7th International Conference on

GERIATRICS GERONTOLOGY & PALLIATIVE NURSING

September 4-5, 2017 | Edinburgh, Scotland

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEXICAL RETRIEVAL IN DISCOURSE AND COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS IN DEMENTIA -IN COMPARISON WITH THE ELDERLY POPULATION

Takako Yoshimura[a], Akie Saito[a], Manna Iwata[b], Aiko Osawa[c], Ikue Ueda[c] and **Shinichiro Maeshima[d]**
[a]Kyoto Gakuen University, Japan
[b]Niigata University of Rehabilitation, Japan
[c]National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology, Japan
[d]Fujita Health University, Japan

Objective & Background: The word production or lexical retrieval in discourse would be deteriorated with age, even though cognitions such as confrontation picture naming, memory functions were intact (Yoshimura et al., 2016). Moreover, deficits in lexical retrieval in written discourse were reported to be an early indicator of Alzheimer's disease better than other cognitive tests such as confrontation picture naming (Pekkala et al., 2013). Purpose our aim is to explore the relationship between the abilities of lexical retrieval in oral discourse and the cognitive dysfunctions in dementia in comparison with the results in elderly. We sought to examine what aspects of cognitive deficits in dementia would cause deteriorated lexical retrieval in discourse, and to know the commonalities and differences between dementia and elderly.

Methods: We studied nineteen demented patients (age: 69-91). Two discourses tasks, Cookie Theft Picture (CTP) from Boston Diagnostic Aphasia Examination (Goodglass & Kaplan, 1983) and False Accusation Picture from Visual Perception Test for Agnosia (Brain Function Test Committee, 1997) were conducted. Additionally, other neuropsychological tests such as, Word Fluency Test (Saito et al., 1992), Rey's auditory verbal learning test (Rey, 1964) and Frontal Assessment Battery (Dubois et al., 2000) were administered. The results of the elderly were referred to a study of Yoshimura et al. (2016).

Results: The number of content words of each discourse task were analyzed; for dementia 12.7±9.7, for elderly 14.8 ± 5.6 (numbers indicate average and standard deviation). The severer the dementia became, the fewer the nouns in discourse were (p<.01). The relationship between lexical retrieval and cognitive functions were different from that of the elderly.

Conclusion and Significance: We discuss the characteristics of oral discourse in dementia in comparison with elderly. Also, we suggest a discourse task as an efficient tool to evaluate an early stage of dementia in clinical settings.

Biography

Takako Yoshimura is currently focusing her study on cognitive functions and communication in dementia. This study aims to develop effective interventions to the dementia patients who have every day-life difficulties with efficient communication tools, or augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). She began working as a speech-language pathologist, chiefly as a neuropsychologist, to evaluate patients' cognitive neuropsychological status such as aphasia, agnosia, apraxia, memory disorders, and involving rehabilitation for patients with stroke, tumor, dementia etc. Since then, she has been working in hospitals and clinics in addition to teaching job at colleges and universities. Her AAC study of dementia is outstanding in that she tries to develop methods to approach surrounding people with patients, such as families, from a perspective of cognitive neuropsychological findings.

takakoy@kyotogakuen.ac.jp

Notes:

J Palliat Care Med, an open access journal
ISSN: 2165-7386

Geriatrics 2017
September 4-5, 2017

Volume 7, Issue 5 (Suppl)

Page 64