




University Hospital
of Psychiatry Zurich



Intercantonal training for Early Intensive Intervention in Autism

Our institutions have joined forces to offer an intercantonal training course specializing in Early Intensive Intervention in Autism to Swiss intervention centers. This training is spread over three years for a total of 27 days. After completing the three years of training a postgraduate certification in Early Intensive Intervention for Autism will be obtained.

References of the training institutions:

Fondation Pôle Autisme

Place du Cirque 2
1204 Genève
Tel. 022 322 89 20

Klinik für Kinder – und Jugendpsychiatrie und Psychotherapie

Universität Zürich
Neumünsterallee 9
8032 Zürich
Tel. 043 499 26 26

**Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale
Istituto Pediatrico della Svizzera Italiana**

Viale Officina 3
6500 Bellinzona
Tel. 091 811 13 03

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1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Intercantonal Training for Early Intensive Intervention in Autism offers professionals a postgraduate certification in Early Intensive Intervention for Autism.

By founding a joint training institute, we are establishing a quality standard that will allow professionals from centers that are recognized or newly created in Switzerland to become trained on effective early interventions for autism.

A large number of specifically trained therapists will be needed to meet the demand for interventions in Switzerland over the next two decades.

Thanks to the intercantonal collaboration between the KJPP University of Zurich, the Fondation Pôle Autisme in Geneva (University of Geneva), the Istituto Pediatrico della Svizzera Italiana and other partners of accredited centers, our expertise, clinical experience and resources will be optimally shared in order to offer this program at a high level of quality.

This program is open to different professional groups from mental health or education.

The method and type of training is crucial for the effectiveness of the intervention.

The prerequisite for training is master's degree in psychology (bachelor's degrees students in the process of completing a master degree are considered upon request of the institute where the clinical activity takes place), therapeutic pedagogy, speech therapy, occupational therapy (exceptions are possible in consultation with the directors of the institute).

The three-year training will focus on early intensive evidence-based interventions for children with autism that are based on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Participants will receive theoretical training in Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention (EIBI) and Naturalist Developmental Behavioural Intervention (NDBI), and practical training in EIBI or ESDM.

The Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) is an NDBI specifically designed for the needs of very young children with ASD, practiced in Geneva by Fondation Pôle Autisme as well as other centers in Switzerland, like Ticino for example. The *Frühe Intensive Verhaltenstherapeutische Intervention* (FIVTI) is an Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention (EIBI) which is practiced in Zurich and is carried out using a combined home and center-based approach. ABA type interventions are also commonly carried out at EOC in Ticino.

ESDM and FIVTI form the basis of this training. Participants will learn these two approaches and receive additional evidence-based tools to expand their repertoire to enable graduates to provide highly qualified early intensive intervention for young children with autism under supervision and over time independently in all cantons of Switzerland. The complementarity of the different tools is intended to prepare trainees for the different challenges that professionals face, as well as the diversity of ASD both in terms of clinical presentation and the evolution of ASD throughout the second through sixth year of development.

The 9 days of training per year are partly live and partly by videoconference.

In addition, knowledge is acquired through self-paced online learning modules (MOOCs on Autism Spectrum Disorders by University of Geneva and online teaching on EIBI and ABA by KJPP University Zurich) and supplementary reading.

The first year begins with introductory workshops to enable participants to begin treating patients with either ESDM or EIBI. Definition, psychopathology, diagnostics, neurobiology of autism and research, ethics and professionalism in early intervention will be taught.

This will be followed by the acquisition of solid knowledge in the field of behavioral intervention and developmental psychology.

In the second and third year, the theory will be deepened, and participants will be able to plan their own individual therapy even in difficult situations.

Parental involvement in ASD intervention is essential. Therefore, in the advanced stage, the emphasis is on teaching and interaction with parents.

The program is complemented by elements and modules that, according to our practical experience, are relevant and useful for the comprehensive intervention for children with autism regardless of their developmental level and severity of symptoms.

Topics such as support for language development (alternative communication systems), functional autonomy, including essential functions such as nutrition and toilet training are taught.

While participants are enrolled in the training, they work with children in early intensive intervention under supervision provided by certified ABA or ESDM trainers.

State or public utility provider for intensive early intervention are a prerequisite for the clinical experience portion. Working on at least 10 clinical cases of children with ASD receiving intensive early interventions and 2 parent coaching interventions must be documented. A total of 150 hours of supervision, of which at least 50 hours of individual supervision are required for graduation.

Recognition is granted by the examination committee and the supervisors, both in terms of clinical work (videos) and by testing acquired knowledge (multiple choice).

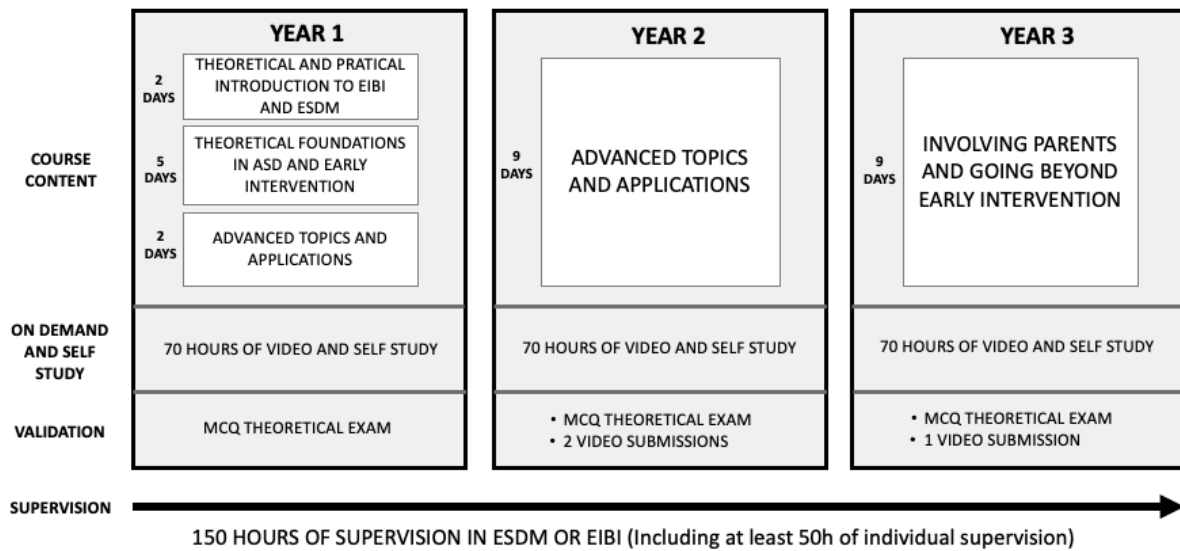
Although the courses will be taught in English, clinical work and 1:1 supervision in the centers, group supervision will be partly in English, online teaching will vary between English and multilingual. A special effort will be made in order to allow all students to ask questions and build interventions in their own native language.

The cost of the training will be 2'200 CHF per year / person. The fee could vary according to the number of attendees and potential support from donors. The cost for individual and group supervision is not included in the total costs.

If you have any questions about the Intercantonal Training, please contact the e-mail address formation@pole-autisme.ch.

2 INTERCANTONAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN EARLY INTERVENTION IN ASD

2.1 OVERVIEW



In the following section the day by day program is presented for the three years in order to get a detailed understanding of the content.

2.2 PROGRAM YEAR ONE (lecturer & location may change)

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LECTURER	LOCATION
Day 1 & 2 in September	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kick-off: introduction to the training program • Theoretical background, terminology and research in early evidence-based intensive intervention 	S. Eliez/Ramelli/ G. Seeger N. Studer	Online
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism Spectrum Disorder: • Diagnostics 	M. Schaer/ M. Franchini	Online
Day 3 & 4 in November	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comorbidities, heterogeneity and neurology in Autism 	M. Schaer/S. Eliez B. Glaser/Ramelli/Rizzi	Geneva & Online
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic skills in evidence-based early intensive intervention II 	C. Robertson	Geneva
Day 5 in January	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developmental Psychology 	G. Seeger	Online
Day 6 in March	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic skills in evidence-based early intensive intervention I 	N. Rohrer	Geneva & Online
Day 7 in April	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and professionalism in early intensive intervention • Basic operations in learning, motivational operations and verbal behavior 	N. Studer	Online
Day 8 & 9 in June	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of skills in evidence-based early intensive intervention I 	M. Iseli / C. Bouamri	KJPP Zürich
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of skills in evidence-based early intensive intervention II 	S. Wirth	KJPP Zürich

2.3 PROGRAM YEAR TWO (lecturer & location may change)

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LECTURER	LOCATION
Day 1 & 2 in September	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase attention and motivation according to ESDM approach. • How to use Sensory Social Routines in ESDM • Building back and forth interactions according to ESDM approach 	C.Bouamri, M.Iseli	<i>Centre d'Intervention Précoce en Autisme,</i> Fondation Pole Autisme Geneva
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing non-verbal communication according to ESDM approach • Build imitation competencies according to ESDM approach 	C.Bouamri, M.Iseli	
Day 3 & 4 in November	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC in ESDM setting • Development of joint attention in ESDM approach 	A. Costes, F. Mayjonade	Online
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build play skills in ESDM approach • Develop symbolic play in ESDM approach 	A. Costes, F. Mayjonade	Online
Day 5 in December	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to support verbal language • Video analysis with fidelity tool in ESDM 	C. Robertson, M. Etienne,	Online
Day 6 in January	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing, defining and dealing with problem behaviour in EIBI and FIVTI 	S. Wirth	Online
Day 7 in March	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments in EIBI and FIVTI 	N. Rohrer	Online
Day 8 & 9 in June	10:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program tracks, teaching objectives and flowcharting in EIBI and FIVTI 	N. Studer/ S. Wirth	KJPP Zürich
	09:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing teaching objectives and goals in EIBI and FIVTI 	N. Studer/ S. Wirth	

2.4 PROGRAM YEAR THREE (lecturer & location may change)

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LECTURER	LOCATION
Day 1 & 2 in September	10:00- 17:00	• Team Training in EIBI and FIVTI	<i>To be determined</i>	KJPP Zürich
	09:00- 16:00	• Bringing it all together in EIBI and FIVTI	N. Studer	
Day 3 & 4 in November	10:00- 17:00	• Parental involvement and activation	<i>To be determined</i>	Online
	09:00- 16:00	• Parental involvement and activation	<i>To be determined</i>	Online
Day 5 in December	10:00- 17:00	• Structured approaches		Online
Day 6 in January	10:00- 17:00	• Teaching alternative communication skills		Online
Day 7 in March	10:00- 17:00	• Transition to groups and the school setting	<i>To be determined</i>	Online
Day 8 & 9 in June	10:00- 17:00	• Other interventions beyond intensive intervention (toilet training, motivation and token economy)	N. Studer	Centre d'Intervention Précoce en Autisme, Fondation Pole Autisme Geneva
	09:00- 16:00	• Dealing with sleep problems, food selectivity and feeding issues • Intervention in high-risk infants	<i>To be determined</i>	