



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA



FONDAZIONE  
RICERCA BIOMEDICA  
AVANZATA ONLUS  
V.I.M.M.

DIPARTIMENTO FISPPA

**Emanuele Pick**

**Giovedì 8 Marzo – ore 13.30 aula seminari del VIMM, via Orus 2**

**in collaborazione con il Padova Neuroscience Center**

Conferenza per ricercatori

**Empathy in X-linked Spinal and Bulbar Muscular Atrophy:  
neuropsychological and electrophysiological assessment in a case-  
control study**

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Emanuele Pick, graduated in 2016 at the University of Padua in Cognitive Neuroscience and Clinical Neuropsychology, has been involved in different research projects. His interests span from the dyadic synchronization of electrodermal activity in a psychotherapy setting as a measure of emotional attunement between patient and clinician, to the empathic abilities and executive functioning of patients suffering from different neuromuscular disorders. In Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis patients, he also focused on the possible link between the onset of the disease and the psychological traumas experienced by the person early in life.

In this talk, he will illustrate the first ERP study on Kennedy's disease (KD) patients. KD is a rare genetic disease and patients suffer from a malfunctioning in the androgen receptor, resulting in endocrinological and muscular symptoms. At the cognitive level, literature is contrasting on the possible deficits and only recently has focused on the finer empathic abilities of this population. In the seminar, he will highlight the specific design used to tackle the peculiarities of KD patients. A battery of questionnaires to investigate the cognitive domain, and an innovative EEG cognitive task useful to detect a possible dissociation between different components of empathy.