Neuropsychology of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder: Neuropsychological Models and Results of Empirical Studies

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ABSTRACT

Different theoretical models have been proposed to explain the neuropsychological deficits and their impact on the behavior of individuals with Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The aims of this article will be to present the main neuropsychological models of ADHD and an update on the main findings related to neuropsychological functioning of patients with this diagnosis. Reviews and meta-analyses on executive functioning, delay aversion, temporal processing and intra-individual variability in reaction time are presented. The neuropsychological profile of patients with ADHD is heterogeneous and neuropsychological tests are not sufficiently sensitive and specific for correct diagnosis, although they are very important to identify the cognitive profile and establish a more comprehensive and appropriate treatment plan according to the characteristics of each patient.