

iCAHE JC Critical Appraisal Summary

Journal Club Details

Journal Club	Hampstead
JC Facilitator	Erin Forbes
JC Discipline	Occupational Therapy

Review Question/PICO/PECO

- P** Clients with perceptual deficits
- E** OT APST – Occupational Therapy Adult Perceptual Screening Test.
- C** other perceptual tests
- O** validity, reliability, predictive value

Article/Paper

Brown T, Mapleston J, Nairn A 2012 'Can cognitive and perceptual standardized test score predict functional performance in adults diagnosed with stroke', *Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*, 30(1): 31-44.

Please note: due to copyright regulations CAHE is unable to supply a copy of the critically appraised paper/article. If you are an employee of the South Australian government you can obtain a copy of articles from the [DOHSA librarian](#).

Article Methodology: Correlational study (pilot study)

Journal Club Meeting on: 14th June 2013



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Allied Health Evidence

A member of the Sansom Institute

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Ques No.	Yes	Can't Tell	No	Comments
1	✓			<p>Was the purpose stated clearly?</p> <p>The objective of the study was to examine the ability of three standardized cognitive and perceptual assessments (i.e. Cognistat, Occupational Therapy Adult Perceptual Screening test, Developmental Test of Visual Perception-Adolescent and Adult) to predict functional performance in adults post-stroke.</p>
2	✓			<p>Was relevant background literature reviewed?</p> <p>The authors have reviewed previous studies relating to the link between cognitive/perceptual abilities with functional performance skills. They have also reported studies which described different standardised tests for cognitive and perceptual functioning. The authors argued that while there is a potential link between cognitive/perceptual abilities and functional ability, the available literature does not provide conclusive evidence; hence the need for the current study.</p> <p>Is it worth continuing? Yes</p>
3	✓			<p>Was the design appropriate for the study question?</p> <p>The study used a correlational design, a non-experimental study that examines the relationship or association between variables. With correlational studies, the variables are present together and the individual's status on one tends to reflect his/her status on the other.</p>
4	✓		✓	<p>Was the sample described in detail?</p> <p>The characteristics of the participants were described in the results section, first paragraph. Cognitive/perceptual and functional ability scores are presented in Table 1.</p> <p>Was sample size justified?</p> <p>A total of 27 adult stroke patients were included in the study. No justification was provided for the sample size. Small sample size, which is typical of pilot studies, may produce relatively imprecise and potentially biased estimates of statistical relationship. Results should therefore be interpreted with caution. While this is the case for pilot studies, a carefully designed study would still be useful in generating preliminary information about the topic of interest.</p> <p>Was informed consent obtained?</p> <p>Ethics approval was obtained from Monash University and Peninsula Health ethics committees. Written informed consent was obtained from participants prior to participation in the study.</p>

5	✓		<p>Were the outcome measures valid? Were the outcome measures reliable?</p> <p>The Functional Independence Measure (FIM) was used to describe the functional abilities of the participants. This instrument has been tested for validity and reliability in stroke patients. The instruments used for measuring cognitive and perceptual functioning (i.e. Cognistat, Occupational Therapy Adult Perceptual Screening test, Developmental Test of Visual Perception-Adolescent and Adult) have all been reported to assume good psychometric properties.</p>
6	✓		<p>Results were reported in terms of statistical significance?</p> <p>P-values were reported to determine significant correlations between variables.</p> <p>Was the analysis method appropriate?</p> <p>Spearman correlations were used to determine associations between variables, while linear regression was used to examine which of the cognitive/perceptual scales could predict functional performance.</p> <p>Clinical importance was reported?</p> <p>Journal club to answer</p>
7		✓	<p>Drop outs were reported?</p> <p>It didn't seem like there were drop outs in the study; however, this was not explicitly reported.</p>
8	✓		<p>Conclusions were appropriate given study methods and results?</p> <p>Bottom line results: The comprehension subscale of the Cognistat was the only significant predictor of the FIM motor scale.</p>

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