

**CAFTR JOURNAL CLUB PRESENTS:**

# **EXPLORING THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCE WITH CHILDREN: THE ROLE OF MENTALIZATION TECHNIQUES, THERAPIST, AND CHILD CHARACTERISTICS**

**Chair: Malenka Areas**

**Discussant: Catherine Eubanks**

**Presenters: Leandro Casari & Dilara Güvenç**

Please **Register** here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtdO6oqD0sGtMHkdfZpBVg-RoETBUDEJKD>



**November 28th, 2023**

10:00 AM-11:30 PM  
Eastern Standard Time

# CAFTR JOURNAL CLUB: NOVEMBER MEETING

In this meeting, we will discuss two studies on **therapeutic alliance in child psychotherapy**.

**Leandro Casari** will be presenting a study examining the **therapist's effects on children's therapeutic alliance in a naturalistic setting**. The research focuses on the importance of the therapist's personal style and therapist characteristics in child psychotherapy, through a cross-sectional study design.

**Dilara Güvenç** will be presenting a study exploring the **dynamic relations between therapeutic alliance and mentalization techniques** in psychodynamic child therapy. The study investigates the bidirectional relationship between these variables, comparing two child therapy cases with different outcomes in an evidence-based case study design.

This event will be chaired by **Malenka Areas** and **Catherine Eubanks** will be our discussant. The **discussion will focus on understanding the effects of mentalization techniques, therapist, and child characteristics on the therapeutic relationship in clinical work with children**.

We are hoping you will participate and share your thoughts about this innovative and exciting area of research!

We will use the Zoom platform in the format of an **interactive video conference meeting**. A meeting invitation and the paper will be sent when you register for the event.

## Articles to be discussed:

- Güvenç, D., & Halfon, S. (2023). Dynamic relations between mentalization techniques and therapeutic alliance in psychodynamic child therapy: An evidence-based case study. *Psychotherapy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pst0000505>
- Casari, L.M., Areas, M. A., Ison, M. S., Gómez, B., Roussos, A., Consoli, A.J. & Gómez Penedo, J. M. (in press). Therapist's effect on children's therapeutic alliance: A naturalistic study. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*.

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## MEET OUR PRESENTERS



**Leandro Casari** is a researcher from the National Institute of Technical and Research Council (Argentina). He has a PhD in Psychology from the National University of San Luis. His research focus on therapist's personal style and children therapeutic alliance.



**Dilara Güvenç** is a clinical psychologist based in Istanbul. She has an MA degree in clinical psychology from Istanbul Bilgi University. Her research interests focus on understanding change mechanisms in psychodynamic therapy with children and adolescents



**Catherine Eubanks** is a professor at the Gordon F. Derner School of Psychology at Adelphi University in New York. Her research focuses on how to measure alliance ruptures and repairs and on training to enhance therapists' rupture repair skills



**Malenka Areas** is a Ph.D. student based at the University of Buenos Aires. Her research project explores the role of interpersonal functioning in psychotherapeutic change among adolescents.

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