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A new strategy to improve older adults' memory using cueing

Submission date
02/05/2013

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
22/05/2013

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
23/05/2013

Condition category
Nervous System Diseases

[X] Prospectively registered
[_] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[_] Results
[_] Individual participant data
[_] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
Pre-stimulus cues seem to increase the ability to process things better and faster. However, the impact this may have on memory in older adults, has received little or no attention. Our study investigates whether pre-stimulus cueing has any effects on older adults memory and to what extent.

Who can participate?
The PRESTIcue study recruits about 30 younger (age>18 years) and 30 older (age>60 years) adults from the local community.

What does the study involve?
Participants will be invited to study a series of words that will be presented on a computer screen. Some of the words will be preceded by a cue (e.g. a signalling picture), while some others will be preceded by a blank screen. After a brief retention interval, they will be asked to recall all the words they can remember. All participants will study words with both pre-stimulus cueing and no cueing. The session will last about 40 minutes.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
We expect immediate and direct benefits on participants' memory as they should remember items that will be preceded by a cue better, when compared to items with no cue. This will indicate that pre-stimulus cueing may be a useful strategy to be used in older adults everyday memory tasks. No risks are involved.

Where is the study run from?
The PRESTIcue study has been set up by the Psychogerontology Centre at the University of Chieti.

When is study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
Recruitment starts in mid-May 2013. The study is expected to end by July 2013.

Who is funding the study?
University of Chieti (Italy)

Who is the main contact?
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number
N/A

Study information

Scientific Title
Improving older adults memory with a PRE-STImulus cueing-based behavioral intervention: a controlled pilot study

Acronym
PRESTIcue

Study objectives
We hypothesise that older adults memory will be improved after a pre-stimulus cueing intervention vs no cueing. The null hypothesis is that there will be no difference in memory between conditions; this may arise if older adults are not sensitive to pre-stimulus cueing information.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Departmental Ethics Board; 22/05/2013; ref. number 001

Study design
Controlled pilot study

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)
Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Aging and memory difficulties

Interventions
The study will involve 15 male and 15 female younger adults and 15 male and 15 female older adults. Participation will be tested on a memory task. This task will include a study phase during which a series of words will be either preceded by a cue (intervention trials) vs. no-cue (no intervention). After the study phase, participants will be asked to recall as many of the studied words they can remember. Male participants will be assigned to standard 12-week vs 10-week vs 8-week inter-donation intervals and female participants to 16-week vs 14-week vs 12-week intervals.

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)
Cognitive: memory abilities measured immediately followingthe experimental stimuli presentation in a single session

Key secondary outcome(s))
No secondary outcome will be considered

Completion date
31/07/2013

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
1. Age range for younger adults >18 < 30 years
2. Age range for older adults >60 < 80 years
3. Half of participants will be male, the other half female
4. All participants must be native Italian speakers
5. Willing to participate in the study

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Lower age limit
18 years

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
1. Participants with history of head trauma, alcohol or drug abuse, or neurological or psychiatric disorders
2. Participants reporting taking medication affecting the central nervous system

Date of first enrolment
30/05/2013

Date of final enrolment
31/07/2013

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Italy

Study participating centre
Department of Psychological Sciences
Chieti
Italy
66100

Sponsor information

Organisation
University of Chieti (Università degli Studi 'G. d'Annunzio' Chieti e Pescara) (Italy)

ROR
https://ror.org/00qjgza05

Funder(s)

Funder type
University/education

Funder Name
University of Chieti (Italy)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not provided at time of registration