

strengthened stereotypes and behavior strategies in past experiences.

Results The binary syndrome structure (set of symptoms of destroyed neuropsychological HMF and abnormal neuropsychological factor itself) allows us to define two strategies of neuropsychological rehabilitation programs. The first strategy involves choice as a “target” of the most destroyed mental function. The second strategy could be directed to the rehabilitation of abnormal neuropsychological factor that should be accompanied by the rehabilitation of several systemic interrelated mental functions. Recourse to past knowledge, interests and emotionally important topics is assisting and supporting the rehabilitation processes.

Conclusions Use of both strategies ensures targeted restoration of cognitive functions within Vygotsky-Luria approach.

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EV341

The relationship between language deficit, severity and structure of cognitive decline and BPSD in patients with dementia and MCI

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Introduction Comprehensive language testing shows a strong relationship between overall severity of cognitive decline and language deficit. Moreover, the language performance can be affected also by neuropsychiatric symptoms of dementia.

Aim To detect the language deficits in sentence comprehension in patients with MCI and dementia and to determine the relationship between them, the severity and the structure of cognitive impairment and independently between them and BPSD.

Method In the sample of 46 cognitively declined patients (MCI and dementia, majority of them with Alzheimer's disease), we evaluated the severity and the structure of cognitive impairment by means of MoCA instrument, language deficits by our own sentence comprehension test and BPSD by means of NPI-Q.

Results The average performance in the sentence comprehension test was about 90% of normal in the group of MCI patients, about 75% in mild, about 60% in moderate and only about 20% in the group of severe dementias. According to individual cognitive domains, their impact on language performance was different. We found a strong correlation between the overall severity of BPSD and the language performance, too.

Conclusion At earlier stages of cognitive disorders/dementias, the language specific test should be used to discover comprehension deficits, because at the simple level of word the language skills are preserved. BPSD are also associated with language deficits even when the severity of dementia is controlled for. Identification of these communication disturbances can help to detect cognitive decline earlier and to start preserving treatment in time.

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EV342

Dementia due to HIV infection: Case report

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Introduction The majority of HIV infected patients exhibit central nervous system disorders. The most severe is dementia, which is the most common cause of non-traumatic dementia in young patients. It may affect the progression of the disease, compromising the adherence of treatment and increasing the mortality rate.

Objectives Report of a clinical case of dementia due to HIV infection in a 33-year-old male patient, admitted in the Acute Inpatient Unit of the Psychiatry and Mental Health Department in Baixo Vouga Hospital Centre.

Methods The results were gathered based on the clinical history of the patient, his objective exam, diagnostic exams and family information and from medical research included on PubMed and Google Scholar platforms.

Results The patient presented evident cognitive deterioration with memory loss, attention and concentration deficits, apathy, indifference, psychomotor retardation and behavioral changes in the past few weeks, with a significant impact in his life. The patient did supplementary diagnostic tests, which showed progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy and global and diffuse cortical atrophy involving the fronto-temporal regions and a neuropsychological assessment whose results confirmed a moderate cognitive deficit. During the hospitalization there was a positive stabilization of behavior with antiretroviral therapy and antipsychotics.

Conclusion The lack of knowledge about the factors that predispose dementia in HIV patients is a relevant limitation nowadays. The clinical effectiveness of antiretroviral therapy has improved in recent years with a reduction in the prevalence of HIV dementia, which now is estimated at 10%.

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EV344

The effects of alexithymia in the recognition of dynamic emotional faces

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Introduction Alexithymia is a multifactorial personality trait observed in several mental disorders, especially those with poor social functioning. Although it has been proposed that difficulties in interpersonal interactions in highly alexithymic individuals may stem from their reduced ability to express and recognize facial expressions, this still remains controversial.

Aim In everyday life, faces displaying emotions are dynamic, although most studies have relied on static stimuli. The aim of this study was to investigate whether individuals with high levels of alexithymia differed from a control group in the categorization of emotional faces presented in a dynamic way. Given the highly