

Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

September 16-17, 2019 | Paris, France

Discourse analysis on aging: A case-series study after one year follow-up

Natalie Pereira, Mariana Goulart, Ana Paula Bresolin Gonçalves, Marina Tarrasconi, Renata Kochhann, Rochele Paz Fonseca

Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Conversational abilities have been studied as an essential predictor of cognition impairment in aging, especially in regards to daily tasks such as conversational discourse (CD). Our studies had already shown that it seems to exist an “perfect moment” to the precise diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment Group (MCI) or Dementia due to Alzheimer's Disease (AD). During this specific time, it is possible to monitor changes on CD and find early impaired communicative behaviors even in patients whose other cognitive skills are preserved. However, there is still a necessity for use CD assessment on neuropsychological routine. This study aimed to present a case series from 12 patients who had diagnosed as a Control Group (CG) (n=9) or MCI (n=3) in the baseline. The same subjects after a one-year follow-up appraisal converted to MCI (n=9 CG to MCI) or AD (n=3 MCI to AD). The CD analysis was not used in the diagnosis criteria. The sample had an average age of 68,83±6,88 and years of formal education

of 11,58±6,21. The performance was scored according to the Complementary Procedure of Conversational Discourse Analysis (CPCDA). Data were compared using Friedman's test. We cluster the main discourse variables in seven groups, and we found differences from the baseline and follow-up in four groups (1,2,3 and 7). The first group is related to the self-monitoring and organization when access single words; the second and the seventh group are related to the self-monitoring regarding repetition of words and sentences. Finally, the third group is related to coherence and organization of the discourse as a whole. Data showed that all the 12 patients, even in the first moment of evaluation, had a lower score in variables pertaining to the quality of CD. This study could contribute to an spread point of view of communicative skills during aging.

e: fganataliepereira@gmail.com