

Impact of a New Procedural Memory Task in amnesia-An Approach for Cognitive Rehabilitation-

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We developed a new visuomotor tracking program as a new procedural memory task and examined the effect of learning this task in a patient with amnesia following herpes encephalitis and 10 normal control subjects (NC). All subjects were asked to pursue a moving target on a computer screen using a cursor controlled by a mouse. The subjects performed three trials for each task on three sequential days, and the 7th and 30th days. Two types of target motion were used; task A tested in a horizontal motion with visual guide; task B in a horizontal motion without guide. The results indicated that the patient as well as NC subjects showed clear learning effects with tendencies that differed among the tasks. The learning effect in the patients also showed that these computer tasks can be used to evaluate procedural memory.