



**Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez  
Dhar El Mahraz Faculty of Arts and Human  
Sciences**

**In collaboration with**

**Sociology and Psychology Laboratory**

**Organize**

**An international conference**

**under the theme :**

**‘Mental Health, Disability and Psychotherapy:  
Innovative Clinical Practices and  
Interdisciplinary Perspectives’.**

**Clinical practice and scientific research in the era of  
new technologies**

**26th -27th February,2025**

**Call for papers**



This theme aims to explore current issues and developments in the fields of mental health and disability, addressing innovative clinical and therapeutic practices, and the interdisciplinary interventions required to meet the needs of individuals in these areas. By integrating cutting-edge technologies, in particular artificial intelligence (AI), and taking into account socio-cultural particularities, this reflection is intended to be a forum for sharing and seeking concrete solutions to improve the quality of life of the people concerned.

In a global context where mental health has become a priority, clinical practices are evolving to meet the growing needs of populations. Innovative clinical practices such as Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), cognitive remediation, Emotional Focused Therapy (EFT), early schema therapy, art therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy, virtual reality therapy, etc., offer more appropriate ways of tackling various mental disorders and improving patients' quality of life. These therapies enable individuals to explore their thought patterns, emotions and behaviour in a safe, supportive environment. This wide range of approaches reflect the ongoing enrichment of clinical therapeutic practices, enabling mental health professionals to offer increasingly personalised and effective interventions.

These modern techniques are transforming the field of mental health and disability, particularly in terms of screening, diagnosis and the development of new therapies. With AI and virtual reality, professionals have tools that can detect signs of mental and cognitive disorders at an early stage, and develop immersive interventions such as virtual training programs or augmented reality. These advances make it possible to refine diagnoses, personalise treatments and make certain forms of support accessible in a variety of contexts.

However, the integration of these technologies raises a number of complex issues. On one hand, it redefines the role of clinicians by changing traditional clinical practices and therapeutic intervention methods. Traditional methods, based on direct human contact and clinical analysis, have to coexist and sometimes readapt in the face of technological tools that promise real-time assistance and advanced personalisation of care.

This development raises the question: how can clinicians integrate these tools without losing the human dimension that is essential to psychological care ?

The development of these tools also raises complex ethical and cultural issues. The collection and analysis of sensitive data requires not only strict guarantees of confidentiality and respect for privacy, but also in-depth consideration of the cultural specificities of the populations concerned. Technological solutions, while uniform in design, must be adapted to meet the linguistic, social and traditional particularities of each community. For example, certain practices or concepts incorporated into these tools may conflict with local values, beliefs or lifestyles, which could limit their acceptance and effectiveness. It is therefore crucial to design these innovations taking into account users' cultural representations, social norms and daily practices.





The question remains:

How can these technological advances be harmoniously integrated into diverse contexts, while preserving the richness of human practices and respecting the cultural identities of populations?

When it comes to supporting people with disabilities, an integrative and holistic approach involving medicine, psychology, neuropsychology, occupational therapy, education and rehabilitation is essential to guarantee comprehensive and effective support. Disability, whether physical, sensory or intellectual, requires tailored care that goes beyond the medical dimension and includes psychological and social support. People with disabilities benefit from support programs that include not only medical treatment, but also therapeutic and educational interventions designed to enhance their independence and social inclusion. For example, cognitive rehabilitation schemes enable patients to better manage the cognitive challenges associated with their condition.

By involving families and communities in this support process, it is possible to build a solid support environment and promote the inclusion and social acceptance of people with disabilities.

Finally, psychotherapeutic support programs play a key role in improving the psychological well-being of people with disabilities. These programs offer patients the means to better understand and manage their emotions, develop social skills and strengthen their resilience. By working on managing emotions and building healthy relationships, these psychotherapeutic interventions also help to reduce the feelings of isolation and stigmatisation often associated with disability. In addition, tailoring therapeutic programs to the specific needs of each individual maximises their effectiveness, by involving collaborative work between psychologists, educators, rehabilitation professionals and social workers, these therapies can be adapted in a flexible and targeted way, offering support that is truly person-centred.

## Themes and topics addressed at the conference

1. Innovative clinical and therapeutic practices in mental health
2. Mental health and new technologies:
  - Applications of artificial intelligence and virtual reality in diagnosis, monitoring and therapeutic support
  - Digital technologies and traditional clinical and therapeutic practices
  - The ethical and cultural challenges of applying these technologies in the field of mental health
3. Disability: Psychological Therapies and Interdisciplinary Interventions
4. Psychological Programs and Therapies: Adaptation and Effectiveness



## Objectives of the conference

The aim of this conference is to bring together university researchers, experts and professionals to discuss the issues surrounding mental health and disability. The aims of the meeting are as follows:



**Find out about advances in research in the field of mental health and disability, by identifying innovations, good practices and the challenges encountered.**



**Discuss the issues and challenges included in the conference themes**



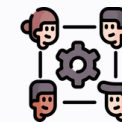
**Strengthen interdisciplinary and international collaboration by creating opportunities to bring together different professionals and different countries.**

## Forms and formats of participation

The international conference on 'Mental Health, Disability and Psychotherapies: Innovative Clinical Practices and Interdisciplinary Perspectives' offers a variety of activities and formats for participation:



**Scientific Sessions**



**Practical Workshops**



**Scientific posters**



**Interactive sessions for students and tutorials**



**Networking and experience-sharing areas**

## Submission guidelines

**Proposals must include :**

**A clear, concise title**



**A 300 to 500 word summary setting out the issues, methodology, main findings and implications.**



**The names, affiliations and contact details of the authors**



**Please send your proposals to**

**[colloqueinternationaldefes@gmail.com](mailto:colloqueinternationaldefes@gmail.com)**

**before the 25th January 2025. Proposals will be evaluated by a scientific committee, and notification of acceptance will be sent before February 5th .**

## Important dates

**25th January 2025**

**Deadline for submission of  
abstracts**

**15th February 2025**

**Deadline for submission of the full  
text of the paper**

**13th February 2025**

**Presentation of the final  
conference program**

**26th & 27th February 2025**

**Conference Days**

**Papers may be submitted in Arabic, French, English and Italian languages.**





## Conference coordinator

Pr Alliou Abdellaziz :  
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## Conference coordination

Abdelaziz Alliou  
Hiba BENBOUZIANE  
Zahra El Hachimi Alaoui



## Scientific Committee

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Faouzi Marzouki: Abdelmalek Essaadi University, Tétouan, Morocco.  
Badr Alami Al-Aroussi: Bordeaux, France.  
Rachid El Knouni: Disability expert, Morocco.

## Organizing Committee

Mohammed Moubtassim: Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Humanities-Dhar El Mehraz

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