

Abstract
Posters

NEUROLOGICAL AND NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS: TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

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The Interceding Effects of Social Cognition and “Cold” Cognition in Emotional Functioning Post-TBI.

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Objective: This review examines studies that have identified both social and “cold” cognition in moderating emotional functioning as an outcome in individuals post-traumatic brain injury (TBI). **Data Selection:** A systematic search of the literature was conducted using the keywords: social cognition, hot cognition, cognitive processes, emotions, emotional functioning, TBI, ABI, brain injury. The search included five databases: (1) EBSCOhost, (2) Google Scholar, (3) ScienceDaily, (4) PubMed, (5) World Health Organization. Inclusion criteria consisted of peer-reviewed articles published in English between 2013–2019 that utilized measures examining aspects of “cold cognition,” measures that investigated social cognition, and, outcome measures of emotional functioning in individuals who sustained a TBI. **Data Synthesis:** A total number of 27 studies were identified through database searching with 16 papers selected. Three studies explained the function and implication of social cognition in individuals post-TBI. Additionally, 4 articles integrated statistical and demographic analyzes on individuals who suffered a TBI, and 9 studies exposed the relationship between “hot” and “cold” cognitions after sustaining a TBI. **Conclusions:** Our results suggest that individuals with a TBI often exhibit difficulties in social cognition that is linked to changes in emotional functioning. Several studies pointed to the limbic system as an area influenced by both social and “cold” cognition regarding emotional output and experiences. Conversely, this system is often impacted in TBI. Other studies emphasized the relationship between attention and perception regarding one’s ability to adequately engage in empathy, emotional resonance, and sensitivity. Additionally, these studies outlined how impaired executive functioning influences empathy, attention, decision-making, and Theory of Mind.