Abstract

Poster Session C

Friday, October 19, 2018 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES: TEST DEVELOPMENT AND METHODS

C - 66

Patient and Parent Satisfaction with Pediatric Tele-Neuropsychological Assessment

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Objective: Telehealth is a promising mechanism for providing services to patients. Research has established that tele-neuropsychology is feasible, valid, and satisfactory for evaluating adults. Emerging evidence on pediatric tele-neuropsychology is similar. However, research has not closely examined patient and parent satisfaction. This study examined participant and parent satisfaction with tele-neuropsychological assessment and explored demographic and clinical variables’ impact on satisfaction. Method: Pediatric patients (N = 44) from a demyelinating diseases clinic completed the same assessment battery across two evaluation sessions: face-to-face and remote videoconference. Following completion of the final assessment, children and their parents completed a questionnaire regarding their experience. Covariates analyzed included the age of the participant, miles from clinic, Brief Fatigue Inventory (BFI), WISC-V/WAIS-IV Vocabulary, and self- and parent-reported PedsQL Multidimensional Fatigue Scale (PedsQL MFS) Total. Results: The majority of patients and parents endorsed overall satisfaction with tele-assessment (88.7% and 94.7%). Most endorsed feeling comfortable with equipment (90.9% and 93.2%, respectively) and agreed that video testing was as acceptable as in-person (86.3% and 92.1%). Examination of demographic and clinical variables showed that PedsQL MFS self-report was associated with a decrease in a patient’s comfortability with videoconferencing equipment (p = 0.02). Conclusions: These results reveal that tele-neuropsychological assessment is generally satisfactory to patients and caregivers. However, clinicians should be aware that factors, such as fatigue, may impact an individual’s experience. Future research should further explore the factors underlying patient and parent experience of tele-neuropsychological assessment.