

Comparative Analysis of the WISC between Two ADHD Subgroups.

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Abstract

OBJECTIVE:

The prevalence of attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in school-age children is 7.2%, and ADHD is divided into clinical subtypes.

METHODS:

The current study explored whether specific cognitive profiles as assessed using the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC)-IV could be obtained for each clinical ADHD subtype (ADHD-Inattentive type and ADHD-Combined type) and investigated the correlation between WISC scores and parental age at their children's birth or birthweight. The enrolled sample comprised 12 ADHD-I and 15 ADHD-C subjects.

RESULTS:

An impaired Processing Speed Index was found in ADHD-I. The age of the father at the child's birth and birthweight positively correlated with the full scale intelligence quotient (FSIQ) score in the WISC assessment.

CONCLUSION:

Inattentiveness within the behaviors of the children with ADHD-I is partly due to the impaired processing speed, therefore effective support for ADHD will be conducted if educator decreases their speaking speed. Since biological basis of ADHD is still largely unknown, future studies using both psychological and biological methods will reveal the etiology of ADHD. These scientific assessments will provide information for more effective approaches in the care of children with ADHD.