

JESSICA A. WOJTALIK, Ph.D.

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences
 11235 Bellflower Rd.
 Room 106
 Cleveland, OH 44106
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EDUCATION:

- 2014 – 2019 **Doctor of Philosophy**
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA
 Major: Social Work
 Dissertation Title: *Functional Significance of Gray Matter Plasticity Following Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in Early Schizophrenia*
- 2009 – 2011 **Master of Social Work**
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA
 Concentration: Direct Social Work Practice
 Certificate: Mental Health
- 2005 – 2009 **Bachelor of Science**
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock, PA
 Major: Psychology
 Minor: Criminology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

- July 2020 – Present **Assistant Professor**
Case Western Reserve University, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Cleveland, OH
- Sept. 2019 – June 2020 **Transitional Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
University of Michigan, School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI

RESEARCH SUPPORT:

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|---|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| L30 MH131133 | Wojtalik (PI) | 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2024 | \$56,855 |
| NIH/NIMH | | | |
| Project Title: <i>Confirming the Neuroprotective Effect of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET) on Fronto-Temporal Gray Matter Loss in Early Course Schizophrenia</i> | | | |
| The aims of this research are to confirm the neuroprotective effect of CET on fronto-temporal gray matter loss in early course schizophrenia (Aim #1) and subsequently identify areas of CET-related gray matter neuroprotection that are mediators of improved cognitive outcomes (Aim #2). Such findings will begin to provide much needed evidence of the neural mechanisms associated with participation in cognitive remediation, and give insights into neurobiological targets that will enhance treatment effectiveness for people living with schizophrenia. | | | |
| F31 MH113277 | Wojtalik (PI) | 01/01/2018 – 08/31/2019 | \$61,452 |
| NIH/NIMH | | | |

Project Title: *Functional Significance of Structural Brain Change During Cognitive Remediation in Early Schizophrenia*

This project examined the degree to which structural gray matter brain alterations associated with cognitive remediation were beneficial for functional improvement in individuals with early course schizophrenia. Results indicated that Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET), a social work-developed intervention, had a significant beneficial impact on functional performance and social functioning, replicating prior studies (Aim #1). A significant neuroprotective effect of CET was observed in left posterior cingulate cortex (PCC) gray matter volume (Aim #2). Differential effects of CET on social functioning were partially mediated by the CET-related neuroprotective effect in left PCC gray matter volume (Aim #3). The identification of the PCC as a potential neural treatment target of CET provides vital information needed to enhance the effectiveness of psychosocial/cognitive treatments for improving functional recovery.

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award

5/2018 – 4/2019

\$4,500

*Wynne Korr Doctoral Student Resource Fund
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

September 2019 – June 2020 **Transitional Postdoctoral Fellow**

University of Michigan, School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI

January 2018 – August 2019 **Predoctoral Fellow (F31 MH113277, PI: Wojtalik)**

Mentors: Shaun M. Eack, Ph.D., Matcheri S. Keshavan, M.D.,
Konsale M. Prasad, M.D.

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA

Harvard Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, Boston, MA

*University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric
Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh, PA*

May 2017 – August 2017

Dissertation Summer Fellow

Functional Significance of Structural Brain Change During
Cognitive Remediation in Early Schizophrenia

Mentor: Shaun M. Eack, Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA

August 2014 – August 2016

Graduate Research Assistant (GSA)

Study clinician, conducted clinical diagnostic assessments,
analyzed behavioral and neuroimaging data, assisted with MRI
procedures for federally-funded studies of Cognitive Enhancement
Therapy (CET) for schizophrenia (MH092440, PI:

Eack/Keshavan) and autism (AR100344, PI: Minshew/Eack).

Analyzed neuroimaging and quality of life data from a NIDA-
funded feasibility trial of CET for substance misusing
schizophrenia (DA030763, PI: Eack).

Analyzed neuroimaging data examining 10-year follow-up effects
of CET for schizophrenia (MH104487, PI: Eack).

University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA

March 2013 – August 2014

Neuroimaging Data Analyst Consultant

- Analyzed neuroimaging data in participants with PTSD during an emotional conflict task before and after Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for a NIMH-funded study (MH090366, PI: Bruce).
University of Missouri-St. Louis, Department of Psychology, Center for Trauma Recovery, St. Louis, MO
- October 2012 – July 2014 **Clinical Research Assistant**
Analyzed neuroimaging data from an NIMH-funded study (MH066031, PI: Barch) in schizophrenia and healthy control participants with and without a history of substance abuse during two versions of an N-back working memory task.
Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Psychology, St. Louis, MO
- October 2011 – August 2014 **Clinical Research Assistant/Neuroimaging Data Analyst**
Analyzed neuroimaging data from an NIDDK-funded (DK084113, PI: Sayuk) investigation of the severity of somatization in Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS).
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, Department of IM/Gastroenterology, Department of Psychiatry, St. Louis, MO
- October 2012 – May 2013 **Clinical Research Assistant**
Assisted with recruitment, scheduling, and MRI procedures for an NIMH-funded (MH079118, PI: Mathews) neuroimaging study seeking to examine reward processing in individuals with current MDD who were free of psychiatric medications.
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, St. Louis, MO
- Sept. 2009 – July 2011 **Research Assistant**
Assisted with recruitment, scheduling, and MRI procedures for an NIMH-funded neuroimaging study seeking to examine perspective-taking differences between individuals with schizophrenia and healthy controls (MH095783, PI: Eack).
Analyzed structural neuroimaging data in participants with schizophrenia using voxel based morphology (VBM) (MH060902, PI: Keshavan).
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh, PA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

Spring 2023

Instructor, SASS 549 – Theory/Practice Approached in Direct Practice Social Work (on-campus format, 16 MSW students)

Fall 2022

Lead Instructor, SASS 514 – Mental Health Policy and Service Delivery (on-campus format, 20 MSW students)

Overall rating of instruction: 3.53/5.00 (19/20 response rate)

Spring 2022	Lead Instructor , SASS 514 – Mental Health Policy and Service Delivery (on-campus format, 8 MSW students) Overall rating of instruction: 4.86/5.00 (7/8 response rate)
Fall 2021	Lead Instructor , SASS 514 – Mental Health Policy and Service Delivery (on-campus format, 9 MSW students) Overall rating of instruction: 4.38/5.00 (8/9 response rate)
Spring 2021	Lead Instructor , SASS 514 – Mental Health Policy and Service Delivery (on-campus format [remote], 10 MSW students) Overall rating of instruction: 4.00/5.00 (9/10 response rate)
<i>Pennsylvania State University, The Behrend College, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Erie, PA</i>	
Spring 2019	Adjunct Faculty , PSYCH 260A – Neurobiological Bases of Human Behavior (23 undergraduate students)
Fall 2018	Adjunct Faculty , HDFS 229 – Infant and Child Development (26 undergraduate students)
<i>University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA</i>	
Spring 2018	Adjunct Faculty , SOCWRK 1000 – Introduction to Social Work (23 undergraduate students)
Fall 2017	Teaching Assistant (TA) , SOCWRK 1015 – Human Behavior & The Social Environment (undergraduate) Supervisor/Instructor: Rachel A. Fusco, PhD
Fall 2016 – Spring 2017	Teaching Assistant (TA) Spring 2017: SWRES 2023 – Directed Study in Research (BASW) Fall 2016: SOCWRK1020 – Introduction to Social Work Research (BASW) & SOCWRK 1020C (Honors section) – Introduction to Social Work Research (BASW) Supervisor/Instructor: Catherine Greeno, Ph.D.
November 2015	Guest Lecturer , SOCWRK 1015 – Human Behavior in the Social Environment (BASW), Lecture topic: Early adulthood Instructor: Dr. Rachel Fusco
October 2010	Guest Lecturer , Foundations of Social Work Research (BASW), lecture topic: Measurement Instructor: Shaun M. Eack, Ph.D.
<i>University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA</i>	
January 2013	Course Assistant , Basic fMRI Design and Analysis Using SPM (http://neurometrika.org/) Instructor: Thomas Zeffiro, M.D., Ph.D

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & AWARDS:

2022	NIH/NIMH Loan Repayment Program Awardee (L30 MH131133) <i>Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health</i>
2021	2021 Schizophrenia International Research Society Poster Award Finalist Title: 'Baseline Predictors of Attrition during a Multi-Site Randomized Trial of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for Early Course Schizophrenia'

- 2021 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society
(virtual conference)
- 2019 **Early Career Award Program** (formerly Travel Award)
2019 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society,
Orlando, FL
- 2018 **Achievement in Pedagogy**
Credentials in pedagogical professional development.
Concentrations: Diversity, Pedagogy, Professional Development,
University of Pittsburgh, University Center for Teaching and Learning
Graduate Student Teaching Initiative, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2018 **Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award**
Wynne Korr Doctoral Student Resource Fund
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2018 **National Research Service Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award (F31
MH113277)**
Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health,
National Institute of Mental Health
- 2017 **New Investigator Award**
American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP) Annual
Meeting, Miami, FL
- 2014 **Joseph W. and Helen F. Eaton Emerging Scholars Award**
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2011 **Donaldson Memorial Award**
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2008 – 2009 **Slippery Rock University Dean's List**
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock, PA
- 2007 **The National Scholars Honor Society Membership**
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock, PA
- 2006 **Slippery Rock University Residence Life Academic All-Star Award**
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock, PA

PUBLICATIONS:

h-index: 11

*supporting graduate student scholarship

Wojtalik, J.A., *Kotwani, A., *Vincent, R.L., D'Angelo, L., Brown, W.J. (*in preparation*).
Psychometric validation of the brief WHODAS 2.0 for SMI populations in a Clubhouse
Model Setting.

Wojtalik, J.A., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (*in preparation*). Confirming the gray matter
neuroprotective effect of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia.

*Kotwani, A., **Wojtalik, J.A.,** *Vincent, R.L., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (*in preparation*).
Mediating effects of social cognition on the relationship between neurocognition and
functional outcome in early course schizophrenia: Implications for Cognitive
Enhancement Therapy.

*Vincent, R. L., *Kotwani, A., **Wojtalik, J.A.** (*in preparation*). Efficacy of neuroscience-informed psychoeducation interventions: A systematic review.

Wojtalik, J.A., Brown, W.J., Mesholam-Gately, R.I., *Kotwani, A., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (*submitted*). Predictors of treatment discontinuation during an 18-month multi-site randomized trial of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia.

1. Brown, W.J., Saulnier, K.G., Allan, N.P., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Zampogna, A.M., Grubaugh, A.L. (2022). Dropout from Prolonged Exposure among individuals with posttraumatic stress disorder and comorbid severe mental illness. *Journal of Affective Disorders Reports*, 10. doi: [10.1016/j.jadr.2022.100405](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadr.2022.100405)
2. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, *Flores, A.T., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2022). Premorbid sociality moderates social adjustment change during Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for adults with early schizophrenia. [Invited manuscript for special issue: Experimental Therapeutics in Child Clinical Psychology: Identifying Mechanisms and Moving the Needle]. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 51(3) 312-322. doi: [10.1080/15374416.2022.2025599](https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2022.2025599)
3. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Mesholam-Gately, R.I., Hogarty, S.S., Greenwald, D.P., Litschge, M.Y., Sandoval, L.R., Shashidhar, G., Guimond, S., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2022). Confirmatory efficacy of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early schizophrenia: Results from a multi-site trial. *Psychiatric Services* 75(3), 501-509. doi: [10.1176/appi.ps.202000552](https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.202000552)
4. Grubaugh, A.L., Brown, W.J., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Myers, U.S., Eack, S.M. (2021). Meta-analysis of the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder in adults with comorbid severe mental illness. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 82(3), 20r13584, e1-e11. doi: [10.4088/JCP.20r13584](https://doi.org/10.4088/JCP.20r13584)
5. Newhill, C.E., Yuan, Y., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M. (2021). A transdiagnostic comparison of emotion dysregulation in schizophrenia and cluster-B personality disorders. *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 12(1), 155-175. doi: [10.1086/713820](https://doi.org/10.1086/713820)
6. Borhneimer, L.A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Li, J., Cobia, D., Smith, M.J. (2021). Suicidal ideation in first-episode psychosis: Considerations for depression, positive symptoms, clinical insight, and cognition. *Schizophrenia Research*, 228, 298-304. doi: [10.1016/j.schres.2020.12.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.schres.2020.12.025)
7. Noël, C., Gu, F., Ormston, L., Tingle, S., Tucci, A., Pezzoli, P., Padani, S., Sandoval, L., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, M.S., Guimond, S. (2021). Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in early schizophrenia: A qualitative and quantitative case series of patients' experiences. *Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Mental Health*, 8(2), 109-123. doi: [10.1007/s40737-020-00204-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40737-020-00204-6)
8. Guimond, S., Ling, G., Drodge, J., Matheson, H., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Lopez, B., Collin, G.,

- Brady, R., Mesholam-Gately, R., Thermenos, H., Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S., (2020). Functional connectivity associated with improvement in emotion management after Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in early-course schizophrenia. *Psychological Medicine*. 1-10. doi: [10.1017/S0033291720004110](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291720004110)
9. Alameda, L., Ashok, A., Avery, S., Bani-Fatemi, A., Berkhout, S., Best, M., Bonfils, K., Colizzi, M., Dauvermann, M., Du Plessis, S., Dwyer, D., Eisner, E., Ganesh, S., Hernaus, D., Ithal, D., Kowalchuk, C., Kristensen, T., Lavigne, K., Lee, E., Lemmers-Jansen, I., O'Donoghue, B., Oliver, L., Oluwoye, O., Park, M.T., Di Carlo, P., Joaquim, H.P.G., Pinheiro, A., Ramsay, I., Rodriguez, V., Samia, M., Soni, S., Sonnenschein, S., Taylor, J., Thomas, M., Waterreus, A., **Wojtalik, J.**, Yang, Z., Emsley, R., Kilian, S. (2020). The 2019 Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, 10–14 April, Orlando, Florida: A summary of topics and trends. *Psychiatry Research*, 284, 112672. doi: [10.1016/j.psychres.2019.112672](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2019.112672)
 10. Kuo, S. S., **Wojtalik, J. A.**, Mesholam-Gately, R. I., Keshavan, M. S., & Eack, S. M. (2020). Transdiagnostic validity of the MATRICS Consensus Cognitive Battery across the autism-schizophrenia spectrum. *Psychological Medicine*, 50(10), 1623-1632. doi: [10.1017/S0033291719001582](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291719001582)
 11. Brown, N., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Turkel, M., Vuper, T., Strasshofer, D., Sheline, Y.I., Bruce, S.E. (2020). Neuroticism and its associated brain activation in women with PTSD. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 35 (1-2), 341-363. doi: [10.1177/0886260516682519](https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260516682519)
 12. Kuo, S.S., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Mesholam-Gately, R.I., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2019). Establishing a standard emotion processing battery for treatment evaluation in adults with autism spectrum disorder: Evidence supporting the Mayer-Salovey-Caruso Emotion Intelligence Test (MSCEIT). *Psychiatry Research*, 278, 116-124. doi: [10.1016/j.psychres.2019.05.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2019.05.011)
 13. Hansen, M. C., Jones, B. D., Eack, S. M., Glenthøje, L. B., Ikezawa, S., Iwane, T., Kidd, S. A., Lepage, M., Lindenmayer, J-P., Ljurij, I., Maida, K., Matsuda, Y., Nakagome, K., Nordentoft, M., Ozog, V., Penney, D., Saperstein, A. M., Sunaga, A., Vinogradov, S., Virdee, G., **Wojtalik, J. A.**, Medalia, A. (2019). Validation of the MUSIC Model of Motivation Inventory for use with cognitive training for schizophrenia spectrum disorders: A multinational study. *Schizophrenia Research*, 206, 142-148. doi: [10.1016/j.schres.2018.11.037](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.schres.2018.11.037)
 14. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M. (2019). Cognitive Enhancement Therapy improves social relationships quality of life among individuals with schizophrenia misusing substances. *Social Work Research*, 43(1), 59-64. doi: [10.1093/swr/svy032](https://doi.org/10.1093/swr/svy032)
 15. Schreiber, S.R., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Walker, C.P., Cho, R.Y., Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2018). Serum anticholinergic activity is associated with reduced prefrontal brain function in early course schizophrenia. *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*, 281, 31-34. doi: [10.1016/j.pscychresns.2018.08.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pscychresns.2018.08.017)

16. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Smith, M.J. Keshavan, M.S. (2018). Using cognitive neuroscience to improve mental health treatment: A comprehensive review. [Special Section on Social Work and Neuroscience]. *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 9(2), 223-260. doi: [10.1086/697566](https://doi.org/10.1086/697566)
17. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, M.S., & Minshew, N.J. (2017). Social-cognitive brain function and connectivity during visual perspective-taking in autism and schizophrenia. *Schizophrenia Research*, 183, 102-109. doi: [10.1016/j.schres.2017.03.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.schres.2017.03.009)
18. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Smith, M.J., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2017). A systematic and meta-analytic review of neural correlates of functional outcome in schizophrenia. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 43(6), 1329-1347. doi: [10.1093/schbul/sbx008](https://doi.org/10.1093/schbul/sbx008)
19. Brown, W.J., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Dewey, D., Bruce, S.E., Yang, E., Sheline, Y.I. (2016). Affect and neural activity in women with PTSD during a task of emotional interference. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 204, 9-15. doi: [10.1016/j.jad.2016.05.065](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2016.05.065)
20. Buchholz, K.R., Bruce, S.E., Koucky, E.M., Artime, T.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Brown, W.J., Sheline, Y.I. (2016). Neural correlates of trait rumination during an emotion interference task in women with PTSD. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 29(4), 317-324. doi: [10.1002/jts.22112](https://doi.org/10.1002/jts.22112)
21. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Barb, S.M., Newhill, C.E., Keshavan, M.S., Phillips, M.L. (2016). Fronto-limbic brain dysfunction during the regulation of emotion in schizophrenia. *PLoS ONE*, 11(3), 1-13. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0149297](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0149297)
22. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Hogarty, S.S., Cornelius, J.R., Phillips, M.L., Keshavan, M.S., Newhill, C.E., Eack, S.M., (2016). Cognitive Enhancement Therapy improves fronto-limbic regulation of emotion in alcohol and/or cannabis misusing schizophrenia: A preliminary study. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 6, 1-11. doi: [10.3389/fpsy.2015.00186](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2015.00186)
23. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Barch, D.M. (2014). An fMRI study of the influence of a history of substance abuse on working memory related brain activation in schizophrenia. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 5(1), 1-11. doi: [10.3389/fpsy.2014.00001](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2014.00001)
24. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Newhill, C.E., Keshavan, M.S., Phillips, M.L. (2013). Prefrontal cortical dysfunction during visual perspective-taking in schizophrenia. *Schizophrenia Research*, 150(2-3), 491-497. doi: [10.1016/j.schres.2013.08.022](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.schres.2013.08.022)
25. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2013). Structural neurobiological correlates of Mayer-Salovey-Caruso Emotional Intelligence Test performance in early course schizophrenia. *Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry*, 40(10), 207-212. doi: [10.1016/j.pnpbp.2012.09.013](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pnpbp.2012.09.013)
26. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Pollock, B.G., Keshavan, M.S. (2012). Prefrontal gray matter

morphology mediates the association between serum anticholinergic activity and cognitive functioning in early course schizophrenia. *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*, 204(2-3), 61-67. doi: [10.1016/j.psychres.2012.04.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2012.04.014)

27. Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Prasad, K.M., Francs, A.N., Bhojraj, T.S.,
 • Greenwald, D. P., Hogarty, S. S. (2011). A broad cortical reserve accelerates response to cognitive enhancement therapy in early course schizophrenia. *Schizophrenia Research*, 130(1), 123-129. doi: [10.1016/j.schres.2011.05.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.schres.2011.05.001)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

*supporting graduate student scholarship

1. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Brown, W.J., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2023, January). *Predictors of early and late treatment dropout in early course schizophrenia during a multi-site randomized trial of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy*. Paper presented at the 27th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ.
2. *Kotwani, A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, *Vincent, R., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2023, January). *Mediating effects of social cognition on the relationship between neurocognition and functional outcome in early course schizophrenia: Implications for Cognitive Enhancement Therapy*. Paper presented at the 27th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ. [[media coverage](#)]
3. *Vincent, R., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, *Kotwani, A., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2023, January). *Examining the relationship between cognition and stages of recovery in the early course of schizophrenia*. Paper presented at the 27th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ.
4. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Ben-David, S., Blajeski, S., Bornheimer, L.A., Devylder, J., Eack, S.M., Jones, N., Smith, M. (2023, January). *Social Work and First-Episode/Early Course Psychosis*. SIG presented at the 27th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Phoenix, AZ.
5. *Kotwani, A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, *Vincent, R.L., Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2022, November). *Pathways from neurocognition to functional outcomes in early course schizophrenia: The mediating role of social cognition*. Poster presented at the 2022 Annual Conference of Ohio Chapter of National Association for Social Workers, Columbus, OH. [**NASW-OH Graduate Level Research Award** (*Kotwani)].
6. Grubaugh, A.L., Brown, W.J., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Myers, U.S. (2022, November). *Randomized controlled trial of prolonged exposure for PTSD among veterans with severe mental illness*. Paper presented at the 38th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS), Atlanta, GA.
7. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, *Flores, A.T., Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2022, January). *Preliminary*

study of baseline demographic moderators of behavioral change during Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia. Paper presented at the 26th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.

8. *Flores, A.T., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, M.S., Eack, S.M. (2021, November). *Moderating effects of premorbid sociality on social adjustment change during a randomized trial of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention (virtual conference).
9. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Mesholam-Gately, R.I., Hogarty, S.S., Greenwald, D.P., Litschge, M.Y., Sandoval, L.R., Shashidhar, G., Guimond, S., Keshavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2021, April). *Confirmatory efficacy of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early schizophrenia: Final results from a multi-site randomized trial.* Paper presented at the 2021 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society (virtual conference).
10. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Livingston, N.R. (2021, April). *Advancements in clinical trials in schizophrenia: Novel pharmacotherapies and cognitive remediation.* Oral session presented at the 2021 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society (virtual conference). [**Co-Chair**]
11. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2021, April). *Baseline predictors of attrition during a multi-site randomized trial of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia.* Poster presented at the 2021 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society (virtual conference). [**Poster Award Finalist**]
12. Bornheimer, L.A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Li, J., Cobia, D., & Smith, M. (2021, April). *Clinical insight and cognitive functioning as mechanisms in the relationships between psychosis symptomatology, depression, and suicide ideation among individuals in a first episode of psychosis.* Invited symposium presented at the 2021 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society (virtual conference).
13. Bornheimer, L.A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Li, J., Cobia, D., & Smith, M. (2021, April). *Symptoms of psychosis, depression, and suicide ideation among individuals in a first episode of psychosis: The mechanistic role of clinical insight and cognitive functioning.* Poster presented at the 29th European Congress of Psychiatry conference (virtual conference).
14. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Hanley, A.W., Garland, E.L. (2021, January). *Social work Neuroscience: Using neuroimaging to study and address social problems* (Discussant: Himle, J.A.). Symposium presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research (virtual conference). [**Symposium organizer and Chair**]
15. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2021, January). *Functional significance of gray matter volume change during Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in early course schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research (virtual conference).

16. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2021, January). *Neural mechanisms of long-term disability of social-cognitive improvement during Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia*. Paper presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research (virtual conference).
17. Ben-David, S., Bornheimer, L.A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Blajeski, S., Devylder, J. (2021, January). *Early phase or first-episode psychosis*. SIG presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research (virtual conference).
18. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2020, January). *Confirmatory efficacy of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early course schizophrenia: Results from a multi-site randomized trial*. Paper presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
19. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, & Keshavan, M.S. (2020, January). *Long-term durability of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy effects in early course schizophrenia*. Paper presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
20. Bornheimer, L.A., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Li, J., Cobia, D., & Smith, M. (2020, January). *The relationship between cognition and suicidal ideation among individuals with psychosis*. Paper presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
21. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2019, April). *Confirmatory efficacy of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for early schizophrenia: Results from a multi-site randomized trial*. Paper presented at the 2019 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society, Orlando, FL. [**Early Career Award**].
22. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2019, January). *Neuroprotective effects of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy against gray matter loss in early course schizophrenia: First results of a 10-year follow-up study*. Paper presented at the 23rd annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, San Francisco, CA.
23. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keshavan, S.M. (2018, October). *Ten year durability effects of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in early course schizophrenia*. Paper presented at the 11th biennial meeting of the International Conference on Early Intervention in Mental Health, Boston, MA.
24. Eack, S. M., Garland, E. L., Smith, M. J., **Wojtalik, J. A.**, & Howard, M. O. (2018, January). *Social work and neuroscience: Using neuroimaging to study and address social problems*. Symposium presented at the 22nd annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
25. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Keller, T., Keshavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2018, January). *Cognitive*

Enhancement Therapy protects against gray matter loss in early schizophrenia: Preliminary results from an ongoing two-site randomized trial. Paper presented at the 22nd annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.

26. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Kehsavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2017, May). *Differential adherence to antipsychotic medication impacts clinical and functional outcomes in antipsychotic-naïve first-episode psychosis patients: A longitudinal study.* Paper presented at the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP) 2017 Annual Meeting, Miami, FL. [New Investigator Award].
27. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Kehsavan, S.M., Eack, S.M. (2017, March). *Ten-year durability effects of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy in early course schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the 16th biennial conference of the International Congress on Schizophrenia Research, San Diego, CA.
28. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M. (2017, January). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy improves quality of life among individuals with schizophrenia who misuse alcohol and cannabis.* Paper presented at the 21st annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.
29. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M. (2016, January). *A systematic review of neural correlates of functional outcome in schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
30. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Hogarty, S.S., Cornelius, J.R., Phillips, M.L., Keshavan, M.S., Newhill, C.E., Eack, S.M., (2016, January). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy improves fronto-limbic regulation of emotion in alcohol and/or cannabis misusing schizophrenia: A preliminary study.* Poster presented at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
31. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, McKnight, S.A.F, Eack, S.M., Montrose, D., Mermon, D.E., Miewald, J., Keshavan, M.S. (2016, January). *Factor structure of the Scale of Prodromal Symptoms and empirical development of a brief version in youth at high risk for schizophrenia.* Poster presented at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC.
32. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Hogarty, S.S., Greenwald, D.P., Cornelius, J.R., Keshavan, M.S., Phillips, M.L., Eack, S.M.. (2015, April). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy improves fronto-limbic regulation of emotion in substance misusing schizophrenia.* Poster presented at the 15th biennial conference of the International Congress on Schizophrenia Research, Colorado Springs, CO.
33. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., Keshavan, M.S. (2015, January). *Identifying the social and emotional brain in early course schizophrenia.* Poster presented at the 19th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

34. Brown, W.J., Bruce, S.E., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Sheline, Y.I. (2014, November). *Structural gray matter differences related to affectivity between PTSD and healthy controls*. Poster presented at the 48th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia, PA.
35. Brown, W.J., Bruce, S.E., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Sheline, Y.I. (2014, November). *Investigation of the relationship between initial gray matter volume and response to Cognitive Processing Therapy*. Poster presented at the 48th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia, PA.
36. Bruce, S.E., Buchholz, K.R., Brown, N., Brown, W.J., & **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2014, November). *Does PTSD affect visual processing? An fMRI investigation of visual cortex activity in response to fearful faces*. Poster presented at the 48th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia, PA.
37. Buchholz, K.R., Bruce, S.E., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Sheline, Y.I. (2014, November). *Neural correlates of global rumination as predictors of treatment outcome in women with PTSD*. Poster presented at the 48th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies Annual, Philadelphia, PA.
38. Brown, W.J., Bruce, S.E., Buchholz, K.R., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Durbin, A., Sheline, Y.I. (2013, November). *Association of affectivity and neural activity in posttraumatic stress disorder*. Paper presented at the 47th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies, Nashville, TN.
39. Buchholz, K.R., Bruce, S.E., Koucky, E., Artime, T., Brown, W.J., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Durbin, A., Sheline, Y.I. (2013, November). *Neural mechanisms of rumination in posttraumatic stress disorder*. Paper presented at the 47th annual conference of the Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapies Annual, Nashville, TN.
40. **Wojtalik, J.A.** & Eack, S.M. (2011, September). *An fMRI investigation of perspective-taking in early course schizophrenia*. Poster presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Boston, MA.
41. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S.M., & Keshavan, M.S. (2011, June). *Serum anticholinergic activity is associated with widespread gray matter loss in early schizophrenia*. Poster presented at the 14th annual conference in Cognitive Remediation in Psychiatry, New York, NY.
42. Eack, S.M., **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Prasad, K.M., Francis, A.N., Bhorraj, T.S., Cho, R.Y., Greenwald, D.P., Hogarty, S.S., & Keshavan, M.S. (2011, April). *A Broad cortical reserve accelerates response to cognitive enhancement therapy in early course schizophrenia*. Poster presented at the 13th biennial meeting of the International Congress on Schizophrenia Research, Colorado Springs, CO.
43. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Newhill, C.E., & Eack, S.M. (2011, January). *Racial disparities in mental*

health outcomes among individuals with serious mental illness. Paper presented at the 15th annual meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research, Tampa Bay, FL.

44. **Wojtalik, J.A.**, Eack, S. M., & Keshavan, M. S. (2010, October). *Serum anticholinergic activity is associated with widespread gray matter loss in early schizophrenia.* Poster presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Seattle, WA.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2022, November). *Cognition and Cognitive Remediation in SMI.* Invited presentation to Ohio Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team leaders, Center for Evidence-Based Practices, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
2. **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2022, June). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy: Improving Cognitive and Functional Recovery from Schizophrenia.* Invited presentation to Board of Trustees, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
3. **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2022, February). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy and Potential Research Collaboration.* Invited presentation to team members of the Center for Evidence Based Practice, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
4. **Wojtalik, J.A.** (2022, February). *Cognitive Enhancement Therapy and Potential Research Collaboration.* Invited presentation to team members of the Magnolia Clubhouse, Cleveland, OH.

SERVICE:

University Service:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2023 – | Chair, Ad hoc PhD Qualitative Exam Review Subcommittee
<i>Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |
| 2022 – | Member, Committee on Students
<i>Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |
| Fall 2022 | Appointed Faculty Representative, University Faculty Senate
<i>Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |
| 2021 – | Member, PhD Executive Committee
<i>Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |
| 2021 – 2022 | Member, Ad hoc PhD Qualitative Exam Review Subcommittee
<i>Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i>
<i>School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |
| 2020 – | Member, PhD Admissions Advisory Committee
<i>Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i> |

2020 – 2021 Member/Sponsor, leadership training curriculum development committee for women in health professions
Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Institutional Action Project (IAP), Abby Spencer (fellow), MD

Editorial Boards:

2022 - Review Editor, *Frontiers in Psychiatry | Schizophrenia*

Journal Reviewer:

Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging

Cognitive Neuropsychiatry

Early Intervention in Psychiatry

EBioMedicine

Frontiers in Psychiatry

Frontiers in Psychiatry | Schizophrenia

Journal of Affective Disorders

Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research

NeuroImage: Clinical

npj Schizophrenia

Psychiatry Research

Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging

Schizophrenia Bulletin

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

2018 – Present **Member**, Schizophrenia International Research Society

2014 – Present **Member**, Society for Social Work and Research

MEDIA COVERAGE:

Vandenberge, J. (2023, January 17). Unique partnership aims to bring more hope, opportunity to those with mental illness. *News 5 Cleveland WEWS*.

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/cleveland-metro/unique-partnership-aims-to-bring-more-hope-opportunity-to-those-with-mental-illness>

Mandel School's Anju Kotwani presents on mediating effects of social cognition. (2023, January 10). *CWRU The Daily*. <https://case.edu/socialwork/about/news/spartan-showcase-anju-kotwani>

McEwen, C. (2023, January 6). Mandel School partners with Magnolia Clubhouse on research, recovery for those with mental health issues. *CWRU The Daily*. <https://thedaily.case.edu/mandel-school-partners-with-magnolia-clubhouse-for-research-recovery-for-those-with-mental-health-issues/>

DIRECT PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:

August 2014 – May 2019 **Therapist**

- Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET) and Enriched Supportive Therapy (EST).
 Primary clinician for individuals with schizophrenia and autism, including the provision of CET and EST,
 Supervisor: Susan S. Hogarty, RN, MSN, Shaun M. Eack, PhD
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, ASCEND Program, Pittsburgh, PA
- Sept. 2010 – August 2015 **Clinical and Diagnostic Interviewer**
 Conducted clinical, diagnostic, and risk assessments across diverse populations (i.e. schizophrenia, depression, Autism, ADHD, Tourette Syndrome, substance misuse). Assessed for risk and presence of abuse/neglect in children.
 Supervisors: Deanna M. Barch, PhD, Jose Mathews, MD
Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Psychology, Department of Psychiatry, St. Louis, MO
 Shaun M. Eack, PhD
University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh, PA
- Sept. 2010 – Feb. 2011 **MSW Concentration Intern**
 Provided individual and group counseling in an inpatient context for severe mental illness.
 Supervisor: Catherine Breneman, PhD, LCSW
University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Transitional Recovery Unit, Pittsburgh, PA
- October 2009 – April 2010 **MSW Foundation Intern**
 Facilitated and co-facilitated structured therapeutic (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy) and psychoeducational groups and individual counseling. Completed bio-psycho-social-spiritual assessments and mental status exams.
 Supervisor: Amy Donis, LCSW
Gateway Rehabilitation Center, Partial Hospitalization Program, Pittsburgh, PA
- January 2008 – July 2009 **Employment and Education Program Assistant**
 Mentored and tutored youth involved in CARREERS Club, and developed a social skills curriculum. Volunteered at homeless shelters, food banks, littler pickups, and Global Youth Service Day activities.
Lawrence County Community Action Partnership, New Castle, PA
- May 2008 – August 2008 **Psychology Intern**
 Co-facilitated family-based therapy sessions with children, adolescents, and adults with severe mental illness.
 Supervisor: Elaine Wolfson, MS
Community Counseling Center, Family-Based Therapy and Services, Hermitage, PA

TRAININGS AND/OR COURSEWORK:

Spring 2022	To Tenure and Beyond <i>Office of Faculty Development, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i>
Spring & Summer 2021	Hanover's Grant Academy <i>Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i>
June 2021	Multilevel Models for Longitudinal Data using R <i>Center for Research on Families, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA</i>
March-April 2021	Moderation, Mediation, and the PROCESS Macro <i>Center for Research on Families, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA</i>
March 2021	Opportunity Centered Teaching: The Essentials in Higher Education <i>Office for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i>
January 2021	Refocus on Online Teaching (ROOT) <i>[U]Tech, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH</i>
April 2019	FreeSurfer Tutorial and Workshop <i>Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA</i>
February 2018 – Oct. 2018	Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research <i>Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA</i>
September 2017 – June 2018	Achievement in Pedagogy Credential <i>Graduate Student Teaching Initiative, University Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA</i>
December 2012	Network Analysis: Functional Connectivity (http://neurometrika.org/) Instructors: Thomas Zeffiro, M.D., Ph.D., Susan Whitfield-Gabrieli, Ph.D. <i>Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, St. Louis, MO</i>
September 2012	Basic fMRI Design and Analysis Using SPM (http://neurometrika.org/) Instructor: Thomas Zeffiro, M.D., Ph.D. <i>Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, St. Louis, MO</i>