

APH Mental Health Junior Travel Award 2024

Thanks to the APH Mental Health Junior Travel Award, I had the opportunity to visit an in-person meeting of the Collaborative on Fatigue Following Infection (COFFI) in Oslo, Norway, from 5-8 March 2024.

COFFI is an international scientific collaborative of post-infective cohort studies, with the aim to investigate factors influencing the development of long-term symptoms (in particular fatigue) following certain infectious diseases (such as infectious mononucleosis or Lyme borreliosis). As my PhD research focusses on the long-term fatigue, (neuro)psychological functioning, and quality of life of individuals with COVID-19, this meeting was the perfect place to share my expertise with a diverse audience of professionals. It was really useful to be able to put my work on COVID-19 into perspective to years of research on persistent symptoms following other infectious diseases.

The meeting offered a variety of insightful sessions and group discussions. I particularly enjoyed the sessions with the Early and Middle Career Research group of the collaborative. We shared work and life experiences, brainstormed about future collaborations and possible junior exchange programs, partly while enjoying a typical Norwegian tradition, a bonfire in the snow.

In conclusion, this visit was a great opportunity for me to connect with researchers in the field of post-infective fatigue and share my research on COVID-19 disease. I really felt like I was able to contribute to the research agenda of the collaborative and plans for a joint grant application.



The Early and Middle Career Research group

I want to thank APH sincerely for this valuable experience!

Anouk Verveen

Department of Medical Psychology