

continue to explore inclusive translation approaches.

Categories: Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

Keyword 1: diversity

Keyword 2: inclusion

Keyword 3: cognitive screening

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15 Does Subjective Socioeconomic Status Mediate the Relationship Between Objective Socioeconomic Status and Neuropsychological Test Performance Across Race and Ethnicity?

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Objective: Socioeconomic disadvantage is a chronic stressor associated with several biological markers of health (e.g., inflammation) as well as early-onset cognitive aging. Studies examining socioeconomic status (SES) and its link with health outcomes exhibit no uniformity in the way in which SES is measured and defined. Also, studies have found that subjective socioeconomic status (SSES), defined by a subjective SES scale, was more consistently and strongly related to psychological functioning and health-related outcomes than objective socioeconomic status (OSES), defined by a composite score of education, household income, and occupation. The goal of the current study was to assess whether SSES mediates the relationship between OSES and neuropsychological test performance similarly across racial and ethnic groups.

Participants and Methods: Participants were 1,912 middle-aged older adults (13% non-Hispanic white, 17% non-Hispanic Black, 69% Hispanic/Latinx) from the Offspring study. Participants are the adult children of participants in the Washington Heights Inwood Columbia Aging Project, a community-based cohort study of aging and dementia representing the ethnic/racial diversity of upper Manhattan. Participants on average were 56.5 years of age

and 67% were women. Measures of verbal learning and memory (SRT immediate and delayed recall), verbal fluency (animal and letter fluency), and attention/working memory (digit span forward and backward) were administered. OSES was characterized by years of formal education completed. SSES was measured by the MacArthur Scale of Subjective Social Status. The scale measures perceptions of one's social standing relative to others. We conducted separate stratified mediation analyses for each neuropsychological outcome across each racial and ethnic group. All models were adjusted for age.

Results: Participants with higher OSES demonstrated higher neuropsychological test scores (effect size associations ranged from .29 to .45) and reported higher SSES ($b = .109$ 95% CI: .08, .14). Lower SSES was associated with lower neuropsychological test scores (effect-size range .06 to .13). In stratified analyses, the relationship between OSES and SSES was strongest for White participants ($b = .13$ [.01, .24]) compared with Latinx ($b = .06$ [.02, .11]) and Black ($b = .06$ [-.03, .16]) participants.

Associations between SSES and neuropsychological outcomes were only reliable for White participants on SRT Immediate and Delayed Recall and Animal Fluency and for Black participants on Digit Span Forward. In mediation analyses, SSES mediated the relationship between OSES and Immediate Recall (indirect effect $b = .18$ [.001, .45]; 39% mediated), Delayed Recall (indirect effect $b = .05$ [.004, .09]; 44% mediated), and Animal Fluency (indirect effect $b = .09$ [.01, .20]; 22% mediated) for White participants. There was no evidence of mediation in Black or Latinx participants.

Conclusions: The relationship between OSES and SSES was strongest for White participants compared to Black and Latinx participants. Even though perception of social status predicted lower cognitive test scores among Black and Latinx adults, it is only a part of the indirect pathway linking OSES to cognitive function among White adults. It is likely that mechanisms related to tangible resources that benefit health (as opposed to perceived inequity) are in the pathway linking education to cognition among Black and Latinx, and thus intervening on systems of inequality throughout the life course has the most promise for improving brain health in those communities.

Categories: Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

Keyword 1: ethnicity

Keyword 2: demographic effects on test performance

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16 The Multicultural Neuropsychological Scale (MUNS): The New Attention Subtest, Preliminary Cross-Cultural Data

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Objective: The MUNS is a screening scale developed in Córdoba, Argentina (2018). It is devised with multicultural stimuli that are easily translated into different languages. The scale consists of seven subtests evaluating five cognitive domains: attention, memory, executive functioning, constructional praxis, and language. Previous cross-cultural studies with this scale found significant differences in performance on the attention subtest. The authors have developed a new attention subtest called “Arrows Cancellation”, a short cancellation test designed to overcome its predecessor's shortcomings. The minimum score of this subtest is 0, and the maximum score is 160. It takes between 3 to 5 minutes to administer. A pilot study of this subtest was performed in Argentina in 2021 (n=62, M=105.61 ± 15.06). The aim of this study is to present the first cross-cultural comparison for the Arrows Cancellation subtest of the MUNS.

Participants and Methods: Argentinian (n=25, 84% female) and U.S.A. (n=39, 87% female) samples were administered the Arrows Cancellation subtest. In both cases, individuals gave their consent to participate voluntarily in this study. Participants' health backgrounds, explored through a set of questions, determined their inclusion in the study. Participants with any of the following diagnoses were excluded from this sample: stroke, loss of consciousness (at least 20 minutes), traumatic head injury, central nervous system disease, chronic renal

insufficiency, hepatic encephalopathy, non-treated thyroid disease, epilepsy, non-treated high blood pressure, severe cardiac failure, severe sleep disorders, coma, diagnosed psychiatric disease, or illegal drug consumption. Argentinians were given the instructions in Spanish whilst Americans were instructed in English. The mean age for the Argentinian sample was 21.24 ± 2.44, and for the American sample it was 20.18 ± 1.89. The mean years of education was 13.44 ± 0.96 for the Argentinian group and 13.6 ± 1.55 for the American group. A t-test showed that there were no significant differences in age (p=.06), years of schooling (p=.67) between both samples.

Results: The mean score of the Arrows Cancellation subtest for the Argentinian sample was 107.30 ± 14.51 and 108.95 ± 14.12 for the American sample. A t-test did not show significant differences in the Arrows Cancellation subtest score between samples (p=.65). In addition, there were no significant differences between males and females (p=.43).

Conclusions: The results of this study show that the new attention subtest of the MUNS did not show significant differences between two different cultural samples. Further studies are needed to confirm its utility in other cultural settings. Among the limitations of this study are the sample sizes and the restricted ranges of age and years of schooling.

Categories: Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

Keyword 1: cross-cultural issues

Keyword 2: neuropsychological assessment

Keyword 3: attention

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17 Performance Validity and Ethnicity

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Objective: This study examined false positive rates of performance validity test (PVT) failure in a group of monolingual (English-speaking) White non-Hispanic/Latinx (non-HL), monolingual (English-speaking) Hispanic/Latinx (HL), and