



Professor Barbara Wilson
Clinical Neuropsychologist

Biography

Professor Barbara Wilson is a clinical neuropsychologist who has worked in brain injury rehabilitation for 45 years. She has published 33 books, 205 peer reviewed papers, 125 chapters, and 8 neuropsychological tests.

She has won many awards for her work, including an OBE from the Queen in 1998 for services to rehabilitation; five lifetime achievement awards - one from the British Psychological Society, one from the International Neuropsychological Society, one from the National Academy of Neuropsychology, one from the Encephalitis Society, and one from the NHS 70-year anniversary Parliamentary Awards, where she was the regional champion for the Midlands and East Region. In 2011 she received the Ramón y Cajal Award from The International Neuropsychiatric Association. In 2014, she received an honorary degree from the University of Cordoba, Argentina. Also in 2014, she received the M. B. Shapiro Award from the Division of Clinical Psychology (affiliated with the British Psychological Society) for distinguished contributions to Clinical Psychology. In 2019, she received the annual award from the Spanish Clinical Neuropsychological Society.

She is the editor of the journal “Neuropsychological Rehabilitation”, which she founded in 1991, and in 1996 she also established the Oliver Zangwill Centre for Neuropsychological Rehabilitation. A rehabilitation centre in Quito, Ecuador is named after her. She is President Emeritus of the UK Encephalitis Society and, until recently, was on the management committee of the World Federation of Neuro Rehabilitation. The UK Division of Neuropsychology has named a prize after her - the ‘Barbara A Wilson Prize for Distinguished Contributions to Neuropsychology’. She is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society, The Academy of Medical Sciences, and the Academy of Social Sciences. She is an honorary professor at The University of Hong Kong, The University of Sydney, and the University of East Anglia. She has held 30 research grants. Her work has resulted in changes in clinical practice. For example, as a result of a randomised control trial evaluating a paging system to improve the everyday functioning of people with memory and planning problems, the local health authority set this up as a healthcare system for people throughout the United Kingdom.

She has recently worked freelance for St George's Hospital in London on the neuropsychological consequences of Covid-19 and was an invited speaker at the INS conference in San Diego, where she spoke on "Patients who have changed my way of thinking". She received a standing ovation for this talk.