



Deirdre Dawson, PhD

Dr. Deirdre Dawson is a Senior Scientist with the Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest Baycrest Health Sciences, Toronto, which has a special focus on brain health and aging. She is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Occupational Science, & Occupational Therapy at the University of Toronto, an Adjunct Scientist at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and a member of the Canadian Partnership in Stroke Recovery.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation from the University of British Columbia, her MSc in Epidemiology and her PhD in Neuropsychology from the University of Toronto. She is a licensed occupational therapist in Ontario, Canada and was inducted into the American Occupational Therapy Foundation's Academy of Research in 2014.

Dr. Dawson's research combines her training in rehabilitation science, epidemiology and neuropsychology in order to best understand how cognitive processes in healthy aging and acquired brain disorders impact on people's abilities to be autonomous in community living and to develop effective interventions that promote optimal participation in every-day life. Her work spans from ecologically valid assessment of cognitive impairments to occupationally based cognitive rehabilitation approaches to investigating the benefits of community support programs.