

# Introduction to Clinical Neuropsychology and Rehabilitation Psychology

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# Adult Clinical Neuropsychology

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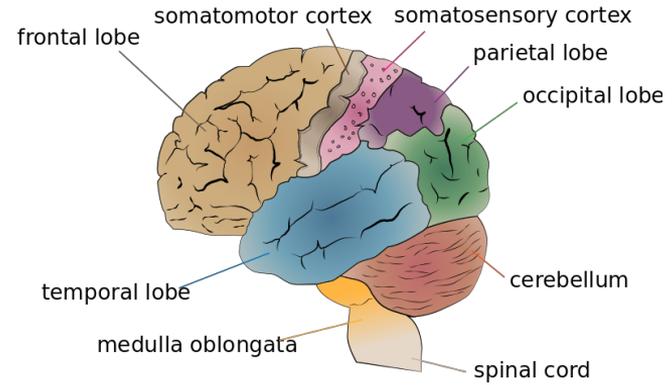
# Outline

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- What is it?
- How does it work?
- Who needs it?
- Where do neuropsychologists work?
- How do you become a neuropsychologist?
- Why did I choose it?
  
- Case presentation

# What is it?

A specialty field within **clinical psychology**, dedicated to understanding the relationships between **brain and behavior**, particularly as these relationships can be applied to the **diagnosis** of brain disorder, **assessment** of cognitive and behavioral functioning and the design of effective **treatment**.



Neuropathology/  
Neuroradiology

Neurology

Clinical  
Neuropsychology

Clinical  
Psychology

Brain

Behavior

How does it  
work?

Record Review

Referral Question  
Prior Neuropsychological Testing  
Relevant History

Clinical Interview

Testing

Interpretation and Report Writing

Feedback

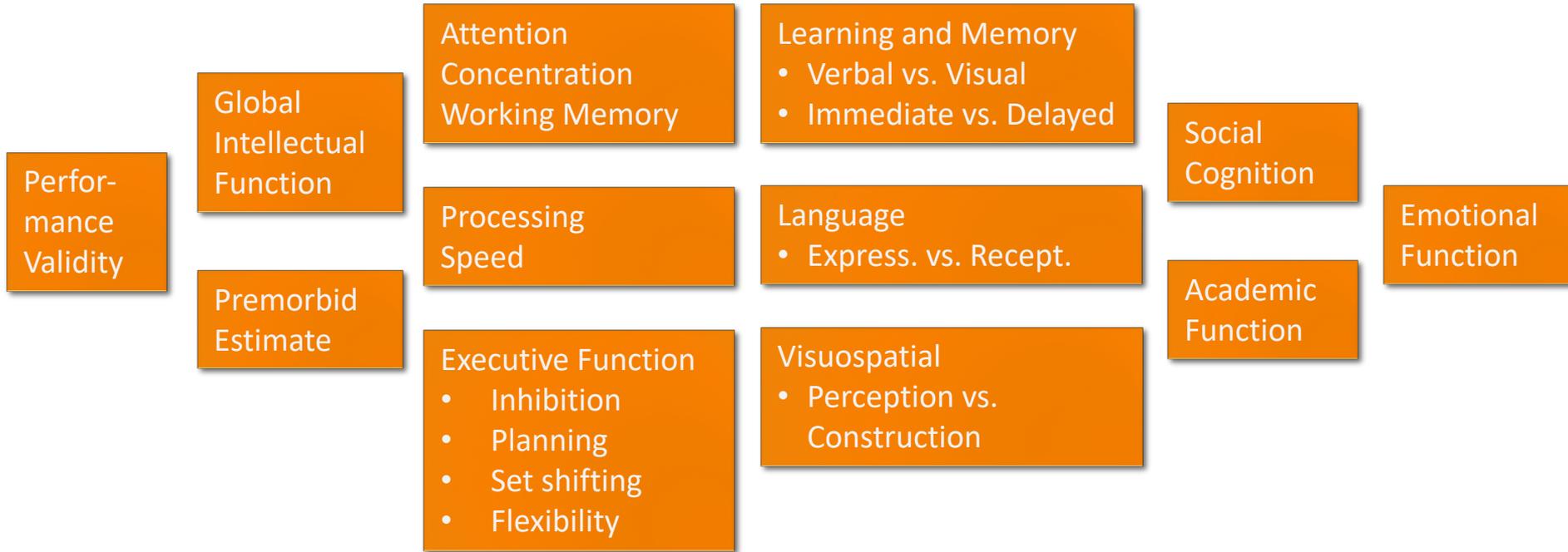
# Clinical Interview

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- Referral question
- Presenting Complaints
  - Timeline
  - Progression
- Relevant History
  - Primary Medical History
  - Psychiatric History
  - Developmental/Educational/Occupational History
  - Family History
- Current Health Behavior
- Collateral Information
- Mental Status/Neurobehavioral Status Exam

# Testing

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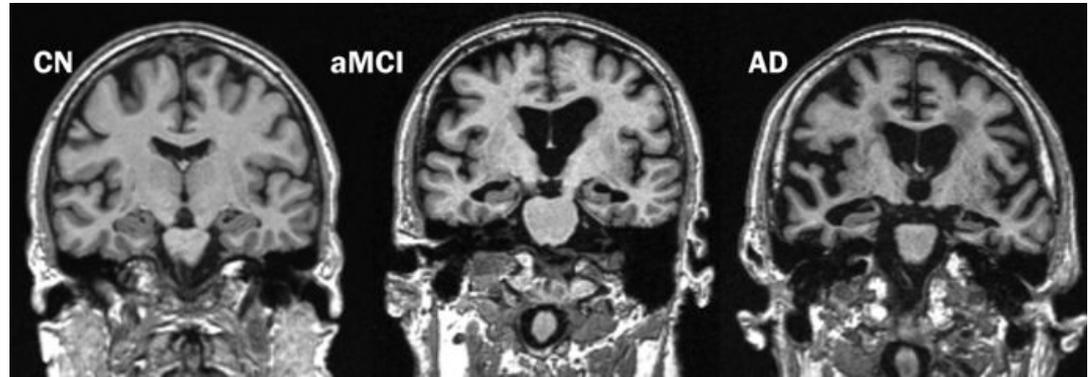


# Feedback

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- Summary of results
- Diagnosis and prognosis, if applicable
- Recommendations
  - Follow-up appointments/referrals
  - Brief interventions
    - Psychoeducation – modifiable factors
    - Health Behaviors – sleep hygiene, medication compliance, etc.
    - Psychological/Cognitive Strategies – grounding, planning, etc.
  - Accommodations
  - Family interventions

# Neurodegenerative Disease



Vemuri & Jack, 2010

- Help with differential diagnosis
  - AD vs. FTD
- Document current level of function
- Identify modifiable factors
  - Cardiovascular health
  - Sleep disorders
  - Medication side effect
- Care planning
  - Professional planning
  - Healthcare proxy/POA
  - Work with family

# Who needs it?

## Neurological Disorders

- Neurodegenerative Disorders
- Neurotrauma (e.g., TBI, SCI)
- Cerebrovascular Diseases
- Brain Tumor
- Epilepsy

## Psychiatric Disorders/Severe Mental Illness

- Schizophrenia
- Bipolar Disorder

## Neurodevelopmental Disorders

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ADHD/LD

# Where do neuropsychologists work?

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- Medical Center
  - Inpatient & outpatient
  - Psychiatry/Neurology/Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation/Oncology
- Rehabilitation Facility
- Private Practice
- School
- Assisted Living
- Forensic Neuropsychology

# How to become a neuropsychologist?

## Doctoral Degree in Clinical/Counseling Psychology

Course requirement for board certification

- Basic Neuroscience
- Clinical Neurology
- Neuroanatomy
- Neuropathology
- Clinical Neuropsychological Assessment
- Psychological Assessment
- Psychological Intervention
- Psychopathology

## Internship

## Post-doctoral Fellowship

- Formal 2-Year Postdoc Training Program in Neuropsychology

## Psychologist License

## Neuropsychology Board Certification