

groups were predictors of functioning, these findings highlight the importance of better understanding socioeconomic factors across the lifespan and all levels of cognition.

Categories: Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

Keyword 1: activities of daily living

Keyword 2: mild cognitive impairment

Keyword 3: aging (normal)

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22 How Cultural Factors Affect CVLT Performance in Individuals from the Former Soviet Union

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Objective: Neuropsychological test norms are developed as a reference point for assessing normal and abnormal test performance (Manly & Echemendia, 2007; Mitrushina et al., 2005). However, these norms are often created without considering the cultural experiences that influence neuropsychological test performance in ethnically diverse individuals. Since the Soviet Union's collapse, approximately 2.66 million people migrated to different countries, with one of the most popular destinations being the United States (Tishkov, Zayinchkovskaya, & Vitkovskaya, 2005). The objective of this study was to examine whether specific cultural factors can significantly influence Former Soviet Union's neuropsychological test performance on the California Verbal Learning Test-Second Edition Short Form (CVLT-II-SF).

Participants and Methods: A total of 66 fluent, English-speaking first- or second-generation healthy immigrants from the Former Soviet Union participants were recruited from the greater Los Angeles area for this study. Participants ranged in age from 18 to 75 years old. Participants were administered the CVLT-II-SF as part of a larger battery. This shorter version of the CVLT-II requires participants to learn 9 words that fall into 3 different categories over 4 learning trials. This is followed by distractor task, free recall of the 9 items and free

recall of the items again after 10 minutes, followed by recall with cuing of the categories. A questionnaire designed to assess the participants' various cultural experiences was given and include the amount of education that was obtained outside of the U.S. as well as the percentage of time they spoke English growing up. Finally, all participants completed an acculturation measure.

Results: Correlation analysis was performed in order to assess which cultural factors significantly correlated with the CVLT-II-SF variables. The results revealed that two of the cultural factors (percentage of education that was obtained outside of the U.S. and the acculturation score) are significantly correlated with several neuropsychological variables. Stepwise regression analysis was then used to further examine the best cultural predictors of CVLT-II-SF variables. This analysis revealed that the percent of education obtained outside of the U.S. significantly predicted the total learning trial scores, the long free recall trial, and the long-cued recall trials, while the acculturation scores significantly predicted the short free recall trial.

Conclusions: The results of this study indicate that specific cultural factors should be taken into account when interpreting the test results of immigrants of former Soviet Union individuals. More specifically, acculturation and the amount of education obtained outside of the U.S. are important factors to consider.

Categories: Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

Keyword 1: neuropsychological assessment

Keyword 2: cross-cultural issues

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23 Subjective Cognition in African American and White Older Adults: Interactions with Psychosocial Factors

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Objective: Given that African American older adults are disproportionately at risk for the development of dementia, identifications of sensitive risk and protective factors are of high importance. Subjective decline in cognition is a potentially easy to assess clinical marker, as it has been previously associated with increased risk of converting to MCI and/or dementia. Subjective decline in cognition is complex though, in that it has also been associated with psychosocial factors. Given this, and the fact that the bulk of research on subjective decline in cognition has been conducted in older white adults, research in diverse samples is needed. The present study sought to address these gaps by examining interactions between race and psychosocial risk (dysphoria) and protective (social activity) factors in the prediction of subjective cognition.

Participants and Methods: Older white ($n = 350$) and African American ($n = 478$) participants completed questionnaires via Qualtrics Panels (m age = 65.9). Subjective decline in cognition was assessed via the Multifactorial Memory Questionnaire (MMQ). Dysphoria was assessed via the Inventory of Depression and Anxiety Symptoms-II Dysphoria subscale (IDAS). Frequency of late life social activity was assessed via a validated series of questions used by the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center. Race, dysphoria, late life social activity, and interactions between race and dysphoria and race and social activity were analyzed as predictors of subjective decline in cognition via linear regression.

Results: The overall model accounted for a significant portion of the variance in subjective decline in cognition, $F(6, 713) = 38.38, p < .01$, with an R^2 of .24. The interaction between race and dysphoria was significant, such that the relationship between dysphoria and subjective decline in cognition was stronger for older adults who are African American. Race, dysphoria, social activity, and the interaction between race and social activity were not significant predictors.

Conclusions: While dysphoria and related negative affect variables have been previously associated with subjective cognition, interactions with race are rarely analyzed. Our results show that the relationship between dysphoria and subjective decline in cognition were stronger for African American older adults. This result is of clinical importance, as dysphoria is central to many internalizing disorders, which have been associated with subjective cognition and the

development of MCI and dementia. Future research should seek to analyze drivers for this associations and if interventions for dysphoria may reduce subjective decline in cognition for African American older adults.

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Keyword 1: aging (normal)

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24 The Influence of Acculturation in Neuropsychological Test Performance of Hispanic-Americans

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Objective: Stephenson (2000) suggested that acculturation is a phenomenon that immigrants and refugees ubiquitously experience. The level of acculturation is impacted by a person's choice to allow how much of their cultural traits they decide to keep while adapting to the dominant society cultural traits. Depending on what immigrants find to be important or unimportant, it can influence future generations (i.e., their children) in how they will be developed and adapt into a dominant society. Hispanic-Americans are individuals that were born and reside in the United States and have a family background that extends to one of the Spanish speaking countries in Latin America or Spain. The typical language spoken by Hispanic families other than English is Spanish. It has been reported that Hispanics that are capable of speaking English may be afforded better and greater opportunities to resources. Research shows that a person level of acculturation can influence their cognition. In fact, in one study using a Mexican-American sample that was divided into two groups: high and low. Researchers found that highly acculturated Mexican-Americans outperformed lower acculturated Mexican-Americans on the Wisconsin Card Sorting Test. We evaluated the influence of acculturation in Hispanic-Americans