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Service (sector) Electrophysiology - Neurologia do ComportamentoN° CEP

Discrimination of dementia with Lewy bodies from Alzheimer's disease using a visual-perceptual neuropsychological battery.

OBJECTIVE: To examine the ability of a visual-perceptual neuropsychological battery to discriminate Dementia with Lewy bodies from Alzheimer's disease.

METHODS: Patients with Alzheimer disease (n = 2), and patients with Dementia with Lewy bodies (n = 2), matched for dementia severity, were compared on a visual-perceptual neuropsychological battery.

RESULTS: The qualitative analysis of the group differences showed that there are differences on the error types evaluated, the patients with Dementia with Lewy bodies were more likely to make visual-perceptual errors than the patients with Alzheimer disease.

CONCLUSIONS: Although some differences may exist in the qualitative features of a visual-perceptual neuropsychological battery, the performance in this battery should not be used as a single instrument to discriminate patients with dementia with Lewy bodies from Alzheimer's disease.