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Iris-Katharina Penner, PhD, is a neuropsychologist and cognitive neuroscientist at the University of Düsseldorf in Düsseldorf, Germany. She is also the founder of the COGITO Center for Applied Neurocognition and Neuropsychological Research.

Professor Penner studied in Germany at the Universities of Bonn and Berlin and received her diploma in psychology at the Free University of Berlin. She completed her PhD at the Neuroradiology Department of the University Hospital Basel on the topic of cognitive and functional changes in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS). From 2003 to 2009, Professor Penner worked as senior scientist at the Department of Cognitive Psychology and Methodology where she was scientifically engaged in cognition, fatigue, and cognitive rehabilitation in MS. From 2009 to April 2015, she worked as senior scientist and lecturer at the University of Basel, as well as in private practice at the Neurozentrum in Zürich with a focus on neuropsychological assessments in patients with neuroinflammatory and neurodegenerative diseases. In May 2015 Professor Penner moved to the Neurology Department of the Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf and founded the COGITO Center for Applied Neurocognition and Neuropsychological Research.

Professor Penner is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in the field of cognition and fatigue in MS. She developed the fatigue scale for motor and cognitive functions and published numerous scientific articles and book chapters. Professor Penner is a member of several professional and scientific societies. Her clinical and scientific focus is concentrated on cognitive processes and brain plasticity in neurodegenerative and inflammatory diseases of the human brain. From 2013 to 2015, she served as the President of the International MS Cognition Society.