NLD, suggesting right-hemisphere dysfunction, and including a significantly higher Verbal than Performance IQ, extensive visual-motor deficits, marked bilateral dysgraphesthesia, better verbal than visual memory, and marked arithmetic deficits in contrast with strongly developed reading recognition skills. She has significant deficits in socioemotional functioning. Presently, she is being seen by several clinics for updated neuroimaging and genetic studies. The presentation discusses her neuropsychological profile and all related information for their implications to understanding developmental links between VCF and concomitant learning disability.

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Neuropsychological Functioning in a Pre-Screened Sample of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Patients.

Researchers have described CFS-related cognitive deficits ranging from mild reduction in speed of information processing to dementia using relatively brief test batteries. The purpose of this study was to more comprehensively assess neuropsychological functioning in a sample of identified CFS patients. Sixty consecutive patients presenting to the Chronic Fatigue Clinic at the University of Washington School of Medicine who had previously received medical and psychological evaluations were recruited to complete a four-test neuropsychological screening battery including the NART, PASAT, Stroop, and TMT during a regular clinic visit. Fifty-six patients agreed to participate and completed the screening battery. Twenty three participants (41%) evidenced impairment on the screening battery as defined by scoring >1 SD below the mean on age and education adjusted published norms on at least 2 tests or >2 SDs below the mean on at least 1 test and were referred for comprehensive neuropsychological assessment including the WAIS-R, WRAT-R, RAVLT, COWAT, Halstead-Reitan Battery, MMPI, and repeat administrations of the PASAT and Stroop. Eleven of the 23 participants completed the comprehensive battery with 12 declining due to fatigue, lack of insurance coverage, etc. Average age of the 11 participants was 41.5 + 9.9 years with a mean of 14.6 + 2.3 years of education. 91% were women and 56% were unemployed. Intellectually, these participants exhibited a VIQ = 111 + 11, a PIQ = 94 + 6, and an FSIQ = 103 + 8. Consistent with prior reports, this sample of individuals with CFS exhibited most significant difficulty with divided auditory attention and speed of information processing as measured by the PASAT (> -1.5 SD). On other time dependent measures (PIQ, WRAT-R Math, TMT A and B, and TPT), participant’s performances were consistently below those on non-time dependent measures. These findings suggest a more pervasive reduction in mental efficiency which extends beyond diminished divided auditory attention and reflects slowed information processing across multiple cognitive domains. However, these relative cognitive difficulties were mild in range and not indicative of statistically significant impairment in this highly selected sample most likely to have evidenced more severe cognitive dysfunction. Depression or other possible neurocognitive risk factors did not appear to be associated with neuropsychological performance.


Convergent Validity of Neuropsychological Tests of Visual Tracking Ability.

Intercorrelations between tests of attentional abilities have been demonstrated in previous research (O’Donnell, Macgregor, Dabrowski, Oestreicher, & Romero, 1994). The purpose of the present study is to examine the convergent validity of nine neuropsychological tests: the Visual Search and Attention Test (VSAT), Stroop Color and Word Test, Trails A, B, X, Y, and Z, the Symbol Digit Modalities Test (SDMT), and the WAIS-R Digit Symbol subtest. Subjects consisted of a heterogeneous sample of normal and brain injured individuals (N =