

11th World Congress on

Neurology and Therapeutics

March 27-29, 2017 Madrid, Spain

The meaningfulness of cognitive processing speed in the assessment of cognitive impairment

Judit Subirana-Mirete

Ramon Llull University, Spain

The aim of this communication is to introduce the importance of the inclusion of Cognitive Processing Speed (CPS) in neuropsychological assessments for MCI & AD as the slowdown of the CPS is present in multiple diseases of the CNS among which we can include cognitive impairments of diverse aetiologies. Relation between CPS not only with white matter but also with grey matter gives us some clues about its importance in cognitive neurodegenerative processes. The separation between CPS and other cognitive processes is important to be considered and, although it has been shown possible, its everyday clinical assessment still presents many knots which are not easy to cope with. When assessing other cognitive domains, we usually use time-controlled neuropsychological tasks. These timings are often considered for the final conclusions of the overall cognitive status of the patients. However, we do not take into consideration that maybe only the CPS is slowed and there's no affect in the other cognitive domains but only slowed capacity of the system. For enhancing the assessment of CPS, some tests are being developed and adapted in order to be able to differentiate among the cognitive difficulties presented over evaluation on everyday clinical practice. We will be presenting new outcomes on CPS construct and its assessment as well as several studies that have been conducted in order to quantitatively evaluate the slowing of CPS in different stages of aging and cognitive impairment, including MCI and early stages of AD.

Biography

Judit Subirana-Mirete completed her PhD in 2016 at Ramon Llull University in the field of the assessment of cognitive impairment focusing on the importance of cognitive processing speed. She has focused her formation in Neuropsychology and Neurosciences accomplishing her specialization in Neuropsychology in 2010 at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Her research spans different areas including the early detection and evaluation of cognitive impairments and dementia. She has published, in this field, many articles as well as four book chapters. She received a grant from the Catalan Government to span her knowledge abroad, and to take up a position in the Oliver Zangwill Center (UK). She is currently on daily private practice as well as at the Ramon Llull University where she complements her clinical profile with national and international research projects in the field of Neuropsychology.

juditsm@blanquerna.edu

Notes: