

CRITICAL REVIEWS & DIALOGUES

Editorial Introduction to Wilson/Prigatano Dialogue

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For too many members of our discipline, the practice of clinical neuropsychology is synonymous with the administration and interpretation of specialized tests of brain functioning. We have, in fact, become quite sophisticated in the assessment of brain-disordered patients. But the development of effective programs of neuropsychological *treatment* (which includes, but is not limited to, “cognitive rehabilitation”) remains one of the most pressing needs and awesome challenges for clinical and research neuropsychology.

Barbara A. Wilson of the MRC Applied Psychology Unit (Cambridge, U.K.) and George P. Prigatano of the Barrow

Neurological Institute (Phoenix, AZ) have been among the handful of neuropsychologists who have accepted this challenge with zeal. In the Dialogue that follows, Wilson and Prigatano discuss the merits and limitations of four conceptual approaches to cognitive rehabilitation, and make an important distinction between treating impairments and treating disabilities. Although they agree on many issues, Wilson and Prigatano clearly emphasize different aspects of the rehabilitation process.

Comments from readers are invited.