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► To cite this version:

Ingrid Hennebert, Thierry Darnaud, Christine-Vanessa Cuervo-Lombard. The permanency of the implicit affective memory among old people in severe stage of neuroevolutionary disease. 17th of the International Conference for Young Researchers in Psychology, Dec 2022, Lille, France. hal-04402708

HAL Id: hal-04402708

<https://hal.science/hal-04402708>

Submitted on 18 Jan 2024

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The permanency of the implicit affective memory among old people in severe stage of neuroevolutionary disease



Ingrid Hennebert



Introduction

According to some authors, there is a persistence of emotional memory in people with neuroevolutionary disease despite the presence of cognitive deficits. It would allow individuals to recognize individuals without being able to name them. However, the concept of affective memory remains, today, far too little documented.

Objectives

The aim of this work is to show that beyond the cognitive memory which loses its efficiency in a neuro-evolutionary disease, there remains an implicit affective memory in people affected by this pathology, even at an advanced stage. More precisely, it would be a question of putting forward the function of the implicit affective memory as a support of the capacity of recognition and recall of a person or a relational situation.

Method

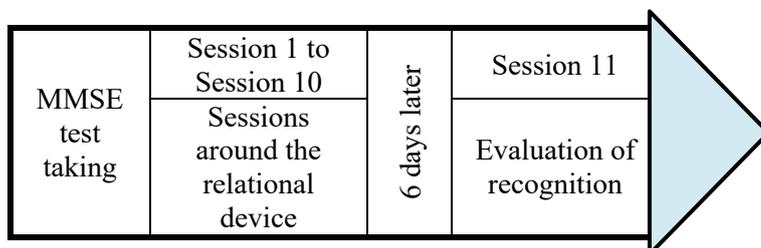
Participants: 70 elderly peoples with advanced neuro-evolutionary disease divided into 2 groups of 35 peoples (valence positive and valence neutral). People living in an institution.

Inclusion criteria:

- Present with major neurocognitive impairment according to DSM-5.
- MMSE score ≤ 10
- Reside in an institution for dependent elderly people

Intervention procedure: in several elderly facilities, weekly session over 10 days; then session 6 days later to assess recognition.

Experimental procedure:



Material used:

- Camera on stand
- Construction game, Biloba (relational device)

Data analysis intentions

- Analysis made from the data recorded by videos
- Coding of behaviors
- Coding of verbal data
- Use of FACS (Facing Action Coding System) for facial expression analysis

Statistical analysis intentions

Correlation analysis between the affective valence of the experimental situation (positive or neutral) and the number of signs showing recognition by the participants.

Benefits

- Highlighting the maintenance of implicit affective memory in elderly people with neuro-evolutionary disease
- Impact on the management of the disease
- To show the possible creation of new affective links

Conclusion

As this protocol is being implemented, we assume that participants will recognize the construction set presented in each session. In addition, recognition of the experimenter will be more pronounced in the positive situation than in the neutral situation. However, the experimenter will be recognized in both situations.