THE PLACEBO-EFFECT: PSYCHOLOGICAL MECHANISMS, NEURAL UNDERPINNINGS AND CLINICAL RELEVANCE

Target group: Health-care professionals; physicians (both in primary health care and specialists), psychologists, psychotherapists.

Time and Place: Friday the 6th of November 2015, Auditorium Ringbom, Axelia II, Piispankatu 8.

The speakers:

Irving Kirsch is Associate Director of the Program in Placebo Studies and Lecturer in medicine at the Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, USA, as well as Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the Universities of Plymouth (UK), Hull (UK) and Connecticut (US). His meta-analyses on the efficacy of antidepressants were covered extensively in the international media and influenced official guidelines for the treatment of depression in the United Kingdom.

Hasse Karlsson is Professor of Integrative Neuroscience and Psychiatry at the Turku Brain and Mind Center and Department of Psychiatry, University of Turku as well as Chief Physician at Turku University Hospital, Department of Psychiatry. He is leading the FinnBrain project, examining the effects of prenatal maternal stress on vulnerability to deficits in child brain structure and function. He has studied the neural mechanisms of psychotherapy and the determinants of outcome in depression. He is also a practicing psychiatrist and psychotherapist (interpersonal therapy).

ILMOITTAUDU NOPEASTI, VAIN 95 PAIKKAA LUENTOSALISSA. SAAT SÄHKÖPOSTITSE VAHVISTUKSEN JOS MAHDUT MUKAAN. ANMÄL DIG SNABBT, SALEN RYMMER BARA 95 PERS. DU FÅR BEKRÄFTELSE VIA E-MAIL OM DU RYMS MED.

Ilmoittautuminen/anmälning: https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/5354/lomake.html

Programme:

- 12.10 Mira Karrasch (Dept of Psychology, Åbo Akademi): Welcome and introduction
- 12.15 - 13.15 Professor Irving Kirsch (Boston, USA): The wonderful world of placebo

Professor Kirsch’s talk will focus on factors affecting the magnitude of the placebo effect (e.g., condition being treated, mode of administration) and the psychological mechanisms underlying it (e.g., expectancy, conditioning, the therapeutic relationship).

- 13.15 – 13.30 Questions
- 13.30 - 14.30 Professor Hasse Karlsson (Turku): The neural underpinnings and practical relevance of the placebo-effect in health care settings

Professor Karlsson’s talk will focus on the neural underpinnings of placebo (and nocebo) as well as discuss its’ relevance in clinical settings; what can organizations and individuals do to enhance placebo and minimize nocebo-effects.

- 14.30 – 15.00 Questions and discussion