

Broad-Based Neuropsychological Test Batteries and ADHD

Clinical neuropsychology has made important theoretical contributions to current neuroscientific inquiry into ADHD [66, 67]. The research typically validates various findings of importance to the disorder by operationalizing behavioral symptoms according to qualities of performance on common “neuropsychological” test paradigms, such as continuous performance tests and other response inhibition tasks, and it relates these neuropsychological test performances to brain structure or function. So it would seem that this research approach would have clinical applications, yet individual test performance has not reliably differentiated anyone with ADHD [18, 68] or any of the three DSM subtypes [69, 70]. If a significant “data set” of neurobiological research in ADHD is based on findings on neuropsychological tests of response inhibition, attention, working memory, and the like, why has not a specific, practical, clinically useful relationship between neuropsychological testing and ADHD diagnosis emerged?