Adaptation and standardization of the Bilingual Aphasia Test "B.A.T" to Lebanese Arabic (French, English and Lebanese)

Applications

The results of this project will serve as an evaluation tool to assess each of the languages of a bilingual or multilingual Lebanese individual with aphasia in an equivalent way. The various versions of the BAT are thus not mere translations of each other, but culturally and linguistically equivalent tests. This test will help the speech therapists to make a relevant assessment and therapeutic project for bilingual Lebanese persons with aphasia.

Problem addressed

The translation of standard aphasia batteries into languages other than the one in which they were constructed would not be adequate for many reasons: stimulus items may be culturally inappropriate, different grammatical constructions. Therefore, corresponding items in another language should be take into consideration the structure and culture of a particular language. The availability of such assessment has supported the development of several bilingualism language tools and has promoted research advancement in the field of bilingualism and speech and language science. In Lebanon, such a tool has not yet been developed, which constitutes a very particular challenge for the speech therapy intervention in the neurolinguistics field in Lebanon.

Technology

The Bilingual Aphasia Test is comprised of 32 subtests (each with its individual score) which can be grouped to obtain a number of measures of specific abilities, in the oral and visual modalities. Because the purpose of the test is not to measure communicative skills but specifically linguistic ability, performance in any two of the patient's languages may be compared along a number of dimensions in which scores may overlap. Each dimension may be of interest for diagnostic or research purposes.

Advantages

- Obtaining normative data for the Lebanese version.
- Objective assessment in each language to determining which language is best available to the patient for communication. This information may in tum help one decide in which language therapy is most advisable.
- Enable researchers and speech therapists to gain access to a large-scale study of bilingual aphasia that will yield data of benefit to research, diagnosis, and prescription for therapy.
- Inform and support the design of speech therapy assessment and treatment tools for bilingual Lebanese patients with aphasia.

Inventors

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