrum Disorder Detection. In 2018 24th International Conference on Pattern Recognition (ICPR) (pp. 3421-3426).

Italian Journals (With Peer-Reviewed)

Podda, J., Ansuini, C., Battaglia, F., Cavallo, A., Pintaudi, M., Jacono, M., Semino, M., Dufour, E., Veneselli, E., & Becchio, C. (2018). Studio di cinematica sull'effetto di comfort dello stato finale: il caso del Disturbo dello Spettro Autistico. *Sistemi Intelligenti*, 1, 123-138. doi: 10.1422/89320.

Conference proceedings

Podda, J., Ansuini, C., Battaglia, F., Cavallo, A., Pintaudi, M., Jacono, M., Semino, M., Dufour, E., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (2016). "Planning ahead: grasp height effect in children with autism spectrum disorder". In *Proceedings of Mind the Gap: Brain, Cognition and Society*, 277

Oral and/or Poster Presentations in Scientific Congress

- **Podda, J.**, Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G. (October 2021). Poster Presentation: "Mind wandering in people with Multiple Sclerosis: a psychometric study" in 37th Congress of ECTRIMS. The Digital Experience
- **Podda, J.**, Maggiora, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Casadio, M., Tacchino, A. (December 2020). Poster Presentation: "Do PwMS plan ahead? A Kinematic Study of Upper Limb Motor Planning in MS". In RIMS Conference (digital edition).
- **Podda, J.**, Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Rogina, G., Vitiello, A., Rinaldi, S., Isolabella, L., Tortorolo, A., Battaglia, M.A., Konrad, G., Brichetto, G. (December 2020). Poster Presentation: "Using a novel robotic platform for balance assessment in pwMS: data from traditional clinical tests and Hunova". In RIMS Conference (digital edition).
- **Podda, J.**, Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratini, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (November 2020). Poster and Video Presentation: "Predominant cognitive

phenotypes in MS: insights from patient-centered outcomes (PCOs)” in 28th Annual Meeting of the European Charcot Foundation (digital edition).

- **Podda, J.** and Tacchino, A. (December 2019). Oral presentation (Invited): “Neuropsychological Rehabilitation - Cognitive training and other techniques” in 2nd RIMS Workshop “Rehabilitation in Progressive MS”, Milan, Italy.
- **Podda, J.** and Bergamaschi, V. (November 2019). Oral presentation (Invited): “From “paper and pencil” to computerized devices: tools in Cognitive Rehabilitation” in SIG Occupation in-between meeting, Genoa, Italy.
- **Podda, J.**, Bergamaschi, V., Konrad, G., Tacchino, A., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Monti Bragadin, M. (June 2019). Oral Presentation: “Same form diverse outcome: role of PT on SPMS”. In RIMS Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- **Podda, J.**, Bozzo, L., Ponzio, M., Monti Bragadin, M., Konrad, G., Bergamaschi, V., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto G., Tacchino, A. (June 2019). Poster Presentation: “Computerized balance assessment and PRO in MS”. In RIMS Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- **Podda, J.**, Ansuini, C., Memeo, M.C., Becchio, C., (May 2018). Poster Presentation: “The role of movement frequency on motor contagion”. In MeeTo Conference, Turin, Italy
- **Podda, J.**, Ansuini, C., Cavallo, A., Jacono, M., Pintaudi, M., Semino, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (October 2017). Poster Presentation: “How far do ASD children plan ahead? A kinematic study on the grasp-height effect”. In 18th SIAMOC Congress, Turin, Italy.
- **Podda, J.**, Ansuini, C., Vastano, R., Cavallo, A., Becchio, C., (July 2017). Poster Presentation: “The heaviness of invisible objects: predictive weight judgments from observed real and pantomimed grasps”. In 7th JAM, London, UK.
- Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.**, Cavallo, A., Koul, A., Pintaudi, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (May 2017). Poster Presentation: “Reading intention in action: the case of autism spectrum disorder”. In IMFAR, San Francisco, USA.
- **Podda, J.** (November 2016). Oral Presentation: “Planning ahead: grasp height effect in children with autism spectrum disorder”. In 13th AISC Conference, Turin, Italy.
- Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.**, Cavallo, A., Jacono, M., Pintaudi, M., Semino, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (September 2016). Poster Presentation: “Same object, different uses: prior-intention and action execution in children with high functioning autism”. In 11th Autism-Europe International Congress, Edinburgh, UK.
- **Podda J.** (September 2016). Oral Presentation: “The I.Move.U approach to the study of action execution and action observation: the case of autism spectrum disorder”. In 2nd SMART School on Computational Social and Behavioral Sciences, Paris, France.

Honor and Awards

Finalist and 2nd place at 10th edition of “Premio Nazionale Giovedì Scienza”. Title presentation: “Design and development of a remote, time-efficient, personalized digital assessment of cognitive impairment in MS: DIGICOG-MS” (Venaria Reale, Turin, Italy).

Language Skills

Italian: mother tongue; English: fluent spoken and written

Technical Skills

Generic software: Office; Experimental and programming software: E-Prime and MATLAB; Statistical software: SPSS; Motion capture techniques: Vicon system; Cognitive assessment: Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE), Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA), Attentional Matrices, Trail-Making Test (TMT), Corsi Block-Tapping Test, Digit Span Test, Rivermead Behavioural Memory Test, Tower of London Test, Raven’s progressive Matrices, Weigl Test, Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB), Movement Assessment Battery for Children-Second Edition (MABC-2), Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children- Fourth Edition (WISC IV), Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2), Brief International Cognitive Assessment for MS (BICAMS); Cognitive rehabilitation software: Rehacom (Hasomed, Germany), Rehability (Imaginary, Italy).

Genoa, 24/01/2022

Jessica Podda

