

Poster presentation

Development of a standardized scoring method for the Graphic Sequence Test suitable for use in psychiatric populations

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Background

Although the graphic version of the Alternating Sequences Test which was introduced by Luria exists for years little has been done to standardize it. The aim of the current study was to develop a novel and detailed standardized method of administration and scoring.

Materials and methods

The study sample included 93 normal control subjects (53 females and 40 males) aged 35.87 ± 12.62 and 127 patients suffering from schizophrenia (54 females and 73 males) aged 34.07 ± 9.83 . The psychometric assessment included the PANSS the YMRS, and the MADRS.

Results

A scoring method was developed and was based on the frequencies of responses of healthy controls. Chronbach's alpha and test-retest and inter-rater reliability were very good. Two indices and six subscales of the Standardized Graphic Sequence Test (SGST) were eventually developed.

Conclusions

The SGST seems to be a reliable, valid and sensitive to change instrument based on Luria's graphic sequence test. The great advantage of this instrument is the fact that it is paper and pencil, easily administered and little time con-

suming. Further research is necessary to test its usefulness as a neuropsychological test.