

Mild Behavioral Impairment as a Predictor of Cognitive Functioning in Older Adults

BACKGROUND

The older adult population

interaction between the groups, a one-way analysis of variance was completed to further elucidate the differences within each of the group.

FINDINGS

Results indicated that participants with MBI performed worse on tasks of executive function, attention, and episodic memory, regardless of cognitive status. Furthermore, when compared to participants with only MCI, those with both MBI and MCI showed a significantly worse performance on tasks testing episodic memory. Short-term memory was the only domain to not be differentially influenced by the presence of MBI. These results suggest that MBI significantly influences performance on tasks of cognition, and what domains are effected is influenced by the person's cognitive status.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Overall, older adults who have MBI perform worse on tasks within multiple domains of cognition, regardless of their cognitive status. Additionally, those who have both MCI and MBI perform worse than those with only MCI on tasks of episodic memory. As the older adult population continues to grow, better ways of identifying the early stages of dementia will be essential. These results suggest that an easy and effective way to potentially do