

Café Scientifique Headingley

Monday 10th Sept. 2018 at 7:30pm

Speaker: Helen Ford

Title: Time is Brain
New Treatments for Multiple Sclerosis



Outline:

Treatments of MS have changed dramatically over the last 20 years. Previously the only available treatments were used to manage symptoms such as pain, spasms or fatigue. Interferon was the first disease modifying treatment to be licensed in 1996. It was the first MS treatment to show any effect on reducing the number of attacks or relapses. Since then there have been exciting new discoveries with new treatments acting on different parts of the immune system. There are now 14 licensed treatments. The newer treatments are much more effective in reducing relapses. The debate in MS treatment centres now is whether we should be using these powerful treatments at a much earlier stage of MS. Will this prevent loss of nerve fibres as well as reducing inflammation and lead to better long-term outcomes for people with MS?

Biog: Dr Helen Ford is a consultant neurologist with a special interest in multiple sclerosis. Helen leads a multidisciplinary MS team based at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. The team provides a local service for people with MS in Leeds and a tertiary MS Treatment Programme for West Yorkshire and parts of North Yorkshire.

Helen is Honorary Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Leeds. She is Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Divisional Lead for the UK NIHR Clinical Research Network. Helen leads the Division 4 team's research in neurological conditions, neurodegenerative conditions, dementia and mental health.

Helen's research interests are in the epidemiology of MS, the development of patient reported outcome measures, employment in MS and clinical trials. Helen is the Clinical Lead for the Yorkshire Brain Research Centre appeal.

Venue: The New Headingley Club, 56 St Michael's Rd., Leeds LS6 3BG

Time: Club opens at 7:00pm for drinks & the room at 7:30; talk begins promptly at 7:45pm

Entry: Donation please for room hire and expenses: **£3 at the door**



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