

Role of Executive Function in Response to a Problem Solving Based Psychoeducational Intervention in Adolescents with Psychosis: The PIENSA Trial Revisited

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Abstract

An improvement in negative symptoms and a reduction in the number of visits to the emergency department have been reported in a problem solving based psychoeducational group intervention (PE) for adolescents with psychosis relative to a nonstructured group (NS). One of the factors that may play a role on the response to PE treatment is executive function (EF), a crucial cognitive domain for problem-solving performance. We aimed to examine the role of EF in response to PE treatment versus an NS group. We examined the associations between changes in cognition and in clinical/functional variables within each treatment group using Spearman-ranked and partial correlation analyses. A total of 22 individuals (mean age: 16.3) were randomized to PE (N = 10) and NS (N = 12). We found an association between improvements in EF performance and a reduction in positive symptoms ($r_s = -0.756$, $p = 0.030$ for semantic fluency), reduction in negative symptoms ($r = 0.758$, $p = 0.029$ for semantic; $r_s = -0.733$, $p = 0.025$ for verbal fluency), and reduction in the number of visits to the emergency department ($r = -0.743$, $p = 0.035$ for semantic fluency) in the PE group. No associations were found in the NS group. Our results suggest that EF may play a role in the specific improvements observed in the PE group. This may have implications in the development of new areas of clinical intervention focusing on the role of cognitive functioning in response to psychosocial treatments in psychosis.



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Biography

Francisco Camino is a young psychologist who studied Neuroscience and Clinical Psychology in Madrid. His field is about Adolescent Psychosis and other diseases such as Alzheimer disease, dementia and other neurodegenerative diseases. He receives formation in biomedical research at the Gregorio Marañón Hospital (Madrid). In addition, he works with patients with cerebral lesions in neurorehabilitation department. He have studies in Mindfulness as a technique to copy depression and he is also specialized in cognitive remediation to rehabilitate neuropsychological deficits.

Publications

- 1.Intervention in Adolescents with Psychosis: The PIENSA Trial Revisited
- 2.Role of Executive Function in Response to a Problem Solving Based Psychoeducational Intervention in Adolescents with Psychosis: The PIENSA Trial Revisited

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