



Descriptive Study of Language and Communication Disorders Using a Psychopathological Protocol in a Matched Control Group to a Sample of People with Mild Cognitive Impairment

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Introduction

Aging leads to a progressive deterioration at the communicative level. The identification of language impairment in older adults could help to prevent or slow down the development of a possible neurocognitive disorder.

Objectives

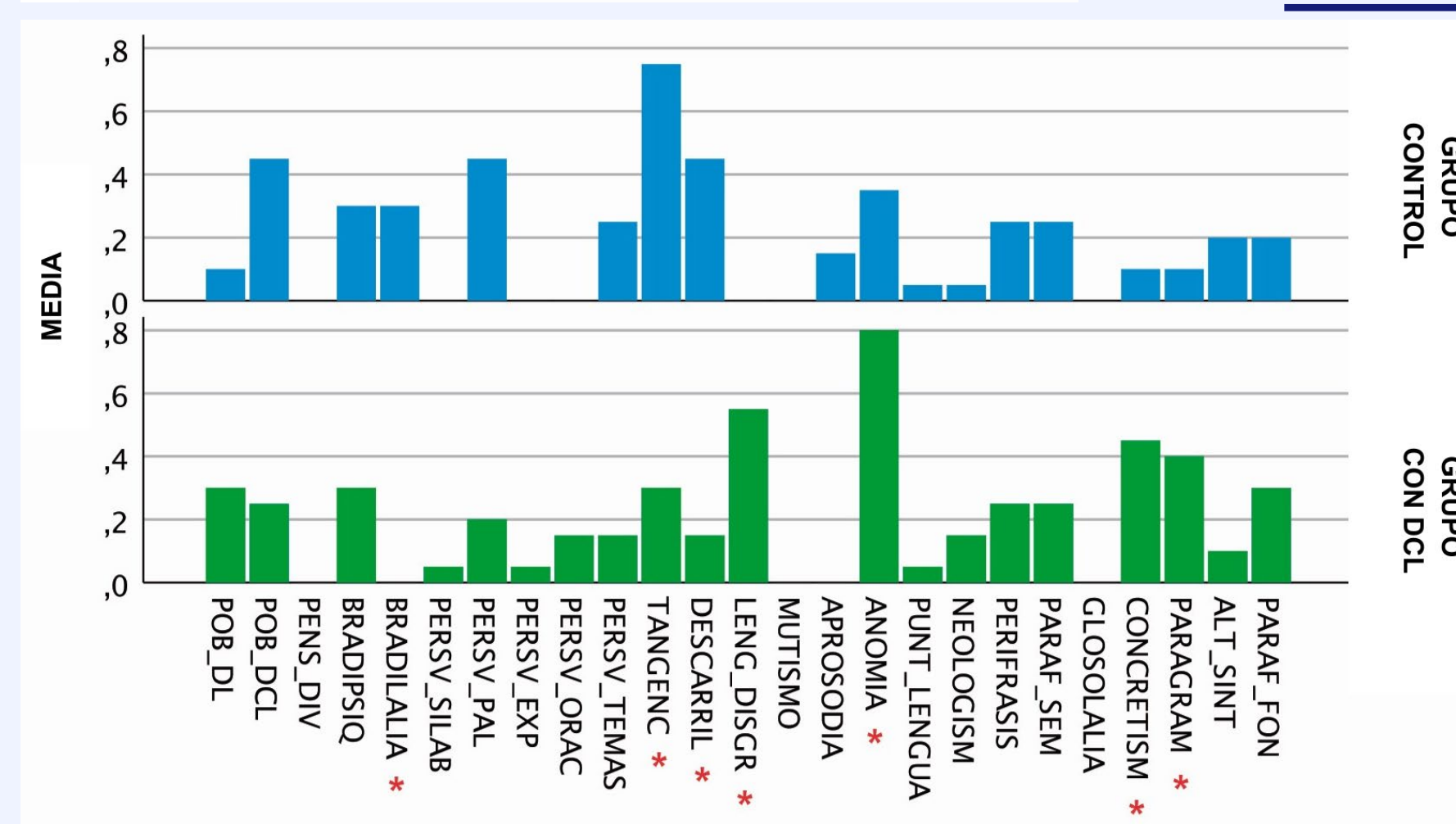
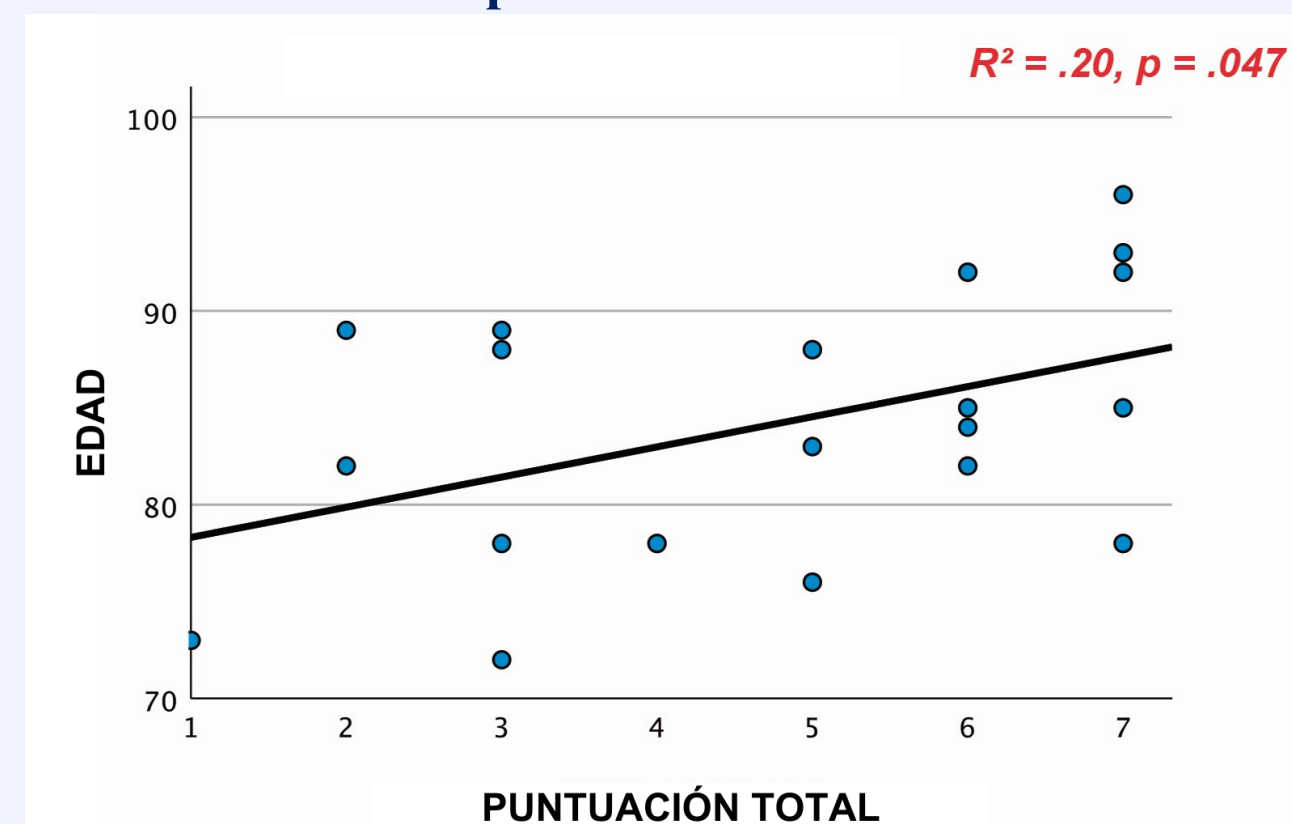
To evaluate psychopathological manifestations in language and communication by means of a psychopathological evaluation protocol in a control group of subjects matched by age and sex to a group of people with mild cognitive impairment.

Sample and materials

The sample consists of twenty healthy older adults (75% female, 25% male) with mean age of 84.15 years (SD= 6.81). A descriptive and observational study was carried out. Subjects of both sexes between 70 and 95 years of age, with the absence of possible cognitive impairment, were included. The Mini-Cognitive Examination was used to assess cognitive performance, and the PRESEEA interview was used to obtain the speech sample and a psychopathological assessment protocol.

Results

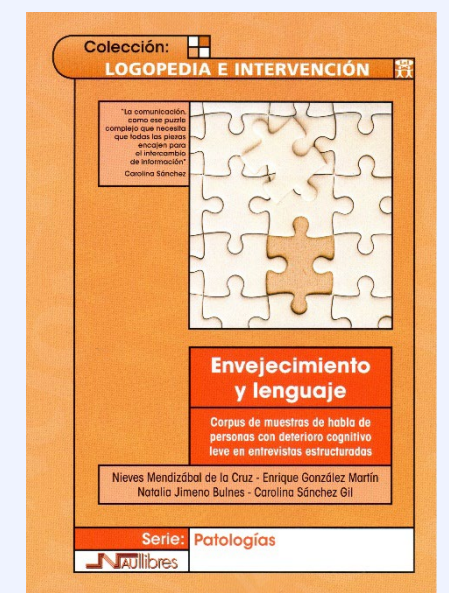
Correlation of age and psychopathological language impairments total score



Conclusions

1. Anomia, perseverations, disintegrated language, concretism and paragrammatism are possible early indicators of cognitive impairment.
2. The elaboration and application of both assessment protocols and speech therapy intervention programs in older adults may improve communication skills.

References



Prevalence of psychopathological language impairments in the control and Mild Cognitive Impairment groups

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