

## Auswirkungen eines Trainings der selektiven Aufmerksamkeit auf die Wortflüssigkeit älterer Menschen mit leichten kognitiven Beeinträchtigungen

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**Background:** The poster compresses a bachelor thesis which was designed to provide a first estimation of the possible relation between selective attention and verbal fluency. Verbal fluency is inter alia dependent on the ability of word finding (Ross et al., 2007) and therefore represents word finding abilities to a certain extent. Since both selective attention and word finding decline in old age (Giesen, Eberhard & Rothermund, 2015), there might be a link between them. The theoretical part of the poster contains some evidence of the relation between attention and language in general. Furthermore the influence of aging on attention and language processing is illustrated.

**Aim and method:** In order to explore if a training of selective attention may result in improved word finding abilities, an explorative case study in pre-post-design was performed. Two women in their eighties with mild cognitive deficits were included. For three weeks, their selective attention abilities were trained by a selection of tasks from NEUROvitalis (Baller, Kalbe, Kaesberg & Kessler, 2009) and tested by means of the test d2-R (Brickenkamp, Schmidt-Atzert & Liepmann, 2010).

**Results:** According to the results, NEUROvitalis seems to be effective in improving selective attention. The results of the verbal fluency tests are inconsistent and thus do not allow for creating the hypothesis that selective attention training affects verbal fluency performance in general. Nevertheless it seems that selective attention training might have an impact on verbal fluency tasks which require to continuously switch between two categories or letters. The results and the contribution of personal interests to the performance on semantic verbal fluency tasks are discussed.

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