

Title: Evaluation of executive functions in patients with acquired brain damage: translation and clinical use of the "Executive Function Performance Test"

Abstract:

Patients with acquired brain damage that have affected the frontal lobes usually develop a deficit in executive function (Kulišťák, 2017). Within self-care activities, they are limited for example in initiation, organization, sequencing, emotional control, memory, or self-evaluation. Occupational therapists can use a range of standardized tests to describe the extent of the deficit and select an appropriate rehabilitation. Executive Function Performance Test, which I used in my Bachelor's thesis, is one test from this category.

The aim of the Bachelor thesis was the clinical evaluation of executive functions in patients with acquired brain damage using the Executive Function Performance Test. The minor goal was the one-way translation of the Executive Function Performance Test to the Czech language and the subsequent adaptation of the tasks for Czech patients. Furthermore, the Bachelor thesis contains a description of screening tests, clinical tests, and other standardized tests that are evaluating executive function. As well as a description of the executive functions in healthy adults.

The practical part of the thesis contains a description of one way translation of EFPT, adaptation the parts to the Czech environment and three complex therapeutic case reports of persons diagnosed with dysexecutive syndrome, to whom a one way translation of EFPT was tested.

After the consultations, one version of EFPT manual was created, which included modified linguistic and cultural differences for the Czech population. Through clinical testing I have found that the Executive Function Performance Test is very beneficial for testing by occupational therapists. This is because the output of the test is ascertain the type and amount of help the individual needs to maintain self-sufficiency. At the same time during the test, the person fulfills four functional tasks that occur in real life and based on which it is possible to measure occupational therapy intervention for the purpose of independent living.

Key words: Executive functions, Occupational therapy, acquired brain damage, stroke, Executive Function Performance Test, dysexecutive syndrome, frontal lobes