

Proposal

Title: Categorical Recall Test under Long-Term Memory

Program of Study: Medicine

Presentation Type: Print Poster

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Category: Experimental (Applied)

Abstract: This study intends to develop a simple validated bedside clinical paradigm for evaluating patient's long-term memory utilizing categorical recall. This is an important aspect of cognitive function. We will recruit normal volunteers from ages 18-75, equal male and female, and full ethnic diversity. Volunteers will be asked a few questions about their health, formal education, occupation, travel experience. Then after a brief delay, we ask them to name as many US cities as possible in 1 minute in a clinic exam room. Potential subjects are excluded if diagnosed with dementia. The data collection will be conducted by student co-investigators, and no identifiers will be recorded. We intend to use this method, once validated, in our office evaluations and remote regions, such as mission trips, where advanced technology is not available as part of dementia screening.

This research will advance our capabilities in fulfilling LUCOM's mission and vision of serving the underserved. This type of cognitive testing attests to the inherent complexity and individuality of the human brain designed by God and in his image. Each person has an intrinsic capacity for retaining and recalling knowledge, which is gifted to each by and through God. This study explores the capacity of each individual in the hopes of gaining knowledge that can be utilized to care for neurological patients in the future.